

Reading List KS4

Love/family/relationships/society novels

Kate Atkinson – Behind the Scenes at the Museum
Jane Austen – Pride and Prejudice/Emma and others
Charlotte Bronte – Jane Eyre
Emily Bronte – Wuthering Heights
Raymond Carver – any short stories
Tracy Chevelier – Girl With The Pearl Earring
Louis De Bernieres – Captain Corelli’s Mandolin
Emma Donoghue – Room
George Eliot – the Mill on the Floss/Adam Bede/Middlemarch
Helen Fielding – Bridget Jones’ Diary
F. Scott Fitzgerald – The Great Gatsby
Gustave Flaubert – Madame Bovary
Thomas Hardy – Under the Greenwood Tree/Tess of the D’Urbervilles
Joanne Harris - Chocolat
L.P. Hartley – The Go-Between
Ernest Hemingway – A Farewell To Arms/ For Whom The Bell Tolls (also war!)
Georgette Heyer – any of her historical romances
D H Lawrence – Sons and Lovers
Marina Lewycka – A Short History of Tractors in Ukrainian
Valerie Martin – Property
Maggie O’Farrell – After You’d Gone, The Disappearance of Esme
Jean Rhys – Wide Sargasso Sea
Evelyn Waugh – A Handful of Dust
Mary Webb – Precious Bane
Edith Wharton – The Age of Innocence, The House of Mirth

Science fiction and fantasy

Douglas Adams – The Hitchhiker’s Guide To The Galaxy
Brian Aldiss – any novel/short story
Isaac Asimov – any novel/short story
Margaret Atwood – the Handmaid’s Tale, Oryx and Crake
Ray Bradbury – The Martian Chronicles, Fahrenheit 451
Aldous Huxley – Brave New World
George Orwell – 1984
Terry Pratchett – Discworld series and others
Phillip Pullman – Northern Lights and His Dark Materials Trilogy
H G Wells – The War of the Worlds
John Wyndham – The Day of the Triffids 2

Horror/ Ghost/ Gothic Stories

Angela Carter – The Bloody Chamber (adapted fairy stories)
Wilkie Collins – The Woman in White
Daphne Du Maurier – short stories and novels (eg ‘Rebecca’)
Susan Hill – any novel/story
M R James – Collected Ghost Stories
Mervyn Peake – The Gormenghast Trilogy
Edgar Allan Poe stories – Try ‘The Tell-Tale Heart’ or ‘Hop-Frog’
Alice Sebold – Lovely Bones
Mary Shelley - Frankenstein
Robert Stevenson – The Strange Case of Doctor Jekyll and Mr Hyde
Bram Stoker – Dracula
Oscar Wilde – The Picture of Dorian Gray

Detective/thrillers

Kate Atkinson – Jackson Brodie series (start with ‘Case Histories’)
John Buchan – The 39 Steps
Wilkie Collins – The Law and the Lady
Arthur Conan Doyle – Sherlock Holmes stories – try The Hound of the Baskervilles
Graham Greene Brighton Rock
Robert Harris - Fatherland, Archangel, Enigma
Moshin Hamid – The Reluctant Fundamentalist
Ian Rankin – crime fiction set in Scotland. Try the first Inspector Rebus novel
Knots and Crosses

Non fiction

Maya Angelou - I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings
Andrea Ashworth - Once in a House on Fire
Bill Bryson – Comic travel writing (eg Notes from a Small Island) and other books
Jung Chang - Wild Swans
Nick Hornby – Fever Pitch, High Fidelity, About a Boy, Long Way Down
Frank McCourt - Angela's Ashes, Teacher Man
Jon Krakauer - Into Thin Air
Joe Simpson - Touching the Void
Tobias Wolff – Old School

'Coming-of-age' novels

Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie – Purple Hibiscus
Margaret Atwood – Cat's Eye
Kate Chopin – The Awakening
Charles Dickens Great Expectations/David Copperfield
Jeffrey Eugenides – The Virgin Suicides
Mark Haddon – The Curious Incident of the Dog in The Night Time
Kazuo Ishiguro – Never Let me Go
Lloyd Jones – Mr Pip
Harper Lee – To Kill A Mockingbird
Ian McEwan – Atonement, Enduring Love
Sue Monk Kidd – The Secret Life of Bees
J D Salinger Catcher in the Rye
Meera Syal – Anita and Me
William Trevor – The Story of Lucy Gault
Mark Twain – The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn
Sylvia Plath – The Bell Jar
Jeanette Winterson – Oranges are Not the Only Fruit

War Novels

Pat Barker – Regeneration trilogy
Sebastian Faulks – Birdsong
Charles Frazier – Cold Mountain
Ernest Hemingway – A Farewell to Arms/ For Whom The Bell Tolls
Joseph Heller – Catch 22
James Jones – From Here to Eternity
Erich Maria Remarque – All Quiet on the Western Front
Siegfried Sassoon – Memoirs of an Infantry Officer
William Styron – Sophie's Choice

Fiction about race/other cultures

Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie – Half of a Yellow Sun (Nigeria)
Chinua Achebe – Things Fall Apart (Nigeria)
Aravind Adiga – The White Tiger (India)
Isabelle Allende – The House of the Spirits (Latin America)
Khaled Hosseini - The Kite Runner, A Thousand Splendid Suns (Afghanistan)
Barbara Kingsolver – The Poisonwood Bible (African Congo)
Harper Lee – To Kill a Mockingbird (1930s America)
Andrea Levy - Small Island (West Indies/Britain)
Gabriel Garcia Marquez One Hundred Years of Solitude (South America)
Toni Morrison – Beloved (set after American Civil War)
Arundhati Roy – The God of Small Things (modern India)
Zadie Smith – White Teeth (racial tensions in London)
John Steinbeck – Of Mice and Men, The Grapes of Wrath (1930s America)
Richard Wright – Native Son (1930s Chicago)

Previous Booker prize winners – mostly more challenging literary fiction

2010 – Howard Jacobson – The Finkler Question
2009 – Hilary Mantel – Wolf Hall
2008 – Aravind Adiga – The White Tiger
2007 – Anne Enright – The Gathering
2006 – Kiran Desai – The Inheritance of Loss
2005 – John Banville – The Sea
2004 – Alan Hollinghurst – The Line of Beauty
2003 – D B C Pierre – Vernon God Little
2002 – Yann Martel – Life of Pi
2001 – Peter Carey – True History of the Kelly Gang
2000 – Margaret Atwood – The Blind Assassin