Summer work for English Literature students

Look at the list of texts below. They will not necessarily be the texts you will study for A Level, but, over the summer, we want you to gain a breadth to your reading and begin to develop an evaluative approach to literature.

F Scott Fitzgerald *The Great Gatsby*

Thomas Hardy *Tess of the d’Urbevilles*

Arthur Miller *The Crucible*

Kate Atkinson *When Will There Be Good News*

Agatha Christie *Murder on the Orient Express*

Charles Dickens *Oliver Twist*

Graham Greene *Brighton Rock*

Ian McEwan *Enduring Love*

Margaret Atwood *The Handmaid’s Tale*

Khaled Hosseini *The Kite Runner*

**Task**

1. **To choose and read 3 of the above novels – it doesn’t matter which ones. Read a synopsis of each one and choose the 3 which appeal to you most.**
2. **Write an essay (1000 – 1500 words) in which you explain which of the 3 texts you found the most engaging or interesting. This should be critical/evaluative – write like a student of English Literature, not a newspaper reviewer.**

**Consider elements like:**

* **Plot**
* **Characterisation**
* **Structure of the book, including the beginning and the ending**
* **The way the writer uses language**
* **The way setting is used**

**Do quote from the text. You can reference the other 2 texts you enjoyed less well or just focus on the one you have chosen.**

**HAPPY READING!**