



Preparation for A-Level English Literature

Congratulations on joining the A-level English Literature course. Before the start of term in September, there is some preparatory work you need to complete. You will be expected to produce evidence of the work in the **first session** in September.

The main focus of study for Year 12 is the unit 'Aspects of Tragedy'. The following tasks will give you a good introduction to this genre and an additional novel to refer to for context.

Task 1:

Read the novel *The Great Gatsby* by F Scott Fitzgerald. This is a short tragedy novel which should help to introduce you to the key elements of tragedy. You can download this for free here:

https://www.amazon.co.uk/Great-Gatsby-F-Scott-Fitzgerald-ebook/dp/B00EJRPZEQ/ref=tmm_kin_swatch_0?encoding=UTF8&qid=&sr=

Task 2:

Create a mind-map of the key elements of tragedy in the novel. Include the following:

- The tragic hero – Jay Gatsby
- The tragic villain – Tom Buchanan
- A sense of inevitability and fate
- Setting
- Chaos, tragic victims and death

Use the following links to help you:

<https://filestore.aqa.org.uk/resources/english/AQA-7716-7717-TRAGEDY-GREAT-GATSBY.PDF>

<https://www.sparknotes.com/lit/gatsby/genre/>

Additional reading/watching

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e6lu29TNfkM>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9FxLk-F6qPc>

<https://www.cliffsnotes.com/literature/g/the-great-gatsby/the-great-gatsby-at-a-glance>

<https://www.sparknotes.com/lit/gatsby/>

<https://www.litcharts.com/lit/the-great-gatsby>