

KS4 Reading List

The GCSE syllabus is more demanding than ever. Students need to be able to engage with a wide range of challenging texts from the 19th to the 21st century as part of the Language and Literature courses. Students on the Literature course will be required to study extracts from texts in the 19th century section as well as John Steinbeck's novella, *Of Mice and Men* and J.B. Priestley's drama, *An Inspector Calls*. However, to support their learning students could also read the texts they are not studying.

19th Century Novels

The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde – Robert Louis Stevenson

A Christmas Carol – Charles Dickens

Great Expectations – Charles Dickens

Jane Eyre – Charlotte Bronte

Frankenstein – Mary Shelley

Pride and Prejudice – Jane Austen

The Sign of Four – Sir Arthur Conan Doyle

Modern Texts – Prose

Lord of the Flies – William Golding

Animal Farm – George Orwell

Never Let Me Go – Kazuo Ishiguro

Anita and Me – Meera Syal

Modern Texts – Drama

An Inspector Calls – JB Priestley

Blood Brothers – William Russell

The History Boys – Alan Bennett

DNA – Dennis Kelly

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time – Mark Haddon

A Taste of Honey – Shelagh Delaney

More 19th Century novels

Sense and Sensibility (1811) - Jane Austen

The Three Musketeers (1844) – Alexander Dumas

Wuthering Heights (1847) - Emily Bronte

The Scarlet Letter (1850) – Nathaniel Hawthorne

Moby Dick (1851) – Herman Melville

The Woman in White (1859) - Wilkie Collins

Silas Marner (1861) - George Eliot

The Picture of Dorian Gray (1890) – Oscar Wilde

Tess of the D'Urbervilles (1891) - Thomas Hardy

Dracula (1897) - Bram Stoker

20th Century Best of British

A Room with a View (1908) – E M Forster

Mrs Dalloway (1925) - Virginia Woolf

Brighton Rock (1938) - Graham Greene (V/M)

Brideshead Revisited (1945) - Evelyn Waugh

Lucky Jim (1954) - Kingsley Amis

The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy (1979) -

Douglas Adams

Empire of the Sun (1984) - J G Ballard

The Remains of the Day (1989) – Kazuo Ishiguro

Birdsong (1993) - Sebastian Faulks

Enduring Love (1997) - Ian McEwan

Below is the extended recommended reading list. Remember, the new GCSE focuses heavily on 19th century texts. Therefore, we would suggest reading one 19th century novel, another novel from the reading list and a novel of your choice. You should repeat this pattern to ensure you are reading a wide variety of challenging novels.

20th Century American Classics

The Great Gatsby (1925) – F. Scott Fitzgerald

Of Mice and Men (1937) - John Steinbeck

The Catcher in the Rye (1951) - J D Sallinger

A Farewell to Arms (1925) - Ernest Hemmingway

To Kill a Mockingbird (1960) - Harper Lee

War & Conflict

All Quiet on the Western Front (1929) - Erich

Maria Remarque

Catch 22 (1961) – Joseph Heller

Regeneration (1991) - Pat Barker

Science Fiction

War of the Worlds (1898) – H G Wells

Day of the Triffids (1951) – John Wyndham

Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep (1968) – Philip K Dick

Oryx and Crake (2003) – Margaret Atwood

Dystopian

Brave New World (1932) - Aldous Huxley

1984 (1948) - George Orwell

The Handmaid's Tale (1985) – Margaret Atwood

Mystery & Thriller

The 39 Steps (1915) - John Buchan

Rebecca (1938) – Daphne du Maurier

The Talented Mr Ripley (1955) – Patricia Highsmith

Horror

The Turn of the Screw (1898) – Henry James

The Birds (1952) – Daphne du Maurier

The Woman in Black (1983) – Susan Hill

Contemporary Reads

Good Omens (1990) - Neil Gaiman and Terry Pratchett

The Perks of being a Wallflower (1999) – Stephen Chbosky

The Blind Assassin (2000) - Margaret Atwood

Atonement (2001) - Ian McEwan (M)

Life of Pi (2001) – Yan Martel

The Lovely Bones (2002) - Alice Sebold (M)

The Time Traveller's Wife (2003) – Audrey Niffenegger

The Kite Runner (2003) - Khaled Hosseini (M)

Jonathan Strange and Mr Norrell (2004) - Susanna Clarke

A Long Way Down (2005) – Nick Hornby

Looking for Alaska (2005) – John Green

The Road (2006) - Cormac McCarthy

13 Reasons Why (2007) - Jay Asher (M)

One Day (2009) – David Nicholls

The Help (2009) - Katherine Stockett

The Magician (2009) – Lev Grossman

Room (2010) - Emma Donoghue (M)

The Night Circus (2011) - Erin Morgenstern

The Sisters Brothers (2011) – Patrick deWitt (M)

Eleanor and Park (2012) – Rainbow Rowell

We Were Liars (2014) - E Lockhart

Station Eleven (2014) - Emily St. John Mandel

All the Bright Places (2015) - Jennifer Niven

Spellbook of the Lost and Found (2017) -

Non Fiction

The Diary of a Young Girl (1947) – Anne Frank

In Cold Blood (1966) - Truman Capote

Touching the Void (1988) - Joe Simpson

Friday Night Lights (1990) - H. G. Bissinger

Fever Pitch (1992) - Nick Hornby

Notes from a Small Island (1995) - Bill Bryson

Flags of Our Fathers (A Young People's Edition) (2005) - James Bradley & Ron Powers

We Should All Be Feminists (2014) - Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie