

# GETTING AHEAD



ALTON

Start to develop skills that are relevant to your course before you join HSDC this September!

## English Literature – A Level

Dear Year 11 students - how do you keep your English Literature skills suitably polished for the September A Level start? Here you'll find everything you need - we have devised activities to keep you busy, interested and broaden your knowledge of English Literature as a subject. The **activities** are organised across the **three major genres of Poetry, Prose & Drama** and will ensure you're in the perfect position to get your A Levels off to a flying start.

### Activities

#### Poetry

Download Pearson Edexcel's *Approaching Contemporary Unseen Poetry: An Anthology of poems and resources*:

[https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/A%20Level/English%20Literature/2015/teaching-and-learning-materials/Unseen\\_poetry\\_preparation\\_anthology.pdf](https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/A%20Level/English%20Literature/2015/teaching-and-learning-materials/Unseen_poetry_preparation_anthology.pdf)

Read the articles in Section 2 'How to approach an Unseen Poem: four perspectives' and then read, analyse and enjoy the poems in Section 3 'Contemporary Poets' Voices' using the activities, ideas and guidance to help you decode, analyse and appreciate these poems.

[Poetry Booklet – click here](#)

#### Prose

Explore the contexts of the novel *The Picture of Dorian Gray* by Oscar Wilde.

Research the period/movement known as fin de siècle, Aestheticism, Decadence and Oscar Wilde. Then **produce a poster / booklet / set of instructions** headed "How to be a 1890s male style icon. What to wear say and do in fin de siècle London". This British Library resource will help:

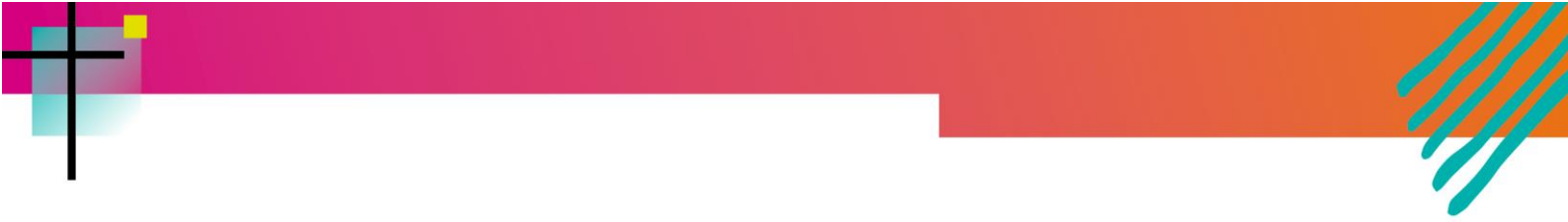
<https://www.bl.uk/romantics-and-victorians/articles/the-picture-of-dorian-gray-art-ethics-and-the-artist>

#### Drama

**Read** the play *A Streetcar Named Desire* by Tennessee Williams and read around the themes and staging of the play in the York Notes Advanced Study Guide.

**We look forward to seeing you in September!**

For further information about your College and being a student at HSDC, please visit [hfdc.ac.uk/Alton](https://hfdc.ac.uk/Alton)



Go back to the didascalia (the stage directions at the beginning of scene 1). **Draw** the scene and label it with quotes from the didascalia.

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