

MY SUMMMER WORK

A Level English Literature



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Introduction

Your second exam paper (and your first internal assessment) will focus around Gothic literature, and will include not only a question based on your set texts, but also an extract of Gothic literature you will likely never have seen before. You will be expected to apply your analysis skills to the text and to use evidence effectively, identifying how it uses features and patterns seen more broadly within the Gothic genre. With the focus of the paper on contextual issues you will also need to discuss how the genre is used to explore wider social and psychological issues. This means you want to develop a good knowledge of the genre as a whole and the way in which it is used as a vehicle to explore broader ideas.

Task 1

All additional information that you will need for the following tasks will be found at:
<http://bit.ly/newcastlesummerwork>

Create a timeline that begins with the emergence of the Gothic genre and its earliest texts and identifies key writers, their works and the ideas they introduce through them. It is suggested that you start with *The Monk* by Matthew Lewis, although you might choose to go further back than this. The timeline should be completed on an A3 piece of paper and should include the following details.

- At least 15 different authors and texts
- Details of the key works with very basic plot reference and ideas explored
- Anything else relevant

Task 2

Research the Gothic genre in a more overall way and create a sheet that details the overall conventions of the genre in relation to setting, characterisation, form, themes etc.

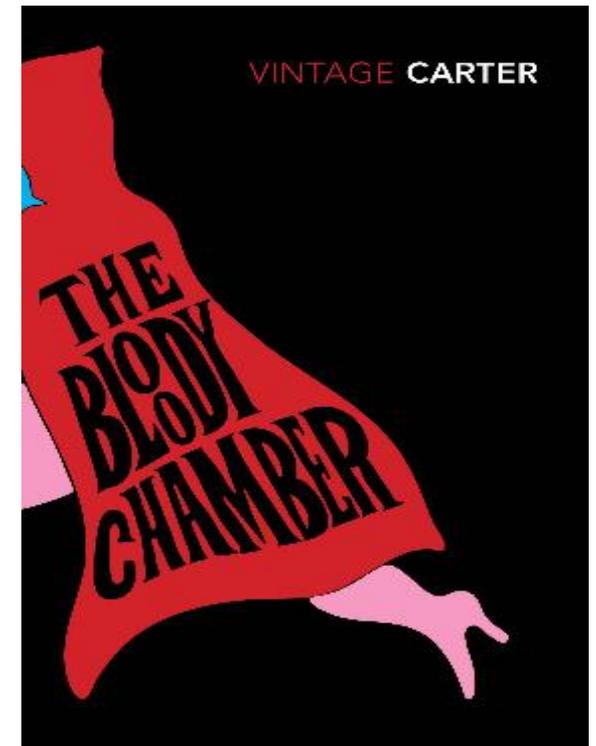
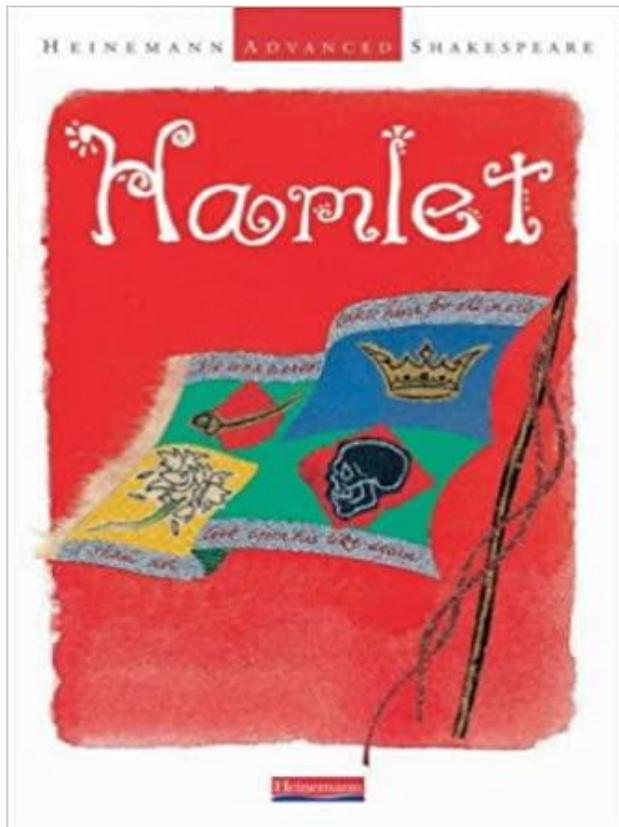
Task 3

All additional information that you will need for the following tasks will be found at:
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Have a read through of the attached extract questions from previous exam papers and annotate them. You should focus on the genre and how it is used, the way narrative techniques are employed (narrative voice, imagery, etc.) and the way they explore historical, social and psychological ideas. An example response to a question like this is also included – but you do not need to do a full response.

Task 4

Ensure you purchase a copy of *The Bloody Chamber* (Vintage edition) and *Hamlet* (Heinemann edition)



Task 5

Do an initial read through (or watch in the case of Hamlet) of both of the texts, making any notes you feel are relevant on key issues, themes and narrative techniques.

This is very important as the exams will be closed book, but will still expect you to use a wide range of direct textual evidence.

A single read through of the exam texts will not be sufficient.

USEFUL LINKS & RESOURCES

On the below link you will be able to find all additional information:

<http://bit.ly/newcastlesummerwork>



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GET IN TOUCH

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