

## Bridging Work for New A Level English Students (Summer 2016)

The A Level syllabus we follow (AQA English Literature A) asks students to explore connections across literary texts: 'even when an individual text is being investigated, it should still be seen as being framed by a wider network of texts.' This means that, when exploring the set texts you study in class, you need to be able to draw on ideas gathered from your own wider reading.

In Year 12, you will be focusing on literature that deals with 'love through the ages' and your bridging work for the summer is to read a novel (not one of the set texts you will work on with your class) that will help to give you a broader understanding of this theme. You may choose from the following list of texts:

1. *Pride and Prejudice* by Jane Austen
2. *Tess of the d'Urbervilles* by Thomas Hardy
3. *Atonement* by Ian McEwan

As you read your chosen novel, please make some brief notes (perhaps including some quotations you find particularly interesting) on how different 'aspects of love' are treated in the text. Aspects of love might include, but will not be limited to, the following:

- Romantic love of many kinds
- Love and sex
- Love and loss
- Social conventions and taboos
- Love through the ages according to history and time
- Love through the ages according to individual lives (young love, maturing love)
- Jealousy and guilt
- Truth and deception
- Proximity and distance
- Marriage
- Approval and disapproval

You will not be required to hand these notes in to your teacher (they are for you) but you will be expected to discuss them in your first A Level English lesson at JCG.