



Summer Tasks July 2023

So, you think you would like to study: A Level English Language and Literature

Summer Task Title / Instructions:

Task 1: Evaluate how successfully Michael Palin creates a sense of voice when writing about his experiences in Saudi Arabia.

Notes:

What we say, and how we say it, enables others to identify us and to identify with us. We change our voice according to our audience, our agenda or the context in which we speak or interact. If a text is well written we can "hear" it when we read and if a character or persona is well developed we identify them through the illusion of voice on the page. In the best texts these voices are unique "voiceprints" that communicate with us as freely and convincingly as the human voices they emulate. The voice of the writer is the quality that makes their writing unique and which conveys their attitudes, values and personality. A writer can use other people's voices through direct speech, incorporating, directly, the voice of another into the text. However the text that surrounds the directly quoted speech will have been crafted by the writer to create a perspective designed to influence how you, the reader, interpret that voice.

In your answer you should:

- Show that you have engaged with both the text and the question by offering a coherent argument. Your argument should be outlined in the introduction, where you establish your viewpoint; supported with specific examples from the text; and ended with a conclusion that makes a final judgement about how successfully the writer has created a 'voice' and how appropriate this voice is for the purpose of the text;
- Comment on the writer's methods, including the form of the text, and the writer's language and structural choices, thinking particularly about how these methods succeed in creating a sense of voice;
- Adopt an appropriate tone for an English essay.

We will be looking for a high level of accurate written expression in your response.

Task 2 Read one novel from the attached reading list.

Produce one piece of extended creative writing in response to the text chosen. c 1000 words

Suggestions:

- A new passage or short chapter to be placed either at the beginning or end of the novel.
- A short story inspired by one of the characters or themes of the novel.
- A dramatic monologue from the point of view of one of the characters.

Attachments:

- Extract from *Around the World in 80 Days* (Michael Palin)
- Lang Lit Reading List

Please submit the task, to your teacher on the first lesson in September. Feel free to do multiple summer tasks if you are unsure on what subjects to study.