



Course Description: HSC Advanced English Module A (Textual Conversations): *The Tempest* and *Hag-Seed*

Suitable for: Years 11-12

Prerequisites: Literary Techniques (available during school holidays)

Duration: 2 hours a week for 10 weeks; **20 hours total**

About: We know you love Harry Potter, but did you know Shakespeare wrote wizard stories way before Rowling did? *The Tempest* is about Prospero, an ageing wizard living on a remote island with his daughter Miranda. If you thought this combination of *Harry Potter* and *Survivor* wasn't interesting enough, there's a shipwreck, betrayal, spirits, and a "thing of darkness". Meanwhile, Margaret Atwood's novel *Hag-Seed* is an adaptation of Willy Shakes' *The Tempest*. *Hag-Seed* follows a forgotten theatre director who works in a prison, and adapts Prospero's island so it includes computers, projectors, and rapping. What does any of this have to do with *The Tempest*? Find out in this Textual Conversations course.

In addition to learning about both texts, students will also develop and refine their writing skills to prepare them for Module A of the HSC (English Advanced).

Student Writing Outcomes:

- Opinion pieces about themes and characters
- Forming strong introductions that answer a range of HSC essay questions
- Writing full essays as per the Module A requirements
- Creative writing and discursive essays based on *The Tempest* and *Hag-Seed* (in preparation for Module C: The Craft of Writing)

Student Learning Objectives:

- Planning and writing essays
- Exploring how form and content are related
- Considering how context influences interpretations
- Analysing techniques from different media
- Gaining critical thinking skills by comparing texts and interpretations
- Improving writing skills specifically for Module A and more generally for HSC English