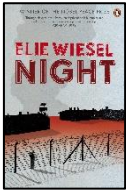


KS5 English Language and Literature reading List

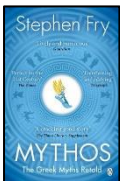
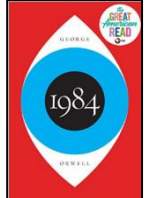
Top Reads



***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).**

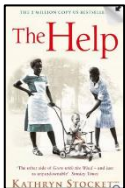
The classic dystopian text: 'Big Brother', a totalitarian dictator, controls all aspects of life. However, Winston Smith covertly resists this system by keeping a secret diary. **Good background for the social and political protest unit.**



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

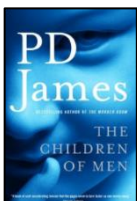
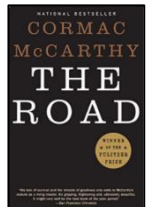
Easy Reads

***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.**



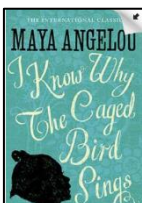
***The Help* by Kathryn Stockett.** Both hilarious and moving, this novel explores the lives of black maids in white households in Jackson, Mississippi, 1962. **Good background for the comedy unit.**

***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.**



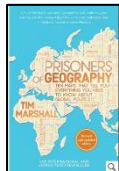
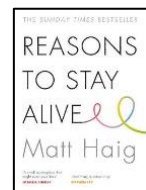
***The Children of Men* by P.D. James.** Set in 2021, James wrote this novel in 1992 about a bleak future broken by infertility – a gradual, believable downfall to mankind, compared to many dystopian texts. **Good background for the social and political protest unit.**

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

