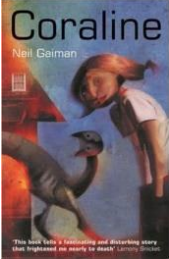
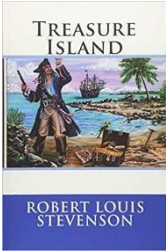

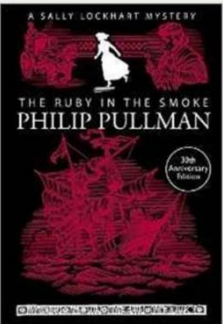
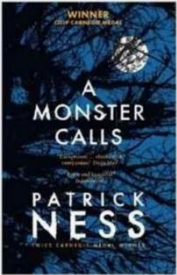

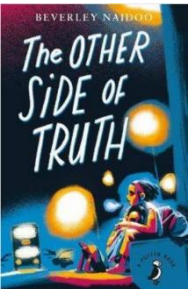

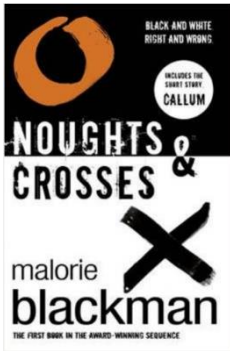


## Reading for pleasure: as suggested reading list for KS4 and KS5

	<p>Coraline – Neil Gaiman</p> <p>One day Coraline unlocks a mysterious door that opens onto another world, a twisted parody of Coraline's own dimension. She discovers something very sinister about her 'other mother', who has trapped her real parents and plans to keep the family there forever.</p> <p>As Coraline tries to escape, she is faced with a fantastical series of macabre and bizarre situations. Excellently written, and superbly original, Coraline is well suited to those who enjoy reading about the weird and the wonderful with a dash of horror and humour. It is destined to become a classic modern fairytale.</p>
	<p>Treasure Island</p> <p>Set in the eighteenth century, Treasure Island spins the tale of Jim Hawkins aboard the Hispaniola as he journeys across the Spanish Main in search for buried treasure on an exotic isle. Treasure Island is an adventure novel by Robert Louis Stevenson, narrating a tale of "buccaneers and buried treasure". It sets the beginning of popular pirate perceptions such as treasure maps marked with an "X", the Black Spot, tropical islands, and one-legged seamen bearing parrots on their shoulders.</p>
	<p>Al Capone does my shirts – by <b>Gennifer Choldenko</b></p> <p>When Moose Flanagan and his family move home, yet again, and become residents of the famous prison island Alcatraz, things get interesting. First of all, they share the island with a few other families and a lot of pretty heavy-duty criminals including Al Capone. And secondly, Moose's sister is starting a new school, which everyone hopes will help her become more integrated with those around her. When Moose comes up with some pretty cunning money-making schemes based on his famous co-residents, he does not count on his sister becoming inadvertently involved. This is a charming, funny and utterly enchanting book that skillfully and delicately weaves a humorous tale with some important issues.</p>
	<p>Ruby in the Smoke – Philip Pullman</p> <p>After the sudden death of her father, Sally Lockhart is forced to go to live in London with an obnoxious cousin. There, she receives an anonymous letter containing a warning so dire that it makes a man die of fear at her feet. Determined to discover the truth about what happened to her father, Sally is soon plunged into a dangerous and terrifying adventure that takes her to the dark heart of Victorian London.</p> <p>Inspired by the tradition of the Victorian melodrama, Philip Pullman's first Sally Lockhart story is a cracking adventure. Cleverly-plotted, bristling with excitement and brilliantly gripping, it also provides an intriguing insight into the injustice and inequality of Victorian society, making it rich and fascinating reading for older children, teenagers and adults.</p>

	<p>Monster Calls – Patrick Ness</p> <p>Visceral, dark, sad, beautiful, hopeful and really, really angry, this is a beautifully structured, dense, layered novel about the monster that touches us all at some point. This extraordinary book was the first ever to win both the CILIP Carnegie and the CILIP Kate Greenaway Medals.</p>
	<p>The Graveyard book – Neil Gaiman</p> <p>After his family are killed, Bod is brought up in a graveyard by ghosts – an array of century-spanning characters who care for him, impart wisdom and even teach body-fading skills. But Bod sometimes goes beyond the graveyard into the world of the living – and here his life is under threat from the sinister man Jack, who has pursued him since he was a baby.</p> <p>Bestselling author Neil Gaiman offers up a wonderful story of life, death and coming-of-age in this book, which won the Booktrust Teenage Prize. The fabulously original story is full of humour and surprise and has a brilliantly engaging hero in Bod. Gaiman blends together the poetic, the resonant and the gruesome and Chris Riddell's illustrations confirm the delicious sense of unsettling people and presences that run throughout.</p>
	<p>The Other side of Truth - Beverley Naidoo</p> <p>Femi and Sade's father is a journalist, a truth-teller, and someone who gets on the wrong side of the Nigerian authorities. When their mother is shot dead in front of them, the bullet was meant for him. Sade and her brother are ripped from their comfortable, happy life and sent to England for their safety – illegally and against their will.</p> <p>This novel wholly deserves its classic status. <i>The Other Side of Truth</i> won the Carnegie Medal in 2000 but the trauma and murder endured by Sade and her family, and their experience of fleeing the familiar to become refugees in an alien country, is still relevant and poignant. Seen through the eyes of two brave, but frightened, children, this is a story of terror, loss, love and humanity.</p>
	<p>Northern Lights – Philip Pullman</p> <p>Lyra and her animal daemon live a carefree life amongst the scholars of Jordan College, Oxford. Yet the destiny that awaits her will take her far from her home, to the magical frozen lands of the Arctic, amongst the witch-clans and ice-bears. Here, she will discover the truth about her identity, which will have immeasurable consequences reaching beyond her own world.</p> <p>This extraordinary fantasy is the first book in Philip Pullman's multi-award-winning <i>His Dark Materials</i> trilogy. Exciting, original and enormously powerful it is an incredible feat of imagination, and one of the classics of 20th century children's literature.</p>

Noughts and Crosses - Malorie Blackman

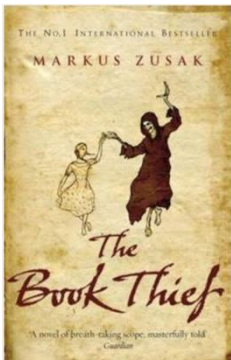


In Malorie Blackman's groundbreaking novel, the population is divided into two: the white Noughts are second-class citizens, and the black Crosses are highly-revered and perceived as the superior race. 15-year-old Callum is a Nought, and his best friend, Sephy, as well as being a Cross, is also the daughter of one of the most influential politicians in the country.

The story focuses on their relationship, which is frowned upon by society, and explores the discrimination they encounter at every turn. By reversing traditional racial stereotypes and presenting the White population as the oppressed race, Blackman has cleverly shown racial prejudice from a different perspective.

As well as being a compelling tale of love and friendship, this is an outstanding and thought-provoking exploration of the futility of prejudice. A contemporary classic.

The Book Thief- Markus Zusak



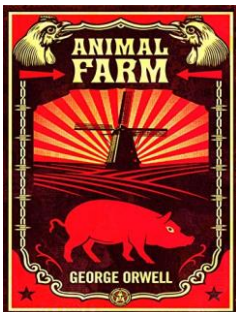
HERE IS A SMALL FACT - YOU ARE GOING TO DIE.

1939. Nazi Germany. The country is holding its breath. Death has never been busier. Liesel, a nine-year-old girl, is living with a foster family on Himmel Street. Her parents have been taken away to a concentration camp. Liesel steals books. This is her story and the story of the inhabitants of her street when the bombs begin to fall.

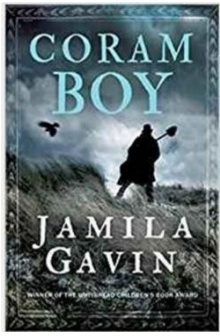
SOME IMPORTANT INFORMATION - THIS NOVEL IS NARRATED BY DEATH.

It's a small story, about: a girl, an accordionist, some fanatical Germans, a Jewish fist fighter, and quite a lot of thievery.

Animal Farm-George Orwell



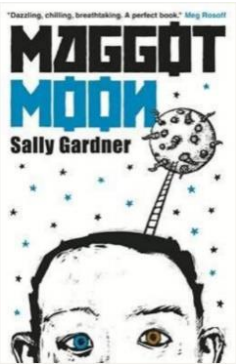
**Animal Farm** is an allegorical novella by George Orwell, first published in England on 17 August 1945. The book tells the story of a group of farm animals who rebel against their human farmer, hoping to create a society where the animals can be equal, free, and happy. Ultimately, however, the rebellion is betrayed and the farm ends up in a state as bad as it was before, under the dictatorship of a pig named Napoleon.



### Coram Boy- Jamila Gavin

*Coram Boy* is the story of Toby, saved from an African ship as a child, and Aaron, the illegitimate son of the heir to a great estate. The two boys' lives are linked by the Coram Man, a shady figure who collects abandoned and unwanted children from across the country, supposedly to deliver them to a safe new life at the Coram Hospital in London. In reality, however, the unscrupulous man sells the unfortunate children into slavery, or 'disposes' of them if they are of no use to him. Soon, Toby and Aaron find themselves bound together in an epic journey, fraught with danger and excitement.

Rich with historical detail, this enthralling, moving and sometimes deeply distressing read provides an important and thought-provoking insight into 1750s society. Packing a powerful punch, it is a tense tale full of twists and turns, and was a deserving winner of the Whitbread Children's Book Award.



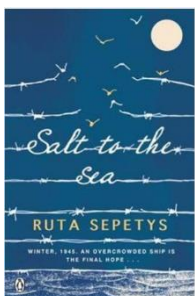
### Maggot Moon - Sally Gardner

In an alternate 1950s, Standish Treadwell is growing up in a Britain dominated by the dark, ruthlessly oppressive forces of The Motherland. Life is hard, but Standish struggles onwards - until his best and only friend Hector is taken away from him, and events take a new and more dangerous turn. Gradually, Standish comes to realise that it is down to him and his grandfather, together with a small band of rebels, to make a stand against The Motherland. In a desperate effort to protect the people he loves, Standish sets out on a heroic mission to expose the truth about a planned landing on the moon.

Combining conspiracy theory and dystopia, this hugely original novel from Sally Gardner will resonate with readers of all ages. Brilliantly-written and very readable, the story is told in the first person, in the distinctive and unusual voice of Standish, who although he is far from the standard 'hero' archetype, soon proves himself to be loyal, brave and idealistic.

A dark and often deeply chilling read, this is also a story full of hope, which speaks compellingly about the value of friendship, trust, courage and freedom.

Altogether, *Maggot Moon* is an unusual, deeply moving and thought-provoking story, which has clear potential to become a modern classic.



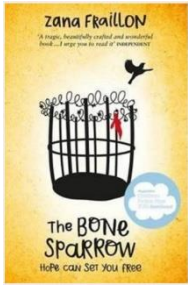
### Salt to the Sea - Ruta Sepetys

In 1945, the Second World War is drawing to a bloody end. For the German people and their surrounding allies, it is a time to flee from the approaching Russian army, whose terrifying reputation for rape and slaughter precede them.

Without food or possessions, a small group band together in an attempt to reach the boats taking civilians to safety. Among them are Joana, Florian and Emilia - a heavily pregnant 15-year-old Polish girl. Their cross-country trek is brutal and violent - but will the boat be any better?

This heart-breaking historical fiction highlights the devastation wrought by war on the lives of innocent civilians. Despite the divide in the group, the protagonists see no differences between themselves. They are all just desperate refugees searching for safety. Each chapter is told from a different character's perspective, allowing insight into their backgrounds and war-torn lives.

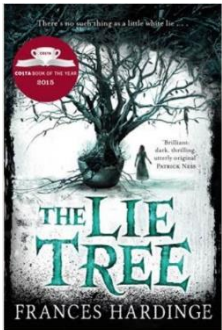




### The Bone Sparrow - Zana Fraillon

Born in a refugee camp, Subhi has never seen the outside world. At night, he dreams that the sea finds its way to his tent, bringing with it unusual treasures. And one day it brings him Jimmie: an illiterate young girl who lives near the refugee camp.

*The Bone Sparrow* is a beautiful, heartbreaking, hopeful and deeply moving novel that explores a tragic and relevant topic with incredible skill. Fraillon doesn't shy away from showing the bleakness of the refugee camp, but the novel is anything but. Subhi's irrepressible spirit brightens the camp, and the novel itself. Subhi and Jimmie's discovery of friendship is a joy to read, and Subhi's relationship with his older sister and closest friend in the camp are also wonderfully depicted.

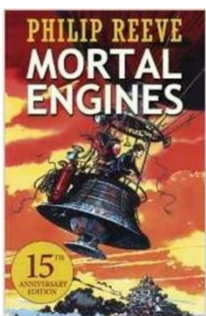


### The Lie Tree - Frances Hardinge

Faith is clever, curious and interested in everything around her - but because she is a girl, no-one pays her any attention, so she's learned to exist in the background.

Faith's father is a famed natural scientist, who is forced to flee to a remote island under a cloud of scandal, dragging his family with him. When he dies in mysterious circumstances, Faith links his death to a strange plant in her father's possession, the Lie Tree. This tree, when fed lies, bears fruit that reveal deep secrets to whoever eats them.

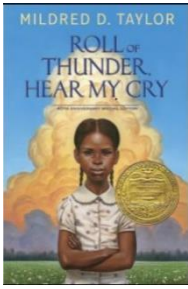
This dark, exciting novel delves into the world of religion versus science in the late 1800s. Faith is a fabulous character, undervalued and underestimated because of her sex, but determined to overcome every obstacle society puts into her path.



### Mortal Engines - Philip Reeve

London is on the move again: the traction city trawls the world on wheels, capturing and eating smaller towns. But when he is thrown off the city by his childhood hero Valentine, young hero Tom joins forces with the mysterious Hester, and is soon forced to reassess life as he knows it.

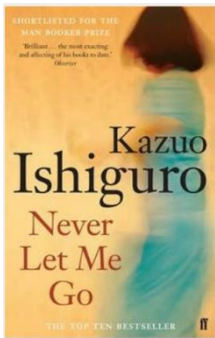
Set in a captivating futuristic landscape, this hugely imaginative story is a vivid blend of action, romance, mystery, crime and horror. Packed full of colourful characters and locations, it is a whirlwind adventure that challenges both Tom and the reader to reexamine their attitudes and preconceptions.



Roll of Thunder, hear my cry - Mildred Taylor

the inspiring story of the Logan family in Depression-era Mississippi. Based on her own family's history with slavery, Taylor's story about one black family's struggle to keep their land, their independence, and their pride amid racial discrimination create a compelling and emotionally rich experience for middle-grade readers.

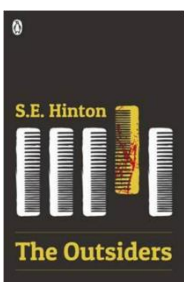
Set amid the Great Depression and the racially charged South, the story of the Logan family is told through the eyes of 9-year-old Cassie. Proud of her heritage, Cassie is familiar with the oft-told tale of how her Grandpa Logan worked to acquire his own land. An anomaly among the tenant farming black families they know, the Logan family must work doubly hard to make their tax and mortgage payments.



Never let me go - Kazuo Ishiguro

In one of the most acclaimed and strange novels of recent years, Kazuo Ishiguro imagines the lives of a group of students growing up in a darkly skewed version of contemporary England. Narrated by Kathy, now 31, *Never Let Me Go* hauntingly dramatises her attempts to come to terms with her childhood at the seemingly idyllic Hailsham School, and with the fate that has always awaited her and her closest friends in the wider world.

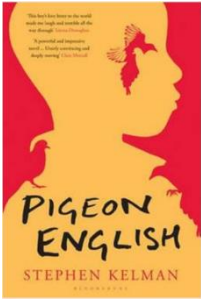
A story of love, friendship and memory, *Never Let Me Go* is charged throughout with a sense of the fragility of life. This cast of Britain's brightest young actors turned the dark dystopian source material into some heartbreakingly beautiful stuff. Tonally different yet every inch as classic.



The Outsiders – SE Hinton

SE Hinton was just 17 years old when she wrote this exciting story of gang rivalry. The story features the Socs and the Greasers and explores themes of class conflict, affection, brotherly love and coming of age. This is teenage fiction at its best.

Pigeon English - Stephen Kelman



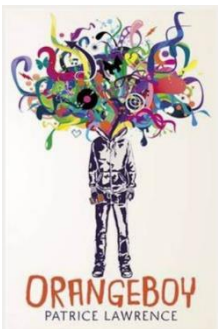
A warm debut novel about living and surviving on a South London housing estate. Harrison (Harri) Opoku is the second best runner in the whole of Year 7 and similarly, he blitzes through situations and confusions about his new life in England with his warm and honest manner.

Having only just moved from Ghana with his Mum and older sister, Harri is learning about life on an estate, which in itself has enough politics and dangers to keep him busy.

When a young boy is killed, Harri and his friend, Dean, decide to investigate the murder. Fuelled by what they've seen on CSI, the two of them soon find their investigation touches everyone around them, including their friends, Harri's own sister, and the notorious Dell Farm Crew, who terrorise Harri's school and estate.

The narration is in itself 'pigeon English' - sometimes jarring, sometimes punctuated with the vocabulary of a teenage boy. Above all, it is always sincere and despite all of the violence and fear around him, Harri still remains innocent in some respects, whilst also escalating slowly into adulthood.

Orange Boy - Patrice Lawrence



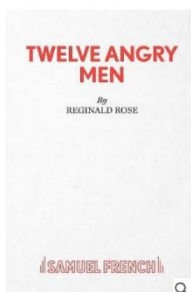
Quiet, unassuming Marlon can't believe it when the hottest girl in school picks him as her date to the fair. It's too good to be true.

But when a mysterious tragedy strikes, Marlon is determined to reveal the chain that links him to the criminal underworld. He starts getting the wrong sort of attention, as investigations tangle him into a web of gangs.

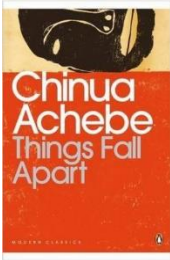
Mystery, intrigue and a big cast of dangerous characters give this gritty thriller a sophisticated edge within the YA genre. It's a tightly woven plot with revenge at its core. Urban settings, street language and sensitively drawn situations make this a thoughtful and diverse read.

The dangerous reality of drug pushing and youths being forced into dealing is an important topic, but Lawrence hasn't set out to preach to a society that needs warning. She's simply written a pacey crime thriller that feels unique, realistic and truthful.

12 Angry Men - **Reginald Rose**

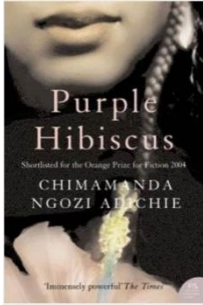


A young delinquent is on trial for the murder of his aggressive father. The judge has directed the jury to find the boy guilty if there is no reasonable doubt. Eleven of the jurors declare there is no reasonable doubt, but one of them, while far from convinced of the boy's innocence, feels that some of the evidence against him has been ambiguous. At the end of a long afternoon he wins, all the others round to his view.



### Things Fall Apart - Chinua Achebe

Okonowo is the greatest warrior alive. His fame has spread like a bushfire in West Africa and he is one of the most powerful men of his clan. But he also has a fiery temper. Determined not to be like his father, he refuses to show weakness to anyone - even if the only way he can master his feelings is with his fists. When outsiders threaten the traditions of his clan, Okonowo takes violent action. Will the great man's dangerous pride eventually destroy him?



### Purple Hibiscus - Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie

Kambili, the 15-year-old protagonist, her brother Jaja, and their mother Beatrice would seem, from the outside, to have an ideal life under care of her father – the self-made businessman, newspaper proprietor and humble servant of the Catholic Church. However, within the high walls of their marble-floored compound, the trio live in fear of his repressive rules and the impossible religious zeal that he administers with violence and the fear of violence. When Kambili and Jaja meet their grandfather and later spend some time away in the home of their aunt and her children, they find that some of the fearful silences of their existence are filled with laughter, love and hope of a different way of living.

Returning home, their father's tight regime starts to get challenged and things start to unravel, as they are also doing in their country following the military coup that forms the backdrop to the novel.

Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie has a garden of writing skills that is in full bloom. She has a deft and steady hand, knowing for the most part exactly where to prune, where to cultivate and where to take her ancestors' themes and grow from their cuttings. Like the flower of the book's title, she is a rare novelist.