



PREPARING FOR A-LEVEL

DRAMA

Welcome to Drama A-level. We are very happy that you have chosen to spend the next two years with us. It is a challenging course and hard work lies ahead both practically and theoretically, but at the same time it should be fun and worthwhile. You will ultimately get out of it what you put into it.

Please:

- WATCH [this documentary](#) about Tennessee Williams (45 minutes)
- READ '[The Glass Menagerie](#)' by Tennessee Williams. (3 hours).
WATCH: https://youtu.be/L_cO_71cZxQ.
- Note, you will study a play by Tennessee Williams, 'Cat on a Hot Tin Roof' (but please do not read this yet).
- WATCH 'A Taste of Honey' and 'Look Back in Anger'* (available on Amazon Prime or you can buy the CD from Amazon). These are two classic British black and white films from the late 50s. Briefly "google" background information before watching each of them. Try and find HD versions. (90 minutes each)
- CREATE a Scrapbook of life in Britain from 1955 to 1965. Be creative with this - don't just copy and paste from the internet, make it your own, in words and pictures you understand. Include fashion, clothing and hairstyles, the music scene, what was going on in theatre at that time, what was happening politically. Keep it related to this time period and to Britain e.g. new household gadgets, the kind of houses people lived in, how much money people had and what they spent it on. Make it like a creative scrapbook (don't worry if you are not particularly artistic). The aim is to create something that gives you an overview of Britain at that time. (4 hours min.) Your second set text will be a play from this period, set in South London, "Saved" by Edward Bond (please do not read this yet)
- READ '[The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime](#)'. Please read the novel by Mark Haddon, not the stage play. (2 hours). You will study the play by Simon Stephens, which is an adaptation of the novel, as your third A-level set text. The set texts are examined in the written exam.