

3 GCSE General Reading

One book per half term. Do **NOT** choose a book you have already read.

Nineteenth Century

Jane Austen	<i>Pride and Prejudice</i>	Social satire and love story.
Charlotte Bronte	<i>Jane Eyre</i>	Early feminist love story.
Charles Dickens	<i>Hard Times</i>	Biting criticism of industrial England.
Charles Dickens	<i>Great Expectations</i>	A child → young man who learns the hard way what it is all about.
Thomas Hardy	<i>The Woodlanders</i>	Rural life.

Early Twentieth Century

George Orwell	<i>1984</i>	London imagined under an autocratic regime.
Aldous Huxley	<i>Brave New World</i>	A vision of how the world might have developed.
John Steinbeck	<i>Of Mice and Men</i>	Moving story of poor workers in California.
Scott Fitzgerald	<i>The Great Gatsby</i>	Moving story of rich society in and around New York.

Mid Twentieth Century

Harpur Lee	<i>To Kill a Mockingbird</i>	Remarkable story set amid racial conflict in the US
JD Salinger	<i>Catcher in the Rye</i>	Adolescent boy is very adolescent
William Golding	<i>Lord of the Flies</i>	Life on an island without adults – horrifying consequences
Margaret Drabble	<i>The Waterfall</i>	Teenage pregnancy

Late Twentieth – Twentyfirst Centuries

Kazuo Isiguro	<i>The Remains of The Day</i>	Sad account of missed opportunities – mainly set in 1930s England.
Ian Banks	<i>The Wasp Factory</i>	Modern Gothic with a twist.
Michael Ondaatje	<i>The English Patient</i>	Betrayal, deception and love in North Africa and Italy
Margaret Atwood	<i>The Handmaid's Tale</i>	A dystopian vision of the future – powerful!
Ian McEwan	<i>Enduring Love</i>	Is he in danger or is he imagining it?
Monica Ali	<i>Brick Lane</i>	Bengali immigrants coping with conflicting cultures.
Zadie Smith	<i>White Teeth</i>	An amusing account of different people coping with conflicting cultures.

Non-fiction Reading List GCSE

A Room of One's Own by Virginia Woolf

The Eagle of One's Own by Rebecca West

The Great Railway Bazaar by Paul Theroux

A Long Walk to Freedom by Nelson Mandela

Testament to Youth by Vera Brittain

Notes from a Small Island by Bill Bryson

A year in Provence by Peter Mayle

An Education by Lynn Barber

Nomad by Charlie McGuinness

An Evil Cradling by Brian Keenan

Travels in West Africa by Mary Kingsley

Shakespeare's Sister by Virginia Woolf

The Motorcycle Diaries by Ernesto 'Che' Guevara

Long Way Round by Ewan McGregor and Charley Boorman

Journey Without Maps by Graham Greene