

Welcome to Year 13!

Please complete, over the summer, the following 4 tasks which are going to be essential for succeeding in your A level.

Task 1: Independent Research Project

Over the summer you need to continue your work on your Independent Research Project completing your booklet, making sure you can find the resources that you need and that there will be enough information to conduct a meaningful presentation (2 minutes) and following discussion (10 minutes) in your oral exam next May.

By the time you come back I will expect to see at least up to and including the section entitled 'initial prep/research' full of information and you may also have filled in some of the space entitled Sept / Oct too.

Within the first two weeks back, you will be required to do a 2-3 minute oral presentation in Spanish in your speaking session about your IRP topic in Spanish to demonstrate the progress of your research and your depth of knowledge so far.

Task 2: Revise all your tenses as this will be tested on return to college

You already know how important it is for every component of the A-level to have a secure knowledge of how tenses are formed, verb endings and irregular verb formations. You will have a 50 verb test in the first week back.

Task 3: Film essay

Following our study at the end of Year 12 of the film 'El Laberinto del Fauno', using all your notes and essay writing advice already given, please write the best essay you can in Spanish answering this title:

'Compara la relación que tiene Ofelia con los otros personajes en la película'

This is due to be handed in first lesson back in September.

Task 4: read 'La Casa de Bernarda Alba' over the summer.

You will need to buy this play yourself. Amazon is probably a good place. I would like you to buy the 'Methuen Student Edition' which is a bilingual version (so will save you a lot of time spent with a dictionary!) and comes with a really useful commentary and notes. You need to read it in English (to grasp the plot easily, then in Spanish) making notes on the plot (i.e. what is happening), the setting (where is the action taking place), the characters, the use of language and imagery and key themes and messages in the play.

As with the film work, you need some background about the historical and social setting of the time in which the play was written (1936, just before the outbreak of the civil war). You need to research and make notes (English is fine) on the following (see bottom for resource ideas). Remember some of the introductory work we did on the historical setting of the film will help also:

Opening doors to a brighter future

- What was the political situation in 1930s Spain? (Make sure you know what left and right wing mean and which parties were which)
- What was life like for people living in the 1930s Spain (think about different social groups, different genders etc.)?
- What were the main causes of the Spanish Civil War (1936-1939)?
- Federico García Lorca's life (the playwright)
- What were the main influences on his work?
- Why might he have written this play (and the other two in the trilogy)?

¡Hasta septiembre!