

Year 10 & 11 “Recommended Reading” List

The very best English students are those who read widely. If you are considering A Level English, then you need to be well read. The new specifications expect you to read widely and test you on this wide reading.

Below is a list of challenging and literary novels ranging from ‘classics’ to more modern winners of literary awards. They have been chosen for their literary value. Please be aware, many have adult themes and language!

At the end is a list of slightly less demanding reads which might make a good starting point for those wanting to develop their reading muscles.

- **Jane Austen** *Sense and Sensibility / Pride and Prejudice / Emma / Mansfield Park*
- **Charlotte Bronte** *Jane Eyre*
- **Emily Bronte** *Wuthering Heights*
- **Albert Camus** *The Outsider*
- **Jung Chang** *Wild Swans*
- **Don DeLillo** *Falling Man*
- **Charles Dickens** *David Copperfield / Bleak House / Hard Times
Oliver Twist / A Christmas Carol
Great Expectations / Nicholas Nickleby
The Pickwick Papers / The Old Curiosity Shop*
- **Alexandre Dumas** *The Three Musketeers*
- **George Eliot** *Silas Marner*
- **Sebastian Faulks** *Engleby*
- **Michael Frayn** *Spies*
- **Jostein Gaarder** *Sophie’s World*
- **Stella Gibbons** *Cold Comfort Farm*
- **Arthur Golden** *Memoirs of a Geisha*
- **Graham Greene** *Brighton Rock*
- **Thomas Hardy** *Tess of the D’Urbervilles
Far from the Madding Crowd*
- **Khaled Hosseini** *The Kite Runner / 1000 Splendid Suns*
- **Aldous Huxley** *Brave New World*
- **Kazuo Ishiguro** *Never Let Me Go / Remains of the Day*
- **Harper Lee** *To Kill a Mockingbird*
- **Cormac McCarthy** *The Road*
- **Ian McEwan** *Enduring Love / Atonement*
- **Jon McGregor** *If Nobody Speaks of Remarkable Things*
- **David Mitchell** *Black Swan Green*
- **Haruki Murakami** *Norwegian Wood*
- **Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie** *Purple Hibiscus*
- **George Orwell** *1984*
- **J D Sallinger** *Catcher in the Rye*
- **Alice Sebold** *Lovely Bones*
- **Mary Shelley** *Frankenstein*
- **Zadie Smith** *White Teeth*
- **John Steinbeck** *Of Mice and Men / The Grapes of Wrath
East of Eden*
- **Jonathon Swift** *Gulliver’s Travels*
- **H G Wells** *The Time Machine*
- **Oscar Wilde** *A Picture of Dorian Gray*
- **Marcus Zusak** *The Book Thief*



For a slightly lighter read...

Year 10 & 11 “Recommended Reading” List

- Douglas Adams *The Hitchhiker’s Guide to the Galaxy*
- Arvin Ahmadi *How it all Blew Up*
- James Arnold *I loved you in Another Life*
- Kevin Brooks *Martyn Pyg*
- Bill Bryson *A Short History of Nearly Everything*
- Kacen Callender *Felix Ever After*
- Arthur Conan Doyle *The Hound of the Baskervilles*
- Umberto Eco *The Name of the Rose*
- James Goodhand *Last Lesson*
- William Golding *Lord of the Flies*
- Lian Hearn *Tales of The Otori (trilogy)*
- Susan Hill *The Woman in Black / The King of the Castle*
- Nick Hornby *Fever Pitch*
- Lloyd Jones *Mister Pip*
- Amie Kaufman *The Heart of the World*
- Daniel Keyes *Flowers for Algernon*
- John Le Carre *The Spy Who Came In From The Cold*
- Kelly McCaughrain *Little Bang*
- Frank McCourt *Angela’s Ashes*
- Gretchen McNeil *#MurderTrending*
- Ayaan Mohamud *You think you know me*
- Cynthia Murphy *Last one to Die*
- Phillip Pullman *His Dark Materials Trilogy*
- Terry Pratchett *The Colour of Magic*
- Alice Sebold *Lovely Bones*
- Art Spiegelman *Maus*
- John Steinbeck *Of Mice and Men*
- Adam Silver *They both die at the end*
- Josh Silver *HappyHead*
- Vikas Swarup *Slumdog Millionaire*
- Jason Wallace *Out of Shadows*

