

Queen's Gate English Department

Vth Form Reading List

Austen, Jane *Sense and Sensibility*

A story of two contrasting sisters and their search for love and happiness in Georgian England.

Atkinson, Kate. *Case Histories*

Private detective investigates other people's tragedies and misfortunes and has his own to deal with on the way. He decides it is better to help people be good rather than punish them for being bad.

Boyd, William. *Any Human Heart*

The story of Logan Mountstuart, told through his intimate journals, spanning the 20th century.

Bronte, Emily. *Wuthering Heights*

When forced to seek shelter at Wuthering Heights Lockwood discovers the story of the passion between Heathcliff and Catherine Earnshaw.

Dick, Philip. *The Man in the High Castle*

First published in 1962, this book imagines the world as if the Allies had lost the Second World War.

Dickens, Charles. *Bleak House*

A critique of the legal system of Victorian England - full of wonderful characters mystery and suspense.



Faulks, Sebastian. *Birdsong*

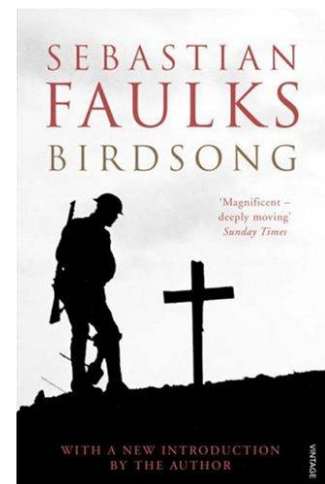
A powerful story of life in France during the First World War and in its aftermath.

Fitzgerald, F. Scott. *The Great Gatsby*

Passion and glamour in 1920s New York

Forster, E.M. *A Room with a View*

Coming of age and romance in Florence.



Graves, Robert. Goodbye to All That

Grave's autobiography of his life at public school and in the trenches of the First World War.

Greene, Graham. Brighton Rock

The seedy underworld of 1930's Brighton.

Hardy, Thomas. Far from the Madding Crowd

Passion in nineteenth century rural Wessex.

Heller, Joseph. Catch 22

An often surreal comic exploration of the Second World War. A classic.

Hosseini, Khaled. The Kite Runner

When the Russians invade and the family is forced to flee to America, twelve-year-old Amir realises that one day he must return to an Afghanistan under Taliban rule to find the one thing that his new world cannot grant him: redemption. Gripping and full of emotion

Hosseini, Khaled. A Thousand Splendid Suns

This book presents the story of an unforgiving time, an unlikely bond and an indestructible love.

Lewycka, Marina. Short History of Tractors in Ukrainian

Sisters Vera and Nadezhda must put aside feuding to save their engineer father from gold-digger Valentina. With her proclivity for satin underwear and boil-in-the-bag cuisine, she will stop at nothing in her pursuit of wealth.

Chevalier, Tracy. Burning Bright

London 1792. The Kellaways move from rural Dorset to the city and become entangled in the life of their neighbour the printer, poet and radical, William Blake.

McEwan, Ian. Atonement

On a hot day of the summer of 1935, 13-year-old Briony Tallis sees her sister, Cecilia, strip off her clothes and plunge into the fountain in the garden of their house. Watching her is Robbie Turner, her childhood friend who, like Cecilia, has come down from Cambridge. By the end of that day the lives of all three will have been changed forever.

Huxley, Aldous. Brave New World

A novel which foresees a terrifying future where humanity is dominated by science.



Ishiguro, Kazuo

A boarding school for clones.

Kesey, Ken. One Flew over the Cuckoo's Nest

Touching story of life in an American psychiatric hospital.

McCourt Frank Angela's Ashes

Misery growing up in Limerick, Ireland – a wonderfully uplifting book.

Marquez Gabriel Garcia Love in the Time of Cholera

Magical realism in South America.

Martel, Yann. Life of Pi

After the sinking of a ship the only survivors are a sixteen-year-old boy named Pi, a hyena, a zebra, a female orang-utan...and a 450- pound Royal Bengal tiger and they are all in the same life boat.

Orwell, George. 1984

Orwell's vision of a future where England has become Airstrip One and every aspect of life is controlled by the government.

Paton, Alan. Cry the Beloved Country



A poignant depiction of the horrors of life under apartheid in South Africa.

Plath, Sylvia. The Bell Jar

Autobiographical novel by the famous poet where she depicts her early struggles to carve out a career as a writer against the background of her clinical depression.

Rhys, Jean. The Wide Sargasso Sea.

If you have read **Jane Eyre** you will enjoy this novel which depicts the story of one of the characters not given a voice by Bronte.

Shelley, Mary. Frankenstein

The original story of the monster created out of body parts snatched from graves!

Steinbeck, John. The Grapes of Wrath

Migrant workers in Depression hit California.



Smith, Zadie. White Teeth

The setting moves from Jamaica, Turkey, Bangladesh and India, to North London, the home of unlikely friends, Archie Jones and Samad Iqbal.

Theroux, Paul. The Mosquito Coast.

Alex Fox abandons civilization and takes the family to live in the Honduran jungle.

Tolstoy, Leo. Anna Karenina

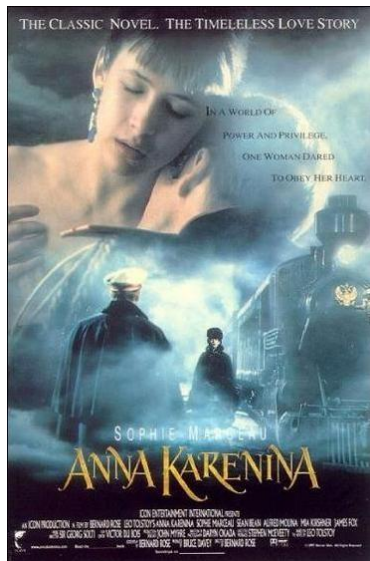
Passion in nineteenth century Russia.

Trevor, William. The Story of Lucy Gault.

Set in Ireland after the First World War a wonderfully evocative novel which explores the effects of a child's innocent actions.

Vonnegut, Kurt. Slaughterhouse Five

An exploration of the absurdity of war based on the author's war time experiences in the firebombing of Dresden.



Roth, Phillip. The Plot Against America

Recounting the menacing years of the Lindbergh presidency in the US when American citizens who were Jews had every reason to expect the worst.

Moggach, Deborah. These Foolish Things

Enchanting tale about getting old and how to deal with elderly relatives!

Zafron, Carloz Ruiz. Shadow of the Wind

A hidden library of obscure and forgotten books and the story of one title given to a 10 year old boy that attracts unwelcome and sinister interest as he grows up.

Zusak, Marcus. The Book Thief

Liesel is living with a foster family on Himmel Street. Her parents have been taken away to a concentration camp. This book is a story of: a girl; an accordionist; some fanatical Germans; a Jewish fist fighter; and quite a lot of thievery.