**English Literature Y11 into 12 Summer Bridging Work**

Dear All,

Thank you for choosing to study English Literature at A level. It is important to start your reading over the summer so you can begin the course as informed students. Below is a list of short stories, plays and books we would like you to read/watch/listen to and some short writing tasks we would like you to do, in response to what you have read. You will need to do ALL FOUR tasks but **please note the word limits** we have given. We don’t want you to write a lot but we do want you to start making judgments and forming opinions.

**1) Read** the following two short stories by Fitzgerald and Hemingway:

**The Ice Palace – Fitzgerald** (free on-line at the link below)

<http://americanliterature.com/author/f-scott-fitzgerald/short-story/the-ice-palace>

**Indian Camp – Hemingway** (the first short story at the link below)

<http://briancroxall.pbworks.com/f/Hemingway%2C+Indian+Camp.pdf>

**Write a BRIEF response to each story and then a paragraph on which you preferred and why, with a focus on the WRITING STYLE AND STRUCTURE of the stories. This should be 300 words in total. Please type and put a word count at the bottom. This piece is for Ms Roberts.**

**2) Read** ‘Shakespeare’ by Bill Bryson – **Produce a bullet point list of what you think are the 10 most interesting facts/ideas you found out about Shakespeare and the time he lived in. This piece is for Mrs Pitt**

**3) Watch** one of Alan Bennett’s ‘Talking Heads’ (you can watch whichever one you want):

[**https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episodes/p08ftkkx/alan-bennetts-talking-heads**](https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episodes/p08ftkkx/alan-bennetts-talking-heads)

**Write a short summary of about 50-100 words and then a commentary explaining HOW Bennett creates this character. In total this piece should also be about 300 words. This piece is for Mrs Pitt**

**4) Read** at least ONE of the following novels:

To Kill a Mockingbird – Harper Lee

The Color Purple – Alice Walker

The Catcher in the Rye – J D Salinger

The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn – Mark Twain

Of Mice and Men – John Steinbeck

**Write about what you have discovered about America (including it’s culture and attitudes) from these texts. Decide what you think the main THEMEs of American literature are and write (briefly) about how the authors explore these themes. In total this piece should be about 300 words. Please type and provide a word count at the end. This piece is for Ms Roberts.**