

Year 9 Wider Reading

Research indicates that students who read independently become better readers, score higher on achievement tests in all subject areas, and have greater content knowledge than those who do not (Krashen 1993; Cunningham and Stanovich 1991; Stanovich and Cunningham 1993).

For each unit we study in English, students are expected to read at least one other text independently. The following suggestions are a starting point. Our school librarian, Mrs Jowett, will also support students in finding reading material to support their studies, and we strongly recommend that each student has a library card to access their local library. We hope you enjoy your wider reading.

Unit 1: Genre Study – Crime Fiction

Oliver Twist – Charles Dickens

Great Expectations – Charles Dickens

The Moonstone – Wilkie Collins

Sherlock Holmes – Arthur Conan Doyle

The Murder Game – Tom Hindle

Lockwood and Co – Jonathan Stroud

The Five: The Untold Lives of the Women Killed by Jack the Ripper – Hallie Rubenhold

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time - Mark Haddon

The Picture of Dorian Gray – Oscar Wilde

The Borden Murders – Sarah Miller

Murder Must Advertise – Dorothy L Sayers

Murder on the Orient Express – Agatha Christie

Unit 2: Voices and Views

Becoming – Michelle Obama

How to Win Friends and Influence People - Dale Carnegie

Mud, Sweat and Tears – Bear Grylls

Natives: Race and Class in the Ruins of Empire – Akala

The Girl with the Louding Voice - Abi Dare

This is How you Lose a Time War - Amal El-Mohtar

Yes She Can – Molly Dillon

The Faraway Brothers - Lauren Markham

Just Mercy - Bryan Stevenson

Flowers in the Gutter – KR Gaddy

Bonnie and Clyde – Karen Blumenthal

We Should All Be Feminists – Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie

Shout – Laurie Halse Anderson

Unit 3: Unseen Poetry

Home is Not A Country - Safia Elhilo

Chlorine Sky - Mahogany L. Browne
Beauty Mark – Carole Boston Weatherford
When The Stars Wrote Back – Trista Mateer
We are The Ashes, We Are The Fire – Joy McCullough
Concrete Kids – Amyra Leon
Taming of the Clueless – Ian Doescher
Aurora Rising – Amie Kaufman
Cloud Atlas – David Mitchel
Shatter Me - Tahereh Mafi
Flowers for Algernon – Daniel Keyes
The Life of Pi – Yann Martel
CogHeart Series – Peter Bunzl

Unit 4: *Much Ado about Nothing*

Caraval – Stephanie Garber
Lionheart Girl – Yaba Badoe
The Inheritance Games – Jennifer Lynn Barnes
The Only Thing Worse Than Me Is You – Lily Anderson
Under a Dancing Star – Laura Wood
Speak Easy, Speak Love - McKelle George
Beatrice and Benedick – Marina Fiorato
Nothing Happened – Molly Horton Booth

Independent Reading Project – Spring Term

Students are expected to read one of the texts on this list, and then to write an analytical response with a focus of their choice:

Pride and Prejudice - Jane Austen
Jane Eyre – Charlotte Bronte
The Picture of Dorian Gray – Oscar Wilde
Murder Must Advertise – Dorothy L Sayers
Murder on the Orient Express – Agatha Christie
The Code of the Woosters – PG Wodehouse
Animal Farm – George Orwell
1984 – George Orwell
The Catcher in the Rye – JD Salinger
Oranges are Not the Only Fruit – Jeanette Winterson
American Gods – Neil Gaimen
The Life of Pi – Yann Martel

All the Light We Cannot See – Anthony Doerr;
My Name is Leon - Kit De Waal
Yellowface – RF Kuang
The Foreshadowing – Marcus Sedgewick
The Knife of Never Letting Go – Patrick Ness
The Book Thief – Markus Zusak
Ready Player One – Ernest Cline
The Fault in Our Stars