



EPSOM

COLLEGE

Literary Reading Lists

This collection has been put together by the English teachers and Librarians at Epsom College. It contains titles of novels that we'd recommend as 'good reads' as well as names of writers that we'd encourage ambitious readers to explore and investigate.

These lists are just starting points and it is deliberately brief. Please speak to your English teachers about other recommendations, and visit the Library regularly for fresh ideas.



M4

The Seeing Stone Kevin Crossley-Holland
(The Arthur Trilogy)

The Recruit Robert Muchamore (Cherub
Series)

Pig Heart Boy Malorie Blackman

The Life and Times of Thunderbolt Kid
Bill Bryson

Inkheart Cornelia Funke

The Princess Bride William Goldman

The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas John
Boyne

Private Peaceful Michael Morpurgo

The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy
Douglas Adams

Holes Louis Sachar

Theodore Boone John Grisham

Here Lies Arthur Philip Reeve

Numbers Rachel Ward

Little Women Louisa May Alcott

The London Eye Mystery Siobhan Dowd

Northern Lights Philip Pullman

The No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency
Alexander McCall Smith

Sharpe Bernard Cornwell (any of the
Sharpe series, Sharpe's Tiger is the first)

Artemis Fowl Eoin Colfer

I capture the Castle Dodie Smith

The Graveyard Book Neil Gaiman

Sagittarius Rising Cecil Lewis

It's Not About the Bike Lance Armstrong

Any by:

Charles Dickens, Jane Austen, Philip Pullman, Eva Ibbotson, Michael Morpurgo, Malorie Blackman, JK Rowling, Anthony Horowitz, Charlie Higson, Marcus Sedgwick, David Almond, Rick Riordan, Anthony Horowitz



U4

All and any listed previously, plus...

Ray Bradbury *Fahrenheit 451*

Bradbury is known for his short stories, but this novel explores a future full of firemen. The job of a fireman in this world, however, is to *set* fires and burn books.

Orson Scott Card *Ender's Game*

Insectoid aliens have taken over the world in this novel, where humans must undergo military training for the sole purpose of destroying these invaders.

Wilkie Collins *The Woman in White*

Collins, master of Victorian detective and epistolary fiction, uses multiple perspectives and writing styles to unpack a mystery concerning kidnapping, theft, mistaken identities, and murder!

Jennifer Donnelly *A Gathering Light*

A girl in turn-of-the-century America gets caught up in the death of a young female guest at the hotel in which she works.

Sebastian Faulks *Birdsong*

This novel follows one man's experience during World War I: his jobs, his loves, his losses.

Ishmael Beah *A Long Way Gone*

Memoirs of a child soldier in Sierra Leone

Michael Frayn *Spies*

An elderly man reminisces about his childhood spent in London during World War II.

Yann Martel *The Life of Pi*

A boy is trapped on a boat with a hyena, an orangutan, a zebra, and Richard Parker... a 450-pound Bengal tiger! Does he survive?

John van der Ruit *Spud*

This novel follows the adventures and hijinks of a South African lad during his first year at boarding school.

Alice Sebold *The Lovely Bones*

A murdered girl narrates this tale from heaven, observing the aftermath of her death and eventual uncovering of the mystery surrounding her death.

Mildred D. Taylor *Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry*

In Depression-era Mississippi, a crew of little African-American siblings face racism and hardship and become closer because of their tribulations.

Marcus Zusak *The Book Thief*

Death narrates this tale that takes place in Nazi Germany, where a young girl befriends the Jewish man hiding in her house and seeks comfort in the theft of books.

Any by:

Charles Dickens, Jane Austen, Philip Pullman, Eva Ibbotson, Michael Morpurgo, Mark Haddon, Malorie Blackman, JK Rowling, , John Fowles, Thomas Hardy, John Steinbeck, Siobhan Dowd, Philippa Gregory, Tracey Chevalier



Fifth Form

All and any listed previously, plus...

The Magus John Fowles

To Kill A Mockingbird Harper Lee

The Grapes of Wrath John Steinbeck

Dracula Bram Stoker

Pride and Prejudice Jane Austen

The Gormenghast Trilogy Mervyn Peake

Frankenstein Mary Shelley

Notes from a Big Country Bill Bryson

Rebecca Daphne Du Maurier

The Bone Collector Jeffery Deaver

Brave New World Aldous Huxley

The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes Sir Arthur Conan Doyle

High Fidelity Nick Hornby

Tom Sawyer and Huckleberry Finn Mark Twain

Tom Brown's Schooldays Thomas Hughes

Mister Teacher Jack Sheffield

Cold Comfort Farm Stella Gibbons

Music and Silence Rose Tremain

The Woman in Black Susan Hill

The War of the Worlds H.G.Wells

Lord of the Flies William Golding

Stone Junction Jim Dodge

A Handful of Dust Evelyn Waugh

Possession AS Byatt

My Dark Places - James Ellroy:

Reading the Dark - Seamus Deane

All or any by:

Jane Austen, Charlotte Bronte, Emily Bronte, Charles Dickens, Elizabeth Gaskell, Thomas Hardy, James Joyce, Virginia Woolf, William Faulkner, John Steinbeck, AS Byatt, Iris Murdoch, Philip Roth, Rose Tremain, Barbara Kingsolver, Patrick White, EM Forster



6th Form

All and any listed previously, plus...

The God of Small Things- Arundhati Roy

Oscar and Lucinda- Peter Carey

The Sound and The Fury William Faulkner

Down and Out in Paris and London – George Orwell

On The Road – Jack Kerouac

Jane Eyre – Charlotte Bronte

The Age of Kali – William Dalrymple

The Great Gatsby - F Scott Fitzgerald

The White Tiger – Aravind Adiga

Possession - AS Byatt

The Fifth Child - Doris Lessing

Robinson Crusoe – Daniel Defoe

David Copperfield – Charles Dickens

The Name of the Rose - Umberto Eco

Oryx and Crake – Margaret Atwood

Jude the Obscure – Thomas Hardy

The Music of Chance – Paul Auster

The Tree of Man - Patrick White

Between the Acts- Virginia Woolf

The Kindness of Women - JG Ballard

In Patagonia - Bruce Chatwin

All or any by:

Peter Carey, Philip Roth, Jane Austen, Charlotte Bronte, Emily Bronte, Charles Dickens, Elizabeth Gaskell, Thomas Hardy, James Joyce, Virginia Woolf, Margaret Atwood, William Faulkner, John Steinbeck, AS Byatt, Iris Murdoch, Rose Tremain, Barbara Kingsolver, Patrick White, EM Forster, Doris Lessing



PLUS any literary prize winners: The (Man) Booker Prize , The Costa Award, Nobel Prize for Literature, The Guardian Fiction Prize, The Orange Prize for Fiction and more besides.