

Year 11 Recommended Reads

Crime

The Big Sleep, Raymond Chandler ‘I was wearing my powder-blue suit... I was neat, clean, shaved and sober and I didn't care who knew it. I was everything the well-dressed private detective ought to be. I was calling on four million dollars.’

The Hound of Baskervilles, Arthur Conan Doyle ‘Dr. Mortimer looked strangely at us for an instant and his voice sank almost to a whisper as he answered, "Mr Holmes, they were the foot-prints of a gigantic hound!"’

Murder on the Orient Express, Agatha Christie ‘The murderer is with us – on the train now...’
 Rebecca, Daphne Du Maurier ‘Last night I dreamt I went to Manderley again...’

Crime and Punishment, Fyodor Dostoevsky ‘A hundred suspicions don't make a proof.’

Murders on the Rue Morgue, Edgar Allan Poe
 The first modern detective story. You'll never

Fantasy and Science Fiction

His Dark Materials, Phillip Pullman An extraordinary trilogy that moves between parallel universes.

The Lord of the Rings, Tolkien Discover the magic of Middle-Earth.

The Day of the Triffids, John Wyndham A science fiction classic with ‘all the reality of a vividly realised nightmare.’

Horror and Mystery

The Turn of the Screw, Henry James Is the Governess seeing things or are there really ghosts?

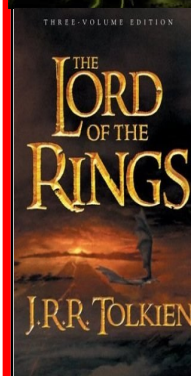
Frankenstein, Mary Shelly Who is really the monster – the creature or Dr Frankenstein?

The Woman in White, Wilkie Collins ‘In one moment, every drop of blood in my body was brought to a stop. There, as if it had that moment sprung out of the earth, stood the figure of a solitary woman, dressed from head to foot in white.’

The Picture of the Dorian Grey, Oscar Wilde “Basil Hallward is what I think I am: Lord Henry what the world thinks me: Dorian what I would like to be—in other ages, perhaps.”

Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde, Robert Louis Stevenson ““If he be Mr Hyde” he had thought, “I shall be Mr Seek.””

Selected Tales, Edgar Allan Poe ‘I grew, day by day, more moody, more irritable, more regardless of the feelings of others.’



Romance

Pride and Prejudice, Jane Austen ‘It is a truth universally acknowledged, that a single man in possession of a good fortune, must be in want of a wife.’

Persuasion, Jane Austen A novel about a character's attempt to rekindle love after many years have passed.

Wuthering Heights, Emily Bronte Gothic romance on the moors. ““He's more myself than I am. Whatever our souls are made of, his and mine are the same.””

Atonement, Ian McEwan A man remembers a day that changed his life and the lives of many others.

Wide Sargasso Sea, Jean Rhys A novel about Antoinette Cosway, a woman who is sold into marriage to the proud Mr Rochester.

The Age of Innocence, Edith Wharton The mysterious Countess, Ellen Olenska, returns to New York after a disastrous marriage and Archer falls deeply in love with her.

Tess of the D'Urbervilles, Thomas Hardy A novel about love, power and the loss of innocence. ““Did you say the stars were worlds, Tess?”

Noughts and Crosses, Malorie Blackman ‘Sephy is a Cross – a member of the dark-skinned ruling class. Callum is a nought – a ‘colourless’ member of the under-class who were once slaves to the Crosses. The two have been friends since early childhood. But that's as far as it can go.’

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Classics

David Copperfield, Charles Dickens 'The story of a young man's adventures on his journey from an unhappy and impoverished childhood to the discovery of his vocation as a successful novelist.'

Gulliver's Travels, Jonathan Swift 'I felt something alive moving on my left leg ... When bending my eyes downwards as much as I could, I perceived it to be a human creature not six inches high.'

To the Lighthouse, Virginia Woolf 'What is the meaning of life?'



Autobiographies

Angela's Ashes, Frank McCourt Angela's Ashes will make you laugh and cry.

I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings, Maya Angelou 'There is no greater agony than bearing an untold story inside you.'

The Diary of Anne Frank, Anne Frank 'Discovered in the attic in which she spent the last years of her life, Anne Frank's remarkable diary has since become a world classic—a powerful reminder of the horrors of war and an eloquent testament to the human spirit.'

War

Spies, Michael Frayn 'There is very little evidence of the war where Keith and Stephen live. But the two friends suspect the inhabitants of The Close aren't what they seem. As Keith informs his trusting friend, the district is riddled with secret passages and underground labs.'

Catch 22, Joseph Heller 'At the heart of Catch-22 resides the incomparable bombardier, Yossarian, a hero endlessly inventive in his schemes to save his skin from the horrible chances of war.'

War and Peace, Tolstoy 'Tolstoy's epic masterpiece intertwines the lives of private and public individuals during the time of the Napoleonic wars and the French invasion of Russia.'

Exploring Different Cultures

Of Mice and Men, John Steinbeck George and Lennie dream of owning their own land during the Great Depression in America. Can their friendship survive?

Mister Pip, Lloyd Jones 'A person entranced by a book simply forgets to breathe.'

To Kill a Mockingbird, Harper Lee "You never really understand a person until you consider things from his point of view."

Purple Hibiscus, Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie 'The educated ones leave, the ones with the potential to right the wrongs.'

The Kite Runner, Khaled Hosseini 'It may be unfair, but what happens in a few days, sometimes even a single day, can change the course of a whole

Modern Prose

Lord of the Flies, William Golding When a plane crashes on a remote island, a small group of schoolboys are the sole survivors. Will they ever be the same again?

Pigeon English, Stephen Kelman. It is told from the point of view of Harrison Opoku, an eleven-year-old Ghanaian immigrant living on a tough London estate. When a boy is killed, will Harrison discover who did it?

Touching the Void, Joe Simpson 'Joe Simpson and his climbing partner, Simon Yates,