

Year 11 Recommended Reading List

Those that have been marked with a * are to indicate that the events the novels depict may be distressing and require maturity of understanding: parental guidance may be needed in these cases

| Author/Title | Themes | Guided Reading Questions |
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| Austen – Emma | Romance/relationships | Austen thought no one would like Emma Woodhouse – do you agree? |
| Barker – Regeneration* | Friendship/madness/war | How does the symbolism in this book underline the horror in the trenches? |
| Barnes – A History of the World in 10 ½ Chapters * | Philosophical/human nature | Barnes covers many aspects of history and human nature – do you agree with his conclusions? |
| Burgess – A Clockwork Orange* | Violence/future | How much or not can laws and regulations make people good? |
| Bryson – A Short History of Nearly Everything | Science | Does this book really contain everything there is to know about life? |
| Carter – The Magic Toyshop | Magical realism | This book has been described as an allegory of the passage into womanhood – would you agree? |
| Collins – The Moonstone | Crime | T.S. Elliot described this book as ‘the first, the longest, and the best of Modern English detective novels’. Do you agree? |
| Du Maurier – Rebecca* | Jealousy/murder | Does it matter that we don’t know the narrator’s name? |
| Foden – The Last King of Scotland* | Dictatorship/Violence | How much do you think this is a biography of Idi Amin? |
| Gaskell – North and South | Class/society/relationships | How successfully does Gaskell portray the numerous societal divides? |
| Greene – Brighton Rock* | Good vs Evil/ morality | How does Greene examine the difference between Right and Wrong and Good and Evil? |
| Grossmith – Diary of a Nobody | Humour/ daily life | Published in 1892, this book has never been out of print – but is it still funny? |
| Heller – Catch 22* | Morality/ Patriotism | Is being mad sometimes an advantage? |
| McCullin – Unreasonable Behaviour* | Non-fiction/war | Carol Ann Duffy wrote ‘War Photographer’ after interviewing him - how does Duffy reflect what McCullin experienced? Do you agree with her? |
| Narayan – The Painter of Signs | Society / relationships | Can tradition and modernity exist together? |
| Remarque – All Quiet on the Western Front* | War | Do you agree with any of the characters’ assessments of war? |
| Sayers – Murder must Advertise | Crime | Sayers disliked her novel as she thought ‘it would not ring true’ with her readers – do you agree? |
| Steinbeck – The Grapes of Wrath | Family/ suffering | How much suffering in the book is caused by the way they treat each other? |
| Suskind – Perfume* | Horror/absurd/morality | What does our identity consist of? |
| Tolkien – The Lord of the Rings | Fantasy | Tolkien stated he based this trilogy on his experiences in WW1 – do you agree? |
| Walker – The Colour Purple* | Relationships/society/violence | How effective is the storytelling in this book? |