

Recommended Reading List – GCSE Re-Take

These are only a selection of a wealth of literature available to you; however they have been chosen based around the types of texts that you will need to access during your GCSEs. They will help you to challenge and improve the breadth of your wider cultural awareness, leading to a better understanding of all texts that you access; as well as developing your sophistication and maturity within written pieces. Your GCSE course focuses on British literature; however we have included some American fiction as well.

Starred/bold texts are ones which will directly appear on the GCSE exam. Read and enjoy!

<u>Literary</u> Heritage

- 'The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde' – Robert Louis Stevenson *
- *'Frankenstein'* Mary Shelley
- *'Jane Eyre'* Charlotte Brontë
- 'Wuthering Heights' Emily Brontë
- Any 'Sherlock Holmes' –
 Arthur Conan Doyle
- '1984' George Orwell
- *'Brave New World'* Aldous Huxley
- *'Rebecca'* Daphne Du Maurier
- 'The picture of Dorian Gray'
- Oscar Wilde
- 'A Christmas Carol' –
 Charles Dickens

Modern Novels and Short Stories

- 'Spies' Michael Frayne
- 'The Reluctant

Fundamentalist' - Mohsin Hamid

- *'Lord of the Flies'* William Golding
- *'Never Let Me Go'* Kazuo Ishiguro
- *'I'm The King of the Castle'* Susan Hill
- 'Paddy Clarke Ha Ha Ha' Roddy Doyle
- *'The White Tiger'* Aravind Adiga
- *'The Kite Runner'* Khaled Hosseini
- 'Remarkable Creatures' –
 Tracy Chevalier
- 'The Bodysnatchers' Robert Louis Stevenson (short story)

Any other texts by these authors

Any other texts by these authors

Plays

- *'An Inspector Calls'* J.B. Priestly *
- 'Macbeth' William Shakespeare *
- 'The Winslow Boy' Terrance Rattigan
- *'Educating Rita'* Willy Russel
- *'Journey's End'* R.C. Sherriff

American Fiction

- *'The Great Gatsby'* F. Scott Fitzgerald
- Bonfire of the Vanities' Tom Wolf
- 'To Kill a Mockingbird' Harper Lee
- *'The Crucible'* Arthur Miller
- 'Death of a Salesman' Arthur Miller
- Any Edgar Allan Poe



• *'Talking Heads'* – Alan Bennett

• *'Little Women'* – Louisa May Alcott

Any other texts by these authors

Any other plays by these playwrights.

Non-Fiction:

Anne Frank's Diary A Brief History of Time – Stephen Hawking I Know Why The Caged Birds Sing – Maya Angelou H Is for Hawk – Helen Macdonald

Fever Pitch - Nick Hornby A Short History of Nearly Everything – Bill

Bryson *Dreams from my Father* – Barack Obama

Wild Swans – Jung Chang The Right Stuff – Tom Wolfe Becoming – Michelle Obama

Non Fiction Speeches:

I have a dream – Martin Luther King Spanish Armada – Queen Elizabeth 1st Gettysburg Address - Abraham Lincoln 1877 surrender speech - Chief Joseph We shall fight on the beaches – Winston Churchill

2004 Democratic Convention keynote address – Barack Obama 1961 Inaugural Address - JFK

Read a variety of Newspaper articles – see BBC/ Guardian/ Times websites.