



AS AND A-LEVEL ENGLISH LITERATURE B

AS (7716)

A-level (7717)

Recommended Wider Reading List

Note: This list is not exhaustive, you are welcome to choose a book not on this list, however you should ensure you discuss any choice with your teacher first.

If you have a specific interest, or would like further guidance regarding choosing your text, Miss Ling is happy to offer a bespoke service and meet with you to discuss this in more detail.

Books in **BOLD** are available in the school library. We would not dissuade you from selecting a book we don't hold at school. It is very likely you would be able to obtain a copy from your local library (and many of the pre-1900 texts will be available online for free.)

You may also want to look at the following lists:

Man Booker Prize Winners <https://thebookerprizes.com/>

<https://www.listchallenges.com/bbcs-top-100-books-you-need-to-read-before-you-die>

*You are not able to select texts that feature as Set Texts for this syllabus. A list of prohibited texts can be found at the end of this document.

Pre-1900

A

Jane Austen- Pride and Prejudice (1813)
Jane Austen- Northanger Abbey (1818)
Jane Austen- Mansfield Park (1814)

B

Anne Bronte- The Tenant of Wildfell Hall (1848)
Charlotte Bronte- Jane Eyre (1847)
Charlotte Bronte- Vilette (1853)
Emily Bronte- Wuthering Heights (1847)

C

Kate Chopin- The Awakening (1899)
Jasper Conrad- The Heart of Darkness (1899)

D

Charles Dickens- Great Expectations (1861)

E

George Elliot- Middlemarch (1871)

F

Gustave Flaubert- Madame Bovary (1856)

G

Elizabeth Gaskell- North and South (1854)

H

Nathanial Hawthorne- The Scarlett Letter (1850)

J

Henry James- Portrait of a Lady (1881)

S

Mary Shelley- Frankenstein (1818)
Bram Stoker- Dracula (1897)

T

Leo Tolstoy- Anna Karenina (1877)

W

Oscar Wilde- The Picture of Dorian Gray (1890)

Twentieth Century

A

Chinua Achebe- Things Fall Apart (1958)
Isabelle Allende- The House of Spirits (1982)
Maya Angelou- I Know Why The Caged Bird Sings (1969)

B

James Baldwin- Go Tell it to the Mountain (1953)

C

Angela Carter- Nights At The Circus (1984)
Angela Carter- The Bloody Chamber (1979)
Disgrace- John Coetzee (1999)

E

The Invisible Man- Ralph Ellison (1952)

F

Sebastian Faulkes- Birdsong (1993)
E M Foster- A Room With a View (1908)

G

Arthur Golden- Memoirs of a Geisha (1997)

H

Aldous Huxley- Brave New World (1932)

K

Jackie Kay- Trumpet (1998)
Jack Kerouac- On the Road (1957)

L

Harper Lee- To Kill a Mockingbird (1960)
D H Lawrence- Sons and Lovers (1913)

M

Daphne du Maurier- Rebecca (1938)
Gabriel Garcia Marquez- One Hundred Years of Solitude (1967)
Toni Morrison- The Bluest Eye (1970)
Toni Morrison- Beloved (1987)

O

George Orwell- 1984 (1949)

P

Sylvia Plath- The Bell Jar (1963)

R

Jean Rhys- Wide Sargasso Sea (1966)

Arundhati Roy- The God of Small Things (1997)

Salman Rushdie- Midnight's Children (1981)

S

John Steinback- Grapes of Wrath (1939)

T

Donna Tartt- The Secret History (1992)

V

Kurt Vonnegut – Slaughterhouse Five (1969)

W

Alice Walker- The Colour Purple (1982)

Sarah Waters- Affinity (1999)

Edith Wharton- House of Mirth (1905)

Edith Wharton- The Age of Innocence (1920)

Jeanette Winterson- Oranges Are Not The Only Fruit (1985)

Richard Write- Native Son (1940)

Virginia Woolf- Mrs Dalloway (1925)

Y

Richard Yates- Revolutionary Road (1961)

Post-2000

A

Chimanda Ngozi Adiche- Purple Hibiscus (2003)

Chimanda Ngozi Adiche- Half a Yellow Sun (2006)

Chimanda Ngozi Adiche- Americanah (2013)

Naomi Alderman- The Power (2016)

Monica Ali- Brick Lane (2003)

Margaret Atwood- The Testaments (2019)

B

Julian Barnes- The Sense of an Ending (2011)

E

Bernadine Evaristo- Girl, Woman, Other (2019)

F

The Narrow Road to the Deep North- Richard Flanagan (2013)

I

Kazuo Ishiguro- Never Let Me Go (2005)

M

Emily St John Mandel- Station Eleven (2014)

Hilary Mantel- Wolf Hall (2009)

P

Laline Paul- The Bees (2014)

S

Alice Sebold- The Lovely Bones (2002)

Ali Smith- Girl Meets Boy (2007)

Zadie Smith- NZ (2012)

Zadie Smith- White Teeth (2000)

T

Rose Tremain- The Road Home (2007)

Z

Carlos Ruiz Zafron- The Shadow of the Wind (2001)

NEA prohibited texts- STUDENTS MAY NOT CHOSE TEXTS FROM THIS LIST FOR COURSEWORK!

Students cannot use the following texts for non-exam assessment as they appear on the exam set text lists.

A

Author	Text
Kate Atkinson	<i>When Will There Be Good News?</i>
Margaret Atwood	<i>The Handmaid's Tale</i>
W. H. Auden	<i>Miss Gee</i>
Jane Austen	<i>Emma</i>

B

Author	Text
John Betjeman	<i>Death in Leamington</i>
William Blake	<i>Songs of Innocence and Experience</i>
Robert Browning	<i>The Laboratory</i>
Robert Browning	<i>My Last Duchess</i>
Robert Browning	<i>Porphyria's Lover</i>
Robert Burns	<i>Tam o' Shanter (A Tale)</i>

C

Author	Text
Geoffrey Chaucer	Extracts from the Prologue of <i>The Monk's Tale</i>
Geoffrey Chaucer	<i>The Monk's Tale</i>
Geoffrey Chaucer	<i>The Nun's Priest's Tale</i> including Prologue and Epilogue
Agatha Christie	<i>The Murder of Roger Ackroyd</i>
Author	Text
Samuel Taylor Coleridge	<i>The Rime of the Ancient Mariner</i>
George Crabbe	<i>Peter Grimes</i>
Jim Crace	<i>Harvest</i>

D

Author	Text
Charles Dickens	<i>Oliver Twist</i>
Charles Dickens	<i>Hard Times</i>
John Donne	<i>The Flea</i>
Carol Ann Duffy	<i>Mrs Sisyphus</i>

F

Author	Text
U. A. Fanthorpe	<i>Not My Best Side</i>
F. Scott Fitzgerald	<i>The Great Gatsby</i>
Robert Frost	<i>Out, out -</i>

G

Author	Text
Oliver Goldsmith	<i>She Stoops to Conquer</i>
Graham Greene	<i>Brighton Rock</i>

H

Author	Text
Thomas Hardy	<i>Tess of the D'Urbervilles</i>
Thomas Hardy	<i>The Convergence of the Twain</i>
Tony Harrison	<i>V</i>
Tony Harrison	<i>National Trust</i>
Tony Harrison	<i>Them and [uz]</i>
Tony Harrison	<i>Divisions</i>
Tony Harrison	<i>Working</i>
Tony Harrison	<i>Marked with D</i>
Khaled Hosseini	<i>The Kite Runner</i>

I

Author	Text
Henrik Ibsen	<i>A Doll's House</i>

K

Author	Text
John Keats	<i>Lamia</i>
John Keats	<i>Isabella or The Pot of Basil</i>
John Keats	<i>La Belle Dame Sans Merci</i>
John Keats	<i>The Eve of St. Agnes</i>

L

Author	Text
Philip Larkin	<i>Sunny Prestatyn</i>
Andrew Levy	<i>Small Island</i>
Liz Lochhead	<i>My Rival's House</i>

M

Author	Title
Ian McEwan	<i>Atonement</i>
Arthur Miller	<i>Death of a Salesman</i>
John Milton	Extract from 'Paradise Lost'

R

Author	Title
Christina Rossetti	<i>Jessie Cameron</i>

S

Author	Title
William Shakespeare	<i>Othello</i>
William Shakespeare	<i>King Lear</i>
William Shakespeare	<i>Richard II</i>
William Shakespeare	<i>The Taming of the Shrew</i>
William Shakespeare	<i>Twelfth Night</i>
William Shakespeare	<i>Hamlet</i>
William Shakespeare	<i>Henry IV Part I</i>

Author	Title
Jonathan Swift	<i>A Satirical Elegy On the Death of a Late Famous General</i>

T

Author	Title
Alfred Tennyson	<i>Tithonus</i>

W

Author	Title
Oscar Wilde	<i>The Importance of Being Ernest</i>
Oscar Wilde	<i>The Ballad of Reading Gaol</i>

Y

Author	Title
W. B. Yeats	<i>The Death of Cuchulain</i>