The idea with this bridging is work is that you will begin to explore some of the topics that we will study at A Level. Each task requires you to complete some research into a key topic and then complete an associated task. You should be aiming for approx. 45mins – 1hr of research per task before completing the work set. Remember to use your research to understand any topics you are unsure of. You may find some information at GCSE level too from text books etc. Your teachers have provided some useful links to help support your research into each topic.

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| Subject Name | A Level English Literature | |
| Task Title | Task Description | Estimated Time |
| Genre | Research both the **crime** genre and the genre of **tragedy**. Find 5 key texts (novels, plays or poetry) for these two genres and take notes on the similarities you find.  Write your initial response to the following two statements:  *‘Crime writing must always focus on the pursuit of justice.’*  *‘The true purpose of tragedy is to teach people how to be good.’*  Do you agree with these statements? How do they link to your research of these genres? | 2 hours |
| Shakespeare and genre | Pick one of the following RSC productions to watch on BBC iPlayer:  *Hamlet* or *Othello*  If you pick ‘Hamlet’, you need to take notes on how this play could be considered part of the crime genre.  If you pick ‘Othello’, you need to list the ways in which this play could be considered a tragedy. | 3 hours |
| The crime genre | For the rest of your bridging work you will be focusing on the crime genre. You will study this genre in depth as part of your A Level course.  A key text in the early stages of the crime genre was *The Murders at the Rue Morgue* by Edgar Allen Poe. You will need to read this text and focus on the following two things: how it fits expectations of a crime text and how the detective is presented. | 2 hours |
| The detective | Continue reading *The Murders at the Rue Morgue* by Edgar Allen Poe and complete the following tasks:  How does Poe establish the character of Dupin?  In what ways does this character fit our expectations of a detective?  Why is the detective such a key figure in crime fiction? | 2 hours |
| Your turn | Now that you’ve finished reading ‘The Murders at the Rue Morgue’ by Edgar Allen Poe, you have a chance to create your own piece of crime writing. For the A Level English Literature course there is the opportunity, as part of the coursework, to complete some creative writing. Use your knowledge of the crime genre, and your awareness of what makes a typical detective, to write the opening to a crime story either set in a large mansion or in a crumbling city. | 2 hours |
| Useful resources | RSC productions: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episodes/p089zds8/culture-in-quarantine-shakespeare>  *The Murders at the Rue Morgue* by Edgar Allen Poe: <https://www.gutenberg.org/files/2147/2147-h/2147-h.htm#link2H_4_0009> | |
| How to submit | Please email your work to: [ian.jordan@verulam.herts.sch.uk](mailto:ian.jordan@verulam.herts.sch.uk) | |