



Holiday Reading Activities

GET READY FOR YEAR 9

Students will be starting to prepare for their GCSE course from September. Below is the list of books that students will be studying over the coming years. In preparation for this, the English department would like students to obtain a **personal copy** of the novel and **read** it over the holiday. It is important that students have read this text at least once over the break – the more you read a text, the more students will be able to understand the writer’s craft and utilise this in their GCSE responses.

Sets 1 and 2 – 19th Century Texts
Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde

Robert Louis Stevenson

Sets 3
A Christmas Carol

Charles Dickens

Modern Prose (All groups)
An Inspector Call’s

J B Priestley

Shakespeare Texts (All groups)
Macbeth

Poetry
Students will study a range of poems under one of the following themes:
Love and Relationships

Additional Reading
Students should be explore the historical context of the eighteenth and nineteenth century i.e. Romanticism and Enlightenment, Industrialisation, development of Psychology and Science.

Tasks: Read the named novel for your group:

1. Write a DETAILED summary of the novel – chapter by chapter.
2. List the characters and give information about them

For more information on the AQA English specification look on:
<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/gcse/english-literature-8702/specification-at-a-glance>
<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/gcse/english-language-8700/specification-at-a-glance>



Service, Excellence, Virtues, Aspirations,



English Department

Reading to Succeed!

Reading is at the heart of learning. It unlocks knowledge, develops language skills and provides opportunities to think and reflect. Research shows that those students who read a variety of challenging texts tend to do well in their studies. We encourage students to read a range of genres in order to expand their knowledge, vocabulary and explore different styles of writing.

At Seva School, we recognise the importance of reading in the learning process, and realise that most progress is made when parents and teachers work together to improve a child’s learning.

This leaflet lets you know a little bit about what we do at Seva School to help your child improve their reading, and gives a few tips on what parents can do too.

If you have any problems or concerns about your child’s reading progress, please contact your child’s English Teacher – Mrs Daler, Miss Gabriel, Mrs Mattu and the Head of Department Mrs Gill.

What WE do at Seva School to improve your child's reading.

- When your child arrived at Seva School in Year 7 we tested him or her to find out his/her reading age, and establish a reading profile to identify strengths and weaknesses. This helps us to focus our teaching at the right level, and to guide your child to select the right book to read. We monitor progress regularly.
- We have a school library run by the English teachers who are ready to help your child locate and use whatever type of book he or she is looking for.
- Pupils are encouraged to bring a reading book to school every day and teachers will monitor this.
- Higher order reading skills, such as skimming for gist, or scanning for information, are explicitly taught.
- Parts of English lessons are given over to reading for pleasure, to encourage your child to develop good reading habits. Your child's English teacher advises and suggests books to help widen his/her reading interests.



What YOU can do at home to improve your child's reading.

- Reading is a skill that needs to be practiced constantly. So encourage your child to read at least 20 minutes every day.
- Try to get your child to develop the reading habit by providing a quiet place for them to read at the same time every day.
- Find out your child's reading age. Help them to choose the right level book for them, not too difficult and not too easy. Their English teacher will also be able to help them choose.
- Show an interest in your child's reading. Ask them about what they are reading. Encourage them to read for the reading awards – check your local library for summer activities and recommended reading.
- Be a good role model yourself. Let your child see you reading. This is especially important for dads.
- If your child is a weak or reluctant reader, sit and listen to them read two or three times a week using the pause, prompt, praise method of encouraging reading.

