

GETTING AHEAD



HAVANT

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

English Language and Literature - A Level

We look forward to welcoming you to this stimulating and enjoyable course, which takes in some of the highlights of British and American literature from the 20th and 21st centuries, alongside a huge range of non-fictional accounts of historical figures and moments, some well-known, others less so. These recommendations will help you to prepare.

Activity

- You have a choice of two activities which are designed to help you reflect on our present-day context. One major health-related story is dominating our year of course and you can explore this in Option 1. However, if you'd rather think about something different, you're welcome to take Option 2.
- **Option 1:** Compile a scrapbook of non-fiction writing (at least five examples) that records the experiences of Spring and Summer 2020. It could be digital or physical, and include things like:
 - newspaper reports or official documents covering the major news stories of the time;
 - articles or blog entries that describe the changes and challenges of our times; and
 - your own diary-style accounts of your experiences and feelings during this time.
- **Option 2:** Compile a scrapbook of reviews of cultural artefacts you have enjoyed this year (at least five examples). This could be digital or physical and include the reviews of others or your own for things like:
 - novels or other forms of literature;
 - any online theatre you've seen;
 - films or television series; or
 - music – individual songs, albums or live events seen at home.

We look forward to seeing you in September!

For further information about your college and being a student at HSDC, please visit hsdc.ac.uk/Havant

Read

Explore the articles on the Penguin Books website. Some of these are written by well-known authors and many have recorded the cultural and social changes of 2020

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https://www.penguin.co.uk/search-results.html?articleType_1=Articles&articleType_2=Features&tab=articles

Explore the extensive archives of The Guardian, culture section. Here you'll find fascinating articles on TV, film, music and games -

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk/culture>

Watch

The English & Media Centre has some good videos to show the types of levels at which we discuss Language & Literature at A Level including some that recommend 'good reads' and others that describe the transition from GCSE to A Level that you can expect -

<https://www.englishandmedia.co.uk/video-clips/clip-listing>

Did You Know?

We will provide you with copies of the texts you will study. However, if you do want to go ahead and find/buy your own copies to read them in advance you could do this for *The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald and the poetry collection *The Whitsun Weddings* by Philip Larkin. (These are currently our set first year texts but this is subject to change). Students who are widely read and well-engaged with their own culture and society always do well, so those scrapbooks will also come in very handy in the future.

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