

# The Friary Sixth Form



# English Literature Summer Project Pack 2023



# Summer Tasks



## Task 1: NEA Second Text

Before the summer holidays, you were taught 'The Importance of Being Earnest' which will be one of the two texts that you will write your NEA about. Now you need to decide which theme you would like to write about for your NEA, and which text you will pair it with. You must start reading this second text over the holidays, **only once you have emailed Mrs Jones to discuss its suitability**. As you read it, it is a good idea to mark out specific extracts that you think will be useful to write about. Try to annotate and label your text as we do with our texts in class.

### Themes:

- Marriage
- Presentation of the middle and upper classes
- Masculinity
- Femininity
- Identity
- Appearance versus reality
- Respectability
- Morality

### Text suggestions:

- 'Pride and Prejudice', Jane Austen: relationships, marriage, men, women, social class, societal expectations,
- 'Sense and Sensibility', Jane Austen: relationships, marriage, men, women, social class, societal expectations
- 'Emma', Jane Austen: relationships, marriage, men, women, social class, societal expectations, comedy
- 'Northanger Abbey', Jane Austen: relationships, marriage, men, women, social class, societal expectations
- 'Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde', Robert Louis Stevenson: identity, appearance vs reality, deception, double lives
- 'The Woman in White', Wilkie Collins: treatment of Women (in marriage)
- 'Great Expectations' *marriage, attitudes to women*
- 'Lady Audley's Secret', Mary Elizabeth Braddon: deception, women, marriage

### Possible Modern Novels:

- 'The French Lieutenant's Woman', John Fowles: relationships, social class, status
- 'Enduring Love', Ian McEwan: appearances vs reality, deception, marriage
- 'Normal People', Sally Rooney: *attitudes to women, relationships*

***You can do a collection of poetry: the exam board recommend 3 short poems OR one narrative poem to compare to The Importance of Being Earnest. Discuss with Mrs Jones if you'd like to do this.***

# Additional Reading/ Supporting Resources



- An Introduction to The Importance of Being Earnest, The British Library: <https://www.bl.uk/romantics-and-victorians/articles/the-importance-of-being-earnest>
- Oscar Wilde's The Importance of Being Earnest, Victorian Web: <https://victorianweb.org/authors/wilde/pva99.html>
- Victorian Satire, Oxford Bibliographies: <https://www.oxfordbibliographies.com/display/document/obo-9780199799558/obo-9780199799558-0111.xml>