

Summer Step Up Tasks - Preparing for Year 12

These Tasks will help you prepare for A level study which requires confident, critical thinking and analytical skills

For September read 'The Rare Jewel' by Charlotte Perkins Gilman carefully and complete these tasks - compile a folder as evidence of your study of the story.

Produce a page of notes on each of these topics (do not just print off sheets from the internet)

Task 1

Research the lives of men and women in late nineteenth century England and America. Include the social expectations of men and women in this period, and the separate spheres of public and domestic life.

Task 2

Research the life of Charlotte Perkins Gilman.

Task 3

Research treatment of hysteria in women during this period: include the meaning and definition of this term. Find out about Gilman's personal experience of this treatment.

Task 4

Read the poem 'The Angel in the Home' and summarise Patmore's ideas about the ideal woman.

Task 5

Read the story 'The Rare Jewel' a couple of times.

- Clarify meanings of any vocabulary you don't understand.
- What are your first impressions of the story? Record your first thoughts.

Task 6

Annotate the story:

- Looking at the language and structure of the story
- How can you link it to the research you did in tasks 1 - 4

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