

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
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?