Y12 Summer Task-English Literature



1. Read A Streetcar Named Desire by Tennessee Williams

2. Research the following areas that relate to the social, historical and cultural context of the play:

- Tennessee William's Life
- The American Civil War
- The American South, particularly New Orleans
- Post War American Society
- Gender Roles in the US in 1940s
- Race and Immigration
- The Southern Belle
- Plantations and the Slave Trade





3. Watch the film (with Marlon Brando) or if you can find access, any of the West End/Broadway Theatrical adaptations

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4. Create Blanche's Memory Box



Your final task will put your creativity to the test. Using your knowledge of the play, create a visual representation of Blanche's life throughout the text as a memory box/chest. Annotate with **quotations** from the text and use your understanding of her character to consider carefully what you include.

If you want to get ahead, we also study the following texts in Year 12, which you may want to read:

- Shakespeare: Othello
- The Romantics: English Romantic Verse, editor David Wright (Penguin Classics, 1973). The 19 poems we study can be found here: <u>Pearson</u> <u>Edexcel Level 3 Advanced GCE in English Literature</u> (page 76)