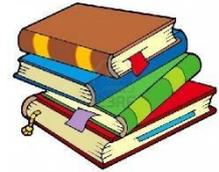


Year 9 Reading List

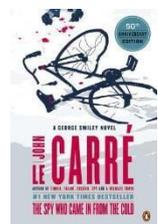
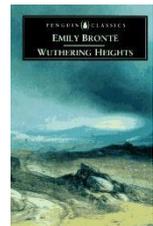


Over the year we would love you to read a book from each 'theme' or genre. Obviously we want you to read hundreds of books of your own choice too, but we think that reading books from this list will help prepare you for the rigours of your GCSE course.

Mystery and macabre

Explore why humans are so fascinated with the macabre and with the mysterious. Why do we like being scared? Explore the idea of the Gothic, and as we develop through the year explore the social and contextual influences which influenced the ideas of the gothic – why did people become so fascinated with the macabre, with science, with the power of nature, with man vs God.

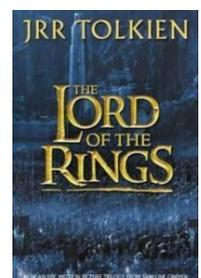
- Wuthering Heights by Emily Brontë
- Gormenghast by Mervyn Peake
- The Spy Who Came in from the Cold by John le Carré
- The Turn of the Screw – Henry James
- Frankenstein – Mary Shelley



Heroes

What does it mean to be a hero? How can a hero be flawed? How can learning about heroes teach us about what it is to be human? How do difficulties and challenges test heroes? How do we understand personal perspective, emotion and how people translate difficult experiences so others can understand them? What makes us human? What effect do good and bad experiences have on us?

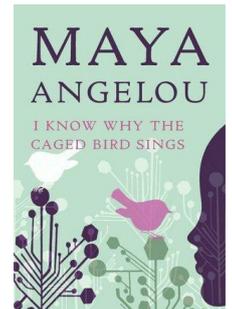
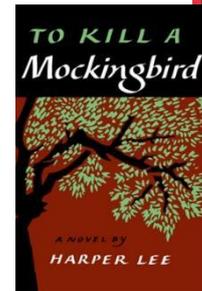
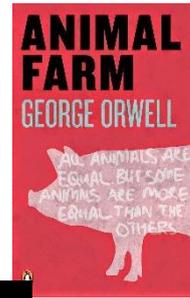
- Jane Eyre by Charlotte Brontë
- The Lord of the Rings – JRR Tolkien
- The Three Musketeers – Alexandre Dumas
- The Secret Diary of Adrian Mole Aged 13 $\frac{3}{4}$ by Sue Townsend



Conflict

What big issues has the global community faced and continues to face: the environment, world conflict, poverty and its effects, racism and other forms of bigotry. Explore how writers use language, use their voices and their mediums to reach their audiences and to express their ideas.

- I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings by Maya Angelou
- Oliver Twist by Charles Dickens
- Animal Farm by George Orwell
- Of Mice and Men by John Steinbeck
- To Kill a Mockingbird – Harper Lee
- Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry by Mildred D. Taylor



Adventures and Journeys

Explore ideas around the types of journeys we make, why do people take journeys? Why are they important? What do we learn from them? Consider why humans feel the need to explore and push themselves beyond their comfort zones.

- On the Road by Jack Kerouac (Penguin Modern Classics)
- Catcher in the Rye by J D Salinger (Penguin)
- The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy by Douglas Adams (Gollancz)
- The Thirty-Nine Steps by John Buchan
- The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn by Mark Twain
- Lord of the Flies by William Golding

