



Dear Year 2 IB English Students,

As you prepare to enter the second year of the IB English course, we would like to offer a few suggestions to help you start the year feeling confident and prepared.

Reading List for Year 2

The works we will study during Year 2 are:

- **Essays** by George Orwell
- **Poetry** by Alfred, Lord Tennyson
- **Jane Eyre** by Charlotte Brontë
- **Wide Sargasso Sea** by Jean Rhys
- **Waiting for Godot** by Samuel Beckett

If possible, begin reading some of these works over the summer. Becoming familiar with the texts before we study them together will allow you to engage more deeply with class discussions and analysis throughout the year.

Continue Developing Literary Knowledge

As we move into Year 2, you should be comfortable identifying and analyzing the key elements of poetry, prose, and drama.

Reviewing literary terms and analytical techniques from Year 1 will help you approach our new texts with confidence and sophistication. See attached circles to review.

Maintain Strong Writing Skills

Continue practicing proper essay structure, particularly:

- **Single-work literary analysis essays**
- **Comparative essays involving two works**

Focus on developing clear thesis statements, well-organized arguments, effective use of textual evidence, and insightful analysis. Strong writing habits developed now will support your success in both internal and external assessments.

Be an Active Reader

Whether you are reading our course texts or books of your own choosing, continue to read actively.

As you read:

- Ask questions about the author's choices.
- Consider themes, perspectives, and contexts.
- Evaluate what you read.
- Reflect on what you enjoyed and what challenged you.
- Support your opinions with evidence from the text.

Remember, you do not need to enjoy every text you read. However, you should engage with it thoughtfully enough to explain and support your reactions.

HL Essay Reminder

For Higher Level students, please remember that your **edited rough draft of the HL Essay is due on September 28**. Summer is an excellent opportunity to revisit your chosen text, refine your line of inquiry, and continue developing your analysis before final revisions begin.

A Note About Texts

Class copies of all required works will be available for students to borrow throughout the year. However, we strongly encourage you to purchase your own copies if possible. Having personal copies allows you to annotate, highlight, and make notes directly in the text, which can be extremely valuable when preparing for assessments and class discussions.

Enjoy Your Summer

Most importantly, enjoy your summer! Read outside. Explore new ideas. Connect your own experiences to what you are reading. Spend time with family and friends, travel if you have the opportunity, and return in September refreshed and ready for a challenging and rewarding final year of IB English.

We look forward to working with you all again and helping you finish your IB journey successfully.

Have a wonderful summer and happy reading!

Mrs. Craig & Mr. Hirschman
IB English Literature Teachers
Loreen.Craig@abbyschools.ca
Khaene.Hirschman@abbyschools.ca





