

English | King Lear | Year 9 | Summer 2

Week 1

Abdication	When a monarch renounces (gives up) their throne.
Tragedy	A play ending with the suffering and death of the main character.
transgressive	Violating (crossing) moral and social boundaries.
Hamartia	The fatal flaw of a tragic hero.

Week 2

Treacherous	Guilty of, or involving betrayal or deception.
Primogeniture	The right of succession to the throne belonging to the first born, usually the son.
Illegitimate	not authorized by the law; not in accordance with accepted standards or rules.
Soliloquy	A speech or passage in a play when a character on stage speaks to himself/herself, expressing their inner thoughts and feelings.

Week 3

Hubris	Excessive pride.
Transgressive	Violating (crossing) moral and social boundaries.
Tyrant	A cruel and oppressive ruler.
Patriarchy	a system of society or government in which men hold the power and women are largely excluded from it:

Week 4

Realm	A kingdom
Disintegration	The process of losing cohesion, strength or breaking down.
Tyrant	A cruel and oppressive ruler.
Corrupt	Having or showing a willingness to act dishonestly in return for money or personal gain.

Week 5

Machiavellian	Cunning, scheming, and focussed on the acquisition of personal power, especially in politics.
Anagnorisis	The point in the plot, especially a tragedy, at which the protagonist recognises their own character's true identity or discovers the true nature of their situation.
Hamartia	The fatal flaw of a tragic hero.
Treacherous	Guilty of, or involving betrayal or deception.

Week 6

Catharsis	The process of releasing strong or pent-up emotions which can bring a release of tension.
Soliloquy	A speech or passage in a play when a character on stage speaks to himself/herself, expressing their inner thoughts and feelings.
Disintegration	The process of losing cohesion, strength or breaking down.
Corrupt	Having or showing a willingness to act dishonestly in return for money or personal gain.