

Hi all,

As you hopefully saw in my video – you can continue this work into next week if you need to (in fact, it is recommended).

I am NOT going to be posting any new (big) work tasks next week (just some things to read and videos to watch, things to continue to help you prepare) – it is primarily going to be time for you to continue planning and revising. **So if you can't finish all this work today and tomorrow – you have Monday next week to keep working on it if needs be. I will also not give any new work for next Wednesday, meaning you can use it for final planning and creating a Cheat Sheet** (although if you do all of this work properly, all of this should become part of your cheat sheet/s – that's another advantage of doing a SAC from home – unlimited access to notes to help you!).

1. Have a look at my answers for the last few chapters of Year of Wonders and compare against your own.
2. If you still have not, then please email me your Chapter Questions. It is a requirement of passing this Outcome. It must be done. *See Monday's document for more options for how to do this.*
3. Readings: Please download and read the **Characters.pdf** and the **Themes.pdf** handouts

And/Or: I have provided links to **videos** of Lisa Tran explaining the themes and characters. These are very useful! However – don't forget to pause so you can take notes & quotes.

The readings/videos are **very important** – and should be read **carefully**, and **USED** – for ideas, quotes and evidence. In other words – if you don't have your own ideas about the essay topic yet – **this is where you will find some.**

HOWEVER: You do **not** have to read ALL of them if you do not wish – you can just choose to focus on reading the themes and characters relevant to *your* essay topic (however, in order to know what is relevant, you will have had to do some of the initial planning tasks I have set you – so that you *are* broadly aware of which characters and themes are relevant to your essay topic.) Obviously if you watch the video, it will be hard to choose what to watch and what to skip.

If in doubt – read/watch it anyway!

Pay especial attention to any **Views, Values or Concerns** of the authors – highlight and record them to use in an essay. Whenever it says “The author believes...” or “The author is communicating” or “The author is concerned...” there is a good chance this is a VVC.

4. IF you feel this is not enough information, or you want some more – why not do some more research? Both texts have got **individual study guides** for them all over the internet. So for example, if you are doing Essay Topic #2 (compare fear) – then why not go search for “The Crucible Fear” or “Year of Wonders fear” – it may not come up exactly, but something similar will. Then read it and ‘borrow’ the ideas and quotes that you read (so long as you put them in your own words!).

5. Hopefully you have started writing up some mindmaps/diagrams/or lists of possible connections and comparisons for your essay. **Here is another list of textual features you could try to find connections between.**

Please download the file "Textual Features to Compare.pdf"

And start looking for **how many of these pairings might be relevant to your essay topic?**
The more you can find = the more possible content to discuss in an essay.

6. Your Writing Tasks for EITHER Today/Tomorrow/Next Monday:

*You can do as few or as many of the following options. These tasks will take time because you will have to **collect your evidence first** – however, they are incredibly useful.*

If it were me: I would do as many as I could, as this is excellent essay preparation. If you choose not to do any, and fail the SAC, you'll only have yourself to blame.

A) Choose a key scene from both texts that is relevant to your essay topic.

Re-watch/re-read the key scene/passage and, **using quotes from both texts AND discussing textual features wherever you can** (e.g. language, literary features vs. play features.):

> Write a 150-300 word comparison between the two scenes. In what ways are they similar? In what ways are they different? – in relation to how they explore your essay topic, AND what each is trying to communicate about your topic.

VVC: Try to include what each author is **communicating** in relation to their theme, e.g. what are their views, values, or concerns, in relation to the topic of your paragraph?

From what you have just written, what is a **broad similarity** between them the two texts?
This could become a topic sentence.

Essentially you've just written a paragraph for your essay! Not so hard, hey!

B) Choose a key character, characters, or relationship between characters from each text (that are relevant to your essay topic). Using the information gathered from reading the Characters.pdf handout, and your own notes, **including quotes** (and textual features wherever possible):

> Write a 100-300 word comparison between the two characters in relation to your essay topic.

What conclusions emerged? What is a **broad similarity** that might make a good topic sentence?

Try to work out what a **broad shared idea** is between the characters, in relation to the essay topic (e.g. "both characters begin have to question their own sanity" – *boom – there's another topic sentence!*)

Double-Boom – there's another (rough) paragraph for your essay done!

C) Your option: Choose a third pairing from the list of Textual Features (that is relevant to your essay topic) and, using evidence from the text (quotes wherever possible).

Compare the similarities and differences (making sure to show a *close reading* of the texts – i.e. include details.)

D) Do some more! If you have another idea for a paragraph for your essay, why not write a draft – starting with the similarities before moving onto the differences. Use quotes and textual features and try to figure out what each author is trying to communicate. There's not much more to it than that.

FOR ALL: Remember the language of comparison:

Similarity: **similarly, akin to this, not dissimilarly, both do... both present... both convey**

Difference: **contrastingly, dissimilarly, alternatively, however, despite, while, differently,**

7. OPTIONAL READING:

I have put a TWO SAMPLE essays online now. If you feel that knowing what the essay looks like will help you – then please have a look! One is an essay on The Crucible and Year of Wonders (but in a different format to how we will construct ours); the other is in the same format as ours, but on different texts.

Otherwise: I will draw you attention to the essay next week.

Next Monday I will post some more details about the essay and the test, including the Assessment Outline with the Criteria.