

## Year 12 English Literature A Level Summer Task

### Reading List

Tess of the D'Urbervilles	Thomas Hardy ISBN: -13: 978-1853260056
A Thousand Splendid Suns	Khaled Hosseini ISBN: 978-0747585893
Poems of the Decade	The Forward Book of Poetry ISBN: 978-0571325405
A Streetcar Named Desire	Tennessee Williams ISBN: 978-0141190273

### Summer Task

In order to make a purposeful start to your course, make sure you have purchased the set texts. In the Autumn term you will be studying a collection of contemporary poems and the play "A Streetcar Named Desire."

It would put you in the best position if you had read the texts at least once before the start of the course.

### Written Task

Attached is the list of poems which you will be studying in term one. Choose one of the poems and write an appreciation of it, using the template on the following page. Please ensure that you have this ready to hand in at the beginning of the course.

### Resources

Poetry List  
Poetry Appreciation Guide

### ***Poems of the Decade: An Anthology of the Forward Books of Poetry 2002–2011*** **ISBN 978-0571281732**

Eat Me	Patience Agbabi 13
Chainsaw Versus the Pampas Grass	Simon Armitage 16
Material	Ros Barber 20
History	John Burnside 35
An Easy Passage	Julia Copus 47
The Deliverer	Tishani Doshi 53
The Lammas Hireling	Ian Duhig 61
To My Nine-Year-Old Self	Helen Dunmore 62
A Minor Role	U A Fanthorpe 67
The Gun	Vicki Feaver 72
The Furthest Distances I've Travelled	Leontia Flynn 74
Giuseppe	Roderick Ford 76
Out of the Bag	Seamus Heaney 91
Effects	Alan Jenkins 102
Genetics	Sinéad Morrissey 135
From the Journal of a Disappointed Man	Andrew Motion 137
Look We Have Coming to Dover	Daljit Nagra 139
Please Hold	Ciaran O'Driscoll 142
On Her Blindness	Adam Thorpe 180
Ode on a Grayson Perry Urn	Tim Turnbull 182

# Poetry Appreciation Guide

## **Subject Matter**

*What is the poem about?*

## **Theme**

*What was the poet's purpose or motive writing the poem? (What is the central idea of the poem?)*

## **Moods, Emotions and Experiences**

*What is the predominating mood of the poem? Is it the poet flippant, sad, happy, dignified, angry, contemplative, satirical?*

*Does the mood change?*

*What are some of the feelings expressed by the poets?*

*What feelings does the poet arouse in you?*

*Does the poet succeed in conveying his emotions in you?*

## **Technique**

### **Language**

*Are the poet's words appropriate and valid?*

*What emotions are built up around certain words?*

### **Imagery**

*What is the effect produced by the use of metaphors, similes, personification, symbolism, striking description?*

### **Sounds**

*What about the sounds in the poem? Are the sounds in harmony with the thought and imagery? Do the sounds suggest pictures, arouse emotions or bring out quality of the character?*

*What is the effect produced by the poet's use of: alliteration, assonance, onomatopoeia and metre?*

*Are the musical qualities of the poem outstanding?*

*Is rhyme used for emphasis?*

### **Rhyme**

*What use is made of rhyme in the poem? Is the movement slow, steady, or fast? Is the rhyme constant or does it vary? Is the rhyme appropriate to the mood and thought of the poem?*

### **Form**

*How is the poem structured? How are the stanzas organised? Is the structure itself convention, such as sonnet, ode, elegy, ballad, epic etc?*