



# English Literature for New Arrivals

## Information for schools

Children and Young People's Services



## ***Are you struggling to teach New Arrivals English literature?***

### **Should I buy a text in the pupil's first language?**

Translated texts are not necessarily the answer, particularly lower down school, when the focus needs to be on supporting learning of the curriculum in English. Consider this option on a case by case cost/benefit basis.

If however, you feel that this is a key text and there is limited time available i.e. a pupil in Year 10/11, do a search on Google to check if there is a version available (on Amazon / Mantra Lingua?). This will enable EAL learners to read the text at home and gain an idea of key themes and characters.

*Remember.....it will be difficult to monitor how accurately the vernacular and class/cultural representations in the original have been rendered.*

If you are unable to find a copy in the first language or decide that this would not be the preferred option, another possibility would be to get the English text on a Kindle along with a first language dictionary. Hover over words to translate them.

### **Other suggestions**

Check whether there are versions of the play on YouTube or DVD, possibly subtitled. This would enable easy access to screen shots (for sequencing and character recognition/top trumps cards) as well as an opportunity for your learner to pre/post watch the play as a whole and in relevant chunks - perhaps with a simple 'bingo style' plot list. The latter could probably be translated into the first language quite safely via

Google translate. You may consider adding sound or QR labels.

The [EAL Nexus site](#) has a variety of English Literature resources for different plays which demonstrate how to give access to the plot and the plot structure (at macro/micro levels), along with character and theme while also consolidating/developing English vocabulary/syntax knowledge.

Free resources for EAL teachers

## School Leaders

Whether you are a senior member of staff in a school, cluster or Multi-Academy Trust there is information you need to be able to improve and develop your policy and practice with learners who have English as an Additional Language (EAL).

Find out more

Pause

Finally, for well-known texts, it is likely that there will be a plot summary available on-line.

Download and create simple DARTS activities (gap fill/multiple choice/True/false questions). Check whether there are pictures of the main characters on Google images and print out. Ask EAL pupils to label and write simple descriptive sentences or even to sequence the pictures and match with simple captions.

## Good Luck!

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