



A Guide to Using the *Reading Through* Adaptations Resource

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Adaptations in practice

The resources have been devised to be used flexibly at different stages in the students' reading journey by providing activities that can be dropped in at various points as students become more familiar with the literary text they are studying.

Alternatively, the materials could be used in a block, for example taking up three lessons towards the end of a term in Year 9, and then briefly returned to for learning enhancement and revision in Year 11.

The lesson resources focus on three key event sequences from the literary text that are also of particular interest because of the way that the screenwriter has chosen to adapt them. They might be chosen because the script remains particularly close to the original novel or play or because they are experimental in their approach or even because they are the screenwriter's invention.

Each Lesson plan offers the following

- **Clip resources** – details which clips from adaptations will be used in the lesson. Direct access to these clips via urls is provided by ERA.
- **Skills and objectives** – details the GCSE English language and literature skills covered by the lesson
- **Scene setting** – introducing the extract and scene(s) chosen from the literary text and adaptation – gives the context for the extract within the whole text and its thematic, plot or character focus
- **Starting points** – three short starter activities that allow choice for when used during Years 9-11. These map to the following stages in the reading journey: pre-reading of the entire text; once more familiar with the text; for revision purposes.
- **Main activities** – two more developed activities that provide a spoken and a written outcome around a central theme, plot element, character development or genre convention.
- **Extensions** – additional activities that offer adaptive learning tasks for 'stuck' and 'stretch and challenge' students as well as visual learners.
- **Glossary** – for tricky words and phrases from the set text or adaptation

Throughout, the lesson will draw out how activities around the adaptations can naturally encourage a diverse and inclusive approach to teaching canonical texts.

Where will I find the adaptations to screen?

All of the focus scenes in the lesson resources are drawn from adaptations broadcast by the BBC and hosted in the ERA BBC Literary Archive which contains a rich range of film and television adaptations, as well as radio productions and secondary critical material.

The separate introduction to 'Reading Through Adaptations' also signposts some interesting scenes from adaptations of a range of set texts to which you might like to apply adaptive techniques.

What skills will these resources deliver?

Typically, but not exclusively, the lesson plans will cover the following GCSE Assessment Objectives – but where appropriate adjusted to a level suited to Year 9:

- **English Language:** AO1, AO2, AO5
- **English Literature:** AO1, AO2, AO3

The methods used and chosen by screen writers when adapting canonical texts will also be explained and exemplified in the lesson resources and activities. These methods are allied to key skills for the English Language GCSE and to encouraging a range of creative writing outcomes.

Adaptive skill	Definition	GCSE skill	AO
Omission	Choosing to leave out material	Editing	
Concision	Keeping material but cutting out detail/minor elements	Selecting and synthesising	AO1 English Lang
Condensation	Reducing a larger amount of material to a condensed form	Summarising	AO1 English Lang
Invention	Creating completely new material	Creative writing	AO5 English Lang
Preservation	Verbatim conservation of selected description or dialogue	Selecting and synthesising	AO1 English Lang
Re-ordering	Changing order of events/sections to create particular effects with	Structuring	AO2 and AO5 English Lang
Episodic structuring	Shaping structure across episodes or sections	Cohesion	AO2 and AO5 English Lang
Thematic linking	Developing themes across episodes or sections.	Creative writing	AO5 English Lang

More centrally, the activities and resources for each lesson will introduce and enhance the following skills for the English Literature GCSE:

- Reading, understanding and responding to texts, including the ability to maintain a critical style and develop an informed personal response and to use textual references, including quotations, to support and illustrate interpretations (AO1).
- Analysis of the language, form and structure used by a writer to create meanings and effects, using relevant subject terminology where appropriate (AO2).
- Showing an understanding of the relationships between texts and the contexts in which they were written (AO3).

Resources supporting the Lesson plans

Examples of the kinds of resources included: support for starter and main activities – e.g. supporting a response to reading a visual text versus a written text; text extracts; contextual stimuli; a close reading language-based activity; model prompts for writing tasks.

- offering greater insight into character and theme
- helping with sometimes difficult nineteenth century vocabulary
- supporting understanding of plot and structure
- introducing analysis of writer's craft
- supporting imaginative creative spoken and written outcomes

All of these being key areas for students to grasp and then know in detail during their courses in GCSE English and English Literature.

