



## *English A Level on the Bryn Hafren Site*

On the Bryn Hafren site, we offer two Advanced Level English courses to our students: a combined WJEC English Language/ Literature course and a single WJEC English Literature course. The Summary of Assessment for both courses is available this evening.

The following needs to be taken into account when making the final decision about which course to opt for:

- The combined English Language/ Literature course calls for a high degree of self motivation combined with a genuine interest in how language does its work; you will be expected to familiarise yourself with a wide range of literary and linguistic devices used both in written and spoken language. You will also be expected to research the subject independently and to take joint responsibility with your teacher for the improvement of your own learning and writing skills. This course is not for those who do not read books or those who do not have an interest in the development and evolution of the English language.
- Progress in the English Language/Literature course is very dependent on how well you can motivate yourself to meet deadlines and how ready you are to ask appropriate questions in class as well as how willing you are to work outside your comfort zone in the initial stages of the course. You should also commit yourself to reading a wide range of non-fiction text types, including spontaneous speech and electronic language. For example, you should try to read a broadsheet newspaper once a week as well as familiarising yourself with the prose styles of the tabloids on a daily basis. If you enjoy expressing yourself in the form of personal writing there are considerable opportunities to do so in the form of literary and non-literary texts.
- The English Literature Advanced course will suit those who are more interested in classic and contemporary prose, poetry and drama. The combined course covers text such as these but the analytical approach differs slightly with less emphasis on the technicalities of spontaneous spoken language and more on plot construction, character motivation and the impact of the social, historical and political context of the texts you read. This is an ideal course for those who love reading a variety of fiction genres and will cover poetry, prose and drama. You must commit yourself to reading the texts in their entirety as soon as you embark on

**the course so that you get the maximum benefit from the guidance offered in class. The texts are such that your teacher will have to summarise and move on quickly with the emphasis being on analysis rather than use the lessons to read the texts to you.**

- **You must accept this responsibility for independent reading if you are to make progress in this subject. This discipline also offers an opportunity for creative writing in response to recognised prose texts. This can be an enjoyable and liberating experience.**
- **You will be entered for the January examinations in Year 12; this is standard practice for our team as it helps to focus your efforts when embarking on your sixth form studies. The results of that module together with your attendance record will be taken into account when we review your suitability for the course in March when these results come out.**
- **The Faculty team will work hard to help you succeed if you opt for one of our courses; if you work hard, attend lessons, meet deadlines but don't do as well in the January modules as you expected to, we will encourage you to re-sit and complete the course. If, however, your attendance, self-motivation and general application are poor, we will recommend that you leave the course. The Faculty is always sympathetic when there are extenuating circumstances.**
- **We see this level of study as a close working partnership between the student, the teacher, the form teacher, the heads of the 6<sup>th</sup> form and the home.**

**GOOD ATTENDANCE; SELF-MOTIVATION; A GENUINE INTEREST IN READING AND LANGUAGE; A WILL TO SUCCEED AND MOVE FORWARD IN YOUR ACADEMIC STUDIES.**

**THESE ARE ALL ESSENTIAL PRE-REQUISITES FOR SUCCESS!**

**The Bryn Hafren English Faculty: March 2011.**