



**RIPLEY ST THOMAS**  
CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMY

**Welcome to...**  
**A-level English Literature**



## Course intro

Congratulations on completing your GCSE studies and welcome to A Level English Literature at Ripley St Thomas.

This booklet provides an overview of the course and includes activities designed to help you in preparing to study English Literature at A Level.

As an English Literature student, you will develop the following skills:

- Critical thinking and analysis
- Independent study and research
- Essay writing

The course builds on the skills you have acquired at GCSE. The best possible thing you can do to prepare for the course is to familiarise yourself with the texts that will be studied in Year One. These are:

- Twelfth Night by William Shakespeare
- The Handmaid's Tale by Margaret Atwood

We will study each text in more detail in September.

Enjoy your summer and arrive fresh and motivated in September!

## Course Overview

### AQA A Level English Literature Spec B (7717)

<p>Paper 1:</p> <p>Literary Genres - <b>Aspects of Comedy</b></p>	40%	<p>Exam: 2 hours 30 minutes 3 tasks (50 minutes each) Closed book.</p>	<p>Texts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Twelfth Night</i> by William Shakespeare</li> <li>• <i>The Importance of Being Earnest</i> by Oscar Wilde</li> <li>• Selected poems</li> </ul>
<p>Paper 2:</p> <p>Texts and Genres - <b>Political and Social Protest Writing</b></p>	40%	<p>Exam: 3 hours 3 tasks (1 hour each) Open book.</p>	<p>Texts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>The Handmaid's Tale</i> by Margaret Atwood</li> <li>• <i>A Doll's House</i> by Henrik Ibsen</li> <li>• Tony Harrison Selected Poems</li> </ul>
<p>Non-Exam Assessment -  <b>Theory and Independence</b></p>	20%	<p>2 Tasks 25 marks each 1250 – 1500 words each.</p>	<p>Texts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Study of 2 texts – 1 prose and 1 poetry</li> <li>• AQA Critical Anthology</li> </ul>

### Assessment Objectives:

- AO1: Articulate informed, personal and creative responses to literary texts, using associated concepts and terminology, and coherent, accurate written expression.
- AO2: Analyse ways in which meanings are shaped in literary texts.
- AO3: Demonstrate understanding of the significance and influence of the contexts in which literary texts are written and received.
- AO4: Explore connections across literary texts.
- AO5: Explore literary texts informed by different interpretations.

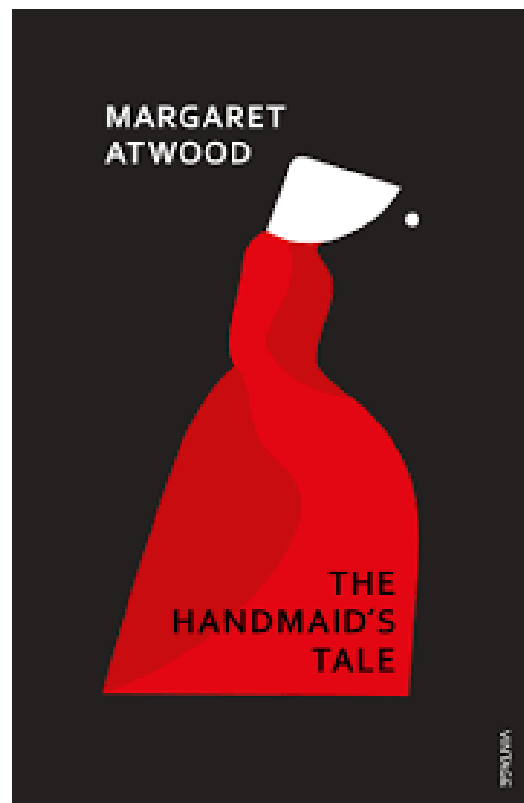
## Task one:

Read the text *The Handmaid's Tale* by Margaret Atwood.

Familiarise yourself with the plot, themes and characters before we study it, in September.

You will be able to get a copy from most bookshops or online at Amazon, Awesome Books, World of Books and other online retailers.

Also, do some research and make notes on what you can find out about the author and context of the text.

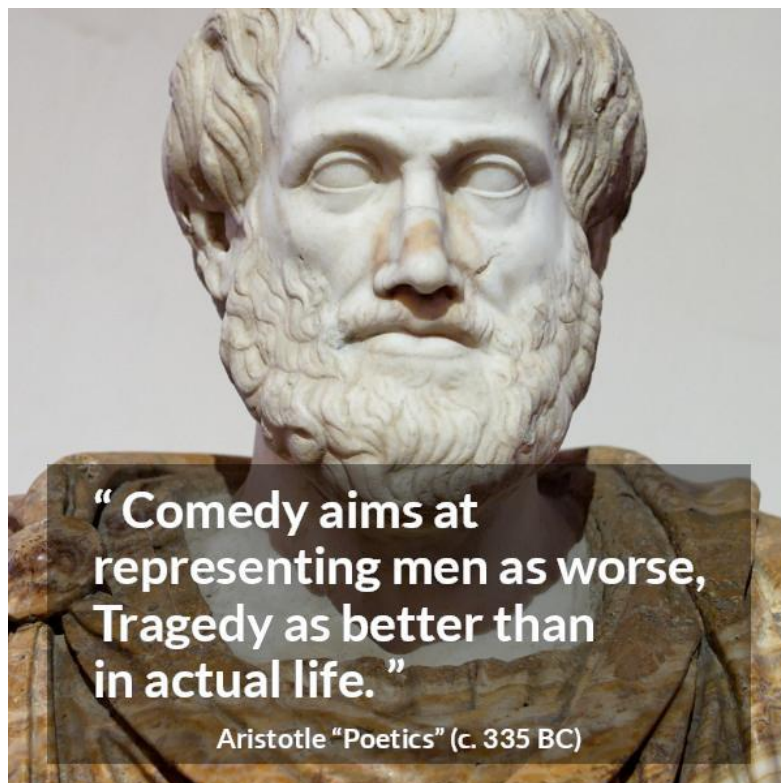


## Task two:

Research and make notes on Aristotle and his theory on Comedy.

How does Aristotle define comedy?

For Aristotle, what makes a text comedic?



### **Task three:**

Why not have a listen to some of these Literature themed podcasts to stay alert to other excellent texts that you may enjoy reading.

You're Booked

Backlisted

Literary Friction

Literary Disco

Between the Disco

### **Task four:**

Please make sure you are equipped with what you will need in September:

- Lever-arch folder
- Paper
- Page dividers

