

Haydon School

Transition Work - English Literature (A Level)

TASK 1: Aspects of Tragedy

Write a response (250 words approximately) to the following question:

Why do we enjoy art that makes us cry?

Consider:

- The importance / value of tragedy
- The difference between tragedy and comedy

TASK 2: Elements of Political and Social Protest (The Handmaid's Tale)

1. Read 'The Handmaid's Tale' by Margaret Atwood
2. Complete the questions after the reading:
 - a) What do you think of Offred as a narrator?
 - b) What is Margaret Atwood protesting through the text?
 - c) What do you think of Moira as a rebellious character?
 - d) Could Gilead exist in our world in the future?
 - e) Do any of the characters have a choice about their lives in the text?
3. Write a 250 word (approx) review of The Handmaid's Tale.

TASK 3: Elements of Political and Social Protest (The Kite Runner)

1. Read 'The Kite Runner' by Khaled Hosseini
2. Complete the questions after the reading:
 - a) What do you think of Amir as a narrator?
 - b) What is Khaled Hosseini protesting through the text?
 - c) What do you think of Hassan as a victim character?
 - d) Was the fate of Afghanistan unavoidable?
 - e) How much control do the characters have over their lives in the text?
3. Write a 250 word (approx) review of The Kite Runner.