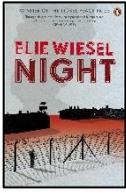


KS5 English Language and Literature reading List

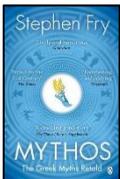
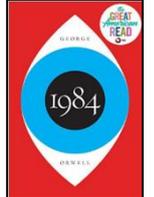
Top Reads



Night by Elie Wiesel. Wiesel, a Holocaust survivor, explores in unimaginable, graphic detail his experiences of life in the concentration camp Buchenwald. *Trigger warning: murder, death.*

1984 by George Orwell. (Recommended by Ms Dinkha).

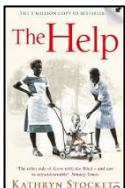
The classic dystopian text: 'Big Brother', a totalitarian dictator, controls all aspects of life. However, Winston Smith covertly resists this system by keeping a secret diary. **Good background for the social and political protest unit.**



Mythos: The Greek Myths Retold by Stephen Fry. (Recommended by Miss D'Lima). A dryly funny, witty re-telling of the classic Greek myths.

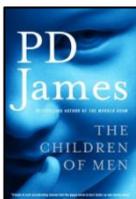
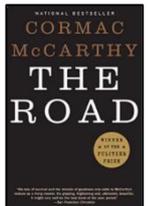
Easy Reads

Lucky Jim by Kingsley Amis. The wickedly funny story of a misanthropic history lecturer who has accidentally landed a job at a red-brick university. **Good background for the comedy unit.**



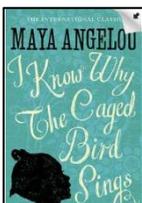
The Help by Kathryn Stockett. Both hilarious and moving, this novel explores the lives of black maids in white households in Jackson, Mississippi, 1962. **Good background for the comedy unit.**

The Road by Cormac McCarthy. Facing an unnamed catastrophe, a father and his young son trek southwards seeking the "good guys." **Good background for the social and political protest unit.**



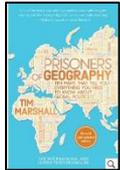
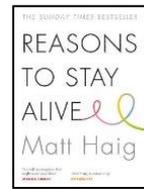
The Children of Men by P.D. James. Set in 2021, James wrote this novel in 1992 about a bleak future broken by infertility – a gradual, believable downfall to mankind, compared to many dystopian texts. **Good background for the social and political protest unit.**

Enrichment Reads (non-fiction)



I Know Why The Caged Bird Sings by Maya Angelou. (recommended by Miss D'Lima). This is the first of Angelou's seven volumes of autobiographies. In it, she records her childhood with her grandmother in the American south in the 1930s, exploring overcoming trauma and finding one's voice. *Trigger warning: rape.*

Reasons to Stay Alive by Matt Haig. At 24, Matt Haig lost his will to live. Here, he documents his moving, powerful journey to overcome depression and live a full, happy life. (He is also well worth a follow on Twitter for his words of joy and wisdom - @matthaig1) *Trigger warning: suicidal thoughts.*



Prisoners of Geography by Tim Marshall. An examination into how physical geography continues to be our key political driver, exploring, for example, the significance of the Ukraine or the relationship between India and China.

Challenging Reads

A selection of Literature from different time periods and around the world. Classics are indicated in blue.

- Things Fall Apart** by Chinua Achebe
- Jane Eyre** by Charlotte Bronte
- Disgrace** by J. M. Coetzee
- Heart of Darkness** by Joseph Conrad
- Great Expectations** by Charles Dickens
- The Great Gatsby** by F. Scott Fitzgerald
- Lord of the Flies** by William Golding
- Tess of the D'Urbervilles** by Thomas Hardy
- Tinker, Tailor, Soldier, Spy** by John Le Carre
- Atonement** by Ian McEwan
- The Bell Jar** by Sylvia Plath
- The God of Small Things** by Arundhati Roy
- The Colour Purple** by Alice Walker

A selection of books that are now TV shows and films

