



Glanmire Community College



# Recommended Reading Senior Cycle



# Why is reading so important?



## Reading reduces stress

In 2009, scientists at the University of Sussex in the UK looked at how different activities lowered stress by measuring heart rate and muscle tension. Reading a book or newspaper for just six minutes lowered people's stress levels by 68 per cent. This was a higher percentage drop in stress than going for a walk at 42 per cent, drinking a cup of tea or coffee at 54 per cent, or listening to music at 61 per cent. According to the authors, the ability to be fully concentrating on what you are reading and therefore not distracted is what makes reading the perfect way to relieve stress.



## Reading helps you live longer

A daily dose of reading may lengthen your lifespan. A team of scientists at Yale University followed more than 3,600 adults over the age of 50 for 12 years. They discovered that people who reported reading books for 30 minutes a day lived nearly 2 years more than those who read magazines or newspapers. Participants who read more than 3 and a half hours per week were 23 per cent less likely to die, and participants who read less than 3 and a half hours per week were 17 per cent less likely to die. 'The benefits of reading books include a longer life in which to read them,' the authors wrote.

## Reading helps you sleep

Creating a bedtime ritual, like reading before bed, signals to your body that it's time to wind down and go to sleep, according to the Mayo Clinic. Reading a real book helps you relax more than zoning out in front of a screen before bed.

Screens like e-readers and tablets can actually keep you awake longer and even upset your sleep. That applies to kids too – 54 per cent of children sleep near a small screen, and clock 20 fewer minutes of shut eye on average because of it, according to research. So, reach for the literal page-turners before switching off the light.



# Why is reading so important?

## Reading makes you smarter

In the 1990s, a team of scientists carried out a variety of tests to try to figure out the link between reading and a person's vocabulary and fact-based knowledge. The researchers were surprised that the average result of these studies was that avid readers, as measured by the tests, had around a 50 per cent larger vocabulary and 50 per cent more fact-based knowledge than people that did not read at all.



## Reading makes you a nicer person

In 2013, at Harvard University, a group of volunteers either read fiction, popular fiction non-fiction or nothing. Across five experiments, those who read fiction performed better on tasks like predicting how characters would act and identifying the emotions in facial expressions. These results show us that reading improves your ability to read other people's emotions and feelings. Put simply, reading makes you a nicer person.



## Reading reduces your risk of dementia

A study published in the journal *Neurology* claimed that reading and similar activities reduced the rate of cognitive (relating to the mental process involved in knowing, learning and understanding things) decline in dementia patients. Researchers questioned 294 patients about their reading habits over the course of 6 years and then examined their brains for dementia in a post-mortem. They found a slower rate of decline in patients who reported more early-life and late-life cognitive activity, such as reading, writing and playing games.



# Why is reading so important?

- A student being a reader or not is a more important indicator of success than socioeconomic/educational status of parents (OECD/PISA 2009)
- Aids with cognitive development and impacts across the curriculum- students likely to do 'significantly better', with a 9.9% advantage in Maths by age 16! (IoE, London, 2013).
- Science achievement: Researchers found that the strongest factor affecting pupils' science scores is reading comprehension (EEF, September 2017)
- Children who read books often at age 10 and more than once a week at age 16 gain higher results in maths, vocabulary and spelling tests at age 16 than those who read less regularly
- Children can learn between 4,000 and 12,000 new words through book reading in a single year
- Reading improves teenagers' vocabulary by 26% regardless of background (Centre for Longitudinal Studies, November 2017)

15 minutes each day



5,475 minutes



91+ hours

1 minute each day



365 minutes

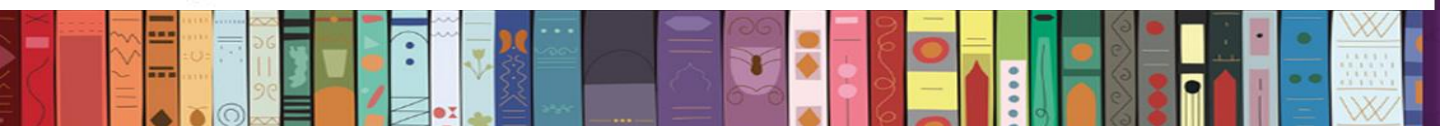


6 hours



# Finding A Book To Read

- 1 Search by genre:** there are lots of different genres of books to choose from – action, adventure, historical fiction, science fiction, mystery, horror. If you have previously read a book of a particular genre and enjoyed it, chances are you will like another book in that same genre. You could do an online search of your chosen genre and see if anything appeals to you.
- 2 Search by author:** sometimes people really like the writing style of a particular author. When you finish a book and you have enjoyed it, search online for other books by the same person to see if there is something else you might want to read.
- 3 Award-winning books:** every year, a number of book awards are given out to authors whose books are recognised for their brilliance. The CILIP Carnegie Medal, the Newbery Medal, the Waterstones Children's Book Prize, the National Book Awards, the Costa Book Awards and the An Post Book Awards are the most prestigious and well known of these. You could search online for the shortlists and awards winners and browse for something that grabs your interest.
- 4 Book trailers:** publishing companies often create online book trailers that offer a preview of what a book is about. There are some great YouTube channels with trailers of interesting young adult reads: try Epic Reads, Walker Books and Penguin Teen.
- 5 Good Reads:** this is a community website full of book lovers. You can sign up and create an account that will keep track of all of the books you have read and offer recommendations based on what you like. You can also use the website to search for books, read a book summary, browse community reviews and look up a book's star rating.
- 6 Audiobooks:** who doesn't love being read to? Audiobooks are now widely available online. You could subscribe to a service like Audible or Spotify to search for and listen to audiobooks. Alternatively, you can find some audiobooks on YouTube or on the open-source audiobook site LibriVox.
- 7 Use an algorithm:** book algorithms use information you input online to create a list of books you might enjoy. Try Whichbook, which offers a book selection based on your preferences in four categories: mood and emotion, world map, characters and plot, and bestsellers.
- 8 Best ever book list:** you could also search the 'best ever' book lists that people compile online. There are new lists published all the time; good ones to browse are the best books of the year, the best historical fiction books and the best young adult novels.
- 9 Local library:** visit the library in your city or town and browse the book shelves. Libraries are free to join and books are free to borrow. You could always ask the librarian to help you find a book to try.
- 10 Bookshops:** take a trip to your local bookshop and leaf through the books in the different sections, or ask the people who work there for their advice on what might be a good read for you.
- 11 Teachers' recommendations:** turn to pages 261–268 and read some short reviews and descriptions of popular books for students. Or ask your own teacher for some suggestions.
- 12 Fill your bookshelves:** In your activity book (see page 148), jot down the names of some books that have been recommended to you or that have appealed to you in your search to find a book to read.

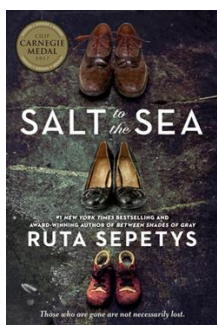


**The Hate you Give by Angie Thomas**



Sixteen-year-old Starr Carter moves between two worlds: the poor neighborhood where she lives and the fancy suburban prep school she attends. The uneasy balance between these worlds is shattered when Starr witnesses the fatal shooting of her childhood best friend Khalil at the hands of a police officer. Khalil was unarmed.

**Salt to the Sea by Ruta Sepetys**



While the Titanic and Lusitania are both well-documented disasters, the single greatest tragedy in maritime history is the little-known January 30, 1945 sinking in the Baltic Sea by a Soviet submarine of the Wilhelm Gustloff, a German cruise liner that was supposed to ferry wartime personnel and refugees to safety from the advancing Red Army. The ship was overcrowded with more than 10,500 passengers — the intended capacity was approximately 1,800 — and more than 9,000 people, including 5,000 children, lost their lives.

Sepetys (writer of 'Between Shades of Gray') crafts four fictionalized but historically accurate voices to convey the real-life tragedy. Joana, a Lithuanian with nursing experience; Florian, a Prussian soldier fleeing the Nazis with stolen treasure; and Emilia, a Polish girl close to the end of her pregnancy, converge on their escape journeys as Russian troops advance; each will eventually meet Albert, a Nazi peon with delusions of grandeur, assigned to the Gustloff decks.

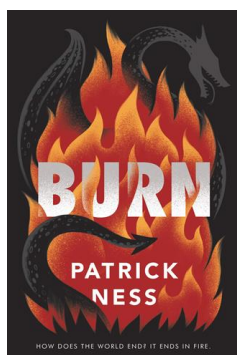
**Me, Earl and the Dying Girl by Jesse Andrews**



Greg Gaines is the last master of high school espionage, able to disappear at will into any social environment. He has only one friend, Earl, and together they spend their time making movies, their own incomprehensible versions of Coppola and Herzog cult classics. Until Greg's mother forces him to rekindle his childhood friendship with Rachel.

Rachel has been diagnosed with leukaemia—cue extreme adolescent awkwardness—but a parental mandate has been issued and must be obeyed. When Rachel stops treatment, Greg and Earl decide the thing to do is to make a film for her, which turns into the Worst Film Ever Made and becomes a turning point in each of their lives.

**Burn by Patrick Ness**



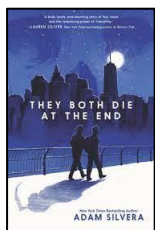
On a cold Sunday evening in early 1957, Sarah Dewhurst waited with her father in the parking lot of the Chevron gas station for the dragon he'd hired to help on the farm...

Sarah Dewhurst and her father, outcasts in their little town of Frome, Washington, are forced to hire a dragon to work their farm, something only the poorest of the poor ever have to resort to.

The dragon, Kazimir, has more to him than meets the eye, though. Sarah can't help but be curious about him, an animal who supposedly doesn't have a soul, but who is seemingly intent on keeping her safe.

Because the dragon knows something she doesn't. He has arrived at the farm with a prophecy on his mind. A prophecy that involves a deadly assassin, a cult of dragon worshippers, two FBI agents in hot pursuit—and somehow, Sarah Dewhurst herself.

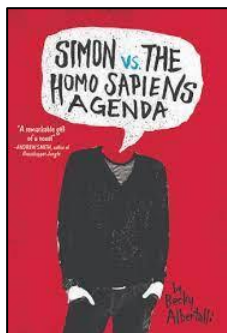
**They both die at the end by Adam Silvera**



On September 5, a little after midnight, Death-Cast calls Mateo Torrez and Rufus Emeterio to give them some bad news: They're going to die today.

Mateo and Rufus are total strangers, but, for different reasons, they're both looking to make a new friend on their End Day. The good news: There's an app for that. It's called the Last Friend, and through it, Rufus and Mateo are about to meet up for one last great adventure—to live a lifetime in a single day

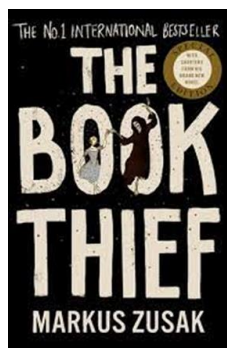
**Simon Versus the Homosapiens agenda by Becky Albertali**



Sixteen-year-old and not-so-openly gay Simon Spier prefers to save his drama for the school musical. But when an email falls into the wrong hands, his secret is at risk of being thrust into the spotlight. Now Simon is actually being blackmailed: if he doesn't play wingman for class clown Martin, his sexual identity will become everyone's business. Worse, the privacy of Blue, the pen name of the boy he's been emailing, will be compromised.

With some messy dynamics emerging in his once tight-knit group of friends, and his email correspondence with Blue growing more flirtatious every day, Simon's junior year has suddenly gotten all kinds of complicated. Now, change-averse Simon has to find a way to step out of his comfort zone before he's pushed out—without alienating his friends, compromising himself, or fumbling a shot at happiness with the most confusing, adorable guy he's never met.

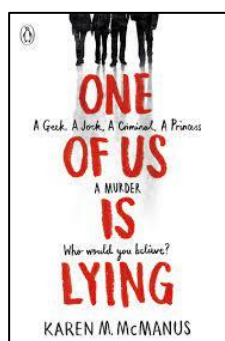
**The Book Thief by Markus Zusak**



It is 1939. Nazi Germany. The country is holding its breath. Death has never been busier, and will be busier still.

By her brother's graveside, Liesel's life is changed when she picks up a single object, partially hidden in the snow. It is The Gravedigger's Handbook, left behind there by accident, and it is her first act of book thievery. So begins a love affair with books and words, as Liesel, with the help of her accordion-playing foster father, learns to read. Soon she is stealing books from Nazi book-burnings, the mayor's wife's library, wherever there are books to be found. But these are dangerous times. When Liesel's foster family hides a Jew in their basement, Liesel's world is both opened up, and closed down.

**One of us is lying by Karen M. McManus**



On Monday afternoon, five students at Bayview High walk into detention. Bronwyn, **the brain**, is Yale-bound and never breaks a rule.

Addy, **the beauty**, is the picture-perfect homecoming princess.


Nate, **the criminal**, is already on probation for dealing.

Cooper, **the athlete**, is the all-star baseball pitcher.

And Simon, **the outcast**, is the creator of Bayview High's notorious gossip app.

Only, Simon never makes it out of that classroom. Before the end of detention Simon's dead. And according to investigators, his death wasn't an accident. On Monday, he died. But on Tuesday, he'd planned to post juicy reveals about all four of his high-profile classmates, which makes all four of them suspects in his murder. Or are they the perfect patsies for a killer who's still on the loose?

Everyone has secrets, right? What really matters is how far you would go to protect them.



### Action, Mysteries, Horror & Thrillers

***Famous Last Words*** or ***Bad Girls Don't Die***— Alender  
***The Inheritance Games*** by Jennifer Lynn Barnes  
***Frozen Charlotte*** by Alex Bell  
***S.T.A.G.S.*** (& sequels) by M.A. Bennett  
***Bodyguard*** series; ***Bulletcatcher*** by Chris Bradford+  
***The Bunker Diary***; ***Martyn Pig***; ***iBoy*** - Kevin Brooks  
***Dead Time*** (& sequels); ***The Bone Room***+ -A Cassidy  
***And Then There Were None*** by Agatha Christie\*  
***Say Her Name*** by Juno Dawson  
***Mortal Chaos*** or ***Lie, Kill, Walk Away*** -M Dickinson  
***A Gathering Light*** by Jennifer Donnelly\*  
***Zero Day*** by Jan Gangsei  
***Every Line of You*** by Naomi Gibson  
***The Enemy*** (& sequels) by Charlie Higson  
***House of Silk, Moriarty, Magpie Murders***-Horowitz+  
***Silence and Bones*** by June Hur  
***A Good Girl's Guide to Murder*** (& sequels)- Jackson  
***Sawbones*** or ***Blade & Bone*** by Catherine Johnson  
***The Long Weekend*** by Savita Kalhan+  
***Salem's Lot, Carrie*** or ***It*** by Stephen King\*  
***Watchers*** by Dean Koontz\*  
***Splinters of Sunshine*** by Patrice Lawrence  
***Bluebeard, Bluebeard*** by Attica Locke\*  
***We Were Liars*** or ***Genuine Fraud*** by E Lockhart  
***Mina and the Undead*** by Amy McCaw  
***Girl, Missing; Here We Lie; Blood Ties*** by S McKenzie  
***#Murdertrending*** by Gretchen McNeil\*  
***One of Us is Lying*** (& sequels) by Karen McManus  
***I am Still Alive*** or ***Rules for Vanishing*** by K Marshall  
***Knife Edge***\*; ***Blame*** by Simon Mayo  
***The Recruit (Cherub)*** (& sequels) by R Muchamore+  
***Even If We Break*** by Marieke Nijkamp  
***Foul Play*** (& sequels) or ***Ghost Stadium*** - T Palmer+  
***13 Minutes*** by Sarah Pinborough  
***We Begin At The End*** by Chris Whitaker\*  
***The First Day of My Life*** by Lisa Williamson

### Autobiographies/Memoirs/Biographies

***I Know Why a Caged Bird Sings*** by M. Angelou\*  
***A Street Cat Named Bob*** by James Bowen\*+  
***Playing the Enemy*** by John Carlin\*  
***In Cold Blood*** by Truman Capote\*

***Marley & Me*** by John Grogan\*

***Mud, Sweat and Tears*** by Bear Grylls\*

***Fever Pitch*** by Nick Hornby\*

***This is Going to Hurt*** by Adam Kay\*

***The Story of My Life*** by Helen Keller\*

***War Dog*** (WWII) by Damien Lewis\*

***The Boy on the Wooden Box*** by Leon Leyson

***Diary of a Young Naturalist*** by Dara McAnulty

***Today Everything Changes*** by Andy McNab\*+

***Chinese Cinderella*** by Adeline Yen Mah\*

***A History of the World in 21 Women***-Jenni Murray\*

***The Greatest: Muhammed Ali*** by WD Myers+

***Dreams From My Father*** by Barack Obama\*

***Becoming*** by Michelle Obama\*

***You Are a Champion*** by Marcus Rashford

***Persepolis*** by Marjane Satrapi (graphic novel)\*+

***Touching the Void*** by Joe Simpson\*+

***Beautiful Country*** by Qian Julie Wang\*

***Educated*** by Tara Westover\*

***Night*** by Elie Wiesel\*

***Black Boy: A Record of Youth & Childhood***-R Wright\*

***Autobiography of Malcolm X***—Malcolm X & A Haley\*

***I am Malala*** by Malala Yousafzai

### Classics (off the beaten path) & Literary Fiction:

#### Challenging KS4/5 reads

***Things Fall Apart*** by Chinua Achebe\*

***Purple Hibiscus*** by Chimamanda Adichie\*

***Djinn Patrol on the Purple Line*** - Deepa Anapparo\*

***The Testaments; The Handmaid's Tale*** – Atwood\*

***The Vanishing Half*** by Brit Bennett\*

***Fahrenheit 451*** by Ray Bradbury\*

***The House on Mango Street*** by Sandra Cisneros\*

***All The Light We Cannot See*** by Anthony Doerr\*

***Paddy Clarke Ha Ha Ha*** by Roddy Doyle\*

***Invisible Man*** by Ralph Ellison\*

***Girl, Woman, Other*** by Bernadine Evaristo\*

***Birdsong*** or ***Snow Country*** by Sebastian Faulks\*

***Homegoing*** by Yaa Gyasi\*

***The Sweetness of Water*** by Nathan Harris\*

***Woman in Black*** by Susan Hill\*

***The Kite Runner*** by Khalid Hosseini\*

***Not Without Laughter*** by Langston Hughes\*







***Never Let Me Go*** by Kazuo Ishiguro\*  
***To Kill a Mockingbird*** by Harper Lee\*  
***Cider With Rosie*** by Laurie Lee\*  
***Small Island*** by Andrea Levi\*  
***The Road*** by Cormac McCarthy\*  
***Circe*** or ***Song of Achilles*** by Madeline Miller\*  
***The Bluest Eye*** or ***Beloved*** by Toni Morrison\*  
***Hamnet*** by Maggie O'Farrell\*  
***All Quiet on the Western Front*** by EM Remarque\*  
***The God of Small Things*** by Arundhati Roy\*  
***Home Fire*** by Kamila Shamsie\*  
***Anita and Me*** by Meera Syal\*  
***The Color Purple*** by Alice Walker\*  
***Nickel Boys*** by Colson Whitehead\*  
***Oranges Are Not the Only Fruit*** – J Winterson\*

#### **Complex/Difficult/Thought-provoking Issues**

***Change is Gonna Come*** – various BAME authors  
***Poet X; Clap When You Land; With the Fire on High***  
by Elizabeth Acevedo^  
***7 Days*** or ***Magpie*** by Eve Ainsworth  
***Simon vs the Homo Sapiens Agenda*** – B Albertalli  
***Booked; Rebound; Crossover***-Kwame Alexander+^  
***The Hypnotist*** by Laurence Anholt  
***Thirteen Reasons Why*** by Jay Asher  
***Black Flamingo*** by Dean Atta^  
***Noughts & Crosses*** or ***Boys Don't Cry*** -M Blackman  
***Tiger Eyes*** or anything by Judy Blume  
***Firekeeper's Daughter*** by Angeline Boulley  
***Am I Normal Yet?*** (Spinster Club series)- H. Bourne  
***See Through Me; Dumb Chocolate Eyes*** - K Brooks  
***Hate List*** by Jennifer Brown  
***Junk*** or ***The Hit*** by Melvin Burgess  
***Heart-Shaped Bruise*** or ***Afterlove*** y Tanya Byrne  
***Looking for JJ; No Virgin/No Shame***-Anne Cassidy  
***The Perks of Being a Wallflower*** by S. Chbosky  
***Stolen*** by Lucy Christopher  
***The Chocolate War*** by Robert Cormier  
***Toffee; One; Moonrise*** by S Crossan+^  
***Meat Market*** or ***What's the T*** by Juno Dawson  
***A Swift Pure Cry; Solace of the Road*** -S. Dowd  
***The Pavee and the Buffer Girl*** by Siobhan Dowd+  
***Furious Thing; Before I Die*** by Jenny Downam

***If I Stay; Just One Day*** by Gayle Forman  
***The Ones That Disappeared*** by Zana Fraillion  
***Full Disclosure*** of ***Off the Record*** by Camryn Garrett  
***Baby Girl*** by Emma Hill  
***After the Fire*** by Will Hill  
***Looking at the Stars*** by Lewis Hine  
***The Outsiders*** by SE Hinton  
***And the Stars Were Burning Brightly*** by D Jawando  
***That Asian Kid; Girl in Broken Mirror*** by S Kalhan  
***That's Not What Happened*** by Kody Keplinger  
***I am Thunder; Kick the Moon*** - Muhammed Khan  
***Rose, Interrupted, Indigo Donut, Orangeboy*** or  
***Eight Pieces of Silva*** by Patrice Lawrence  
***Brock, Pike, Rook & Lark*** by Anthony McGowan+  
***Run, Rebel*** or ***The Crossing*** y Manjeet Mann^+  
***Out of Heart; A Beautiful Lie*** by Irfan Master  
***Sister Heart*** by Sally Morgan^  
***Slay*** by Brittney Morris  
***The Sky is Everywhere*** or ***I'll Give You...*** by J Nelson  
***No Fixed Address; Word Nerd*** by Susin Nielson  
***All the Bright Places & Holding Up Universe*** - Niven  
***Before I Fall; Vanishing Girls*** by Lauren Oliver  
***Where the Crawdads Sing*** by Delia Owens\*  
***My Sister's Keeper; Small Great Things*** -J Picoult\*  
***Patron Saints of Nothing*** or ***After the Shot Drops*** by  
Randy Ribay  
***Rani & Sukh; (Un)arranged Marriage; Killing  
Honour; The Gun; Stay a Little Longer*** - Bali Rai+  
***Gloves Off^; Wrecked^; Black Heart Blue*** by L Reid  
***Long Way Down^; All American Boys*** - J Reynolds  
***Extraordinary Means*** by Robyn Schneider  
***The Lovely Bones*** or ***Lucky*** by Alice Sebold\*  
***The Boxer*** or ***Run, Riot*** Nikesh Shukla  
***Counting by 7s*** by Holly Sloan  
***The Million Pieces of Neena Gill*** by E Smith-Barton  
***Stone Cold*** by Robert Swindells  
***Everything I Thought I Knew*** by Shannon Takaoka  
***Lies We Tell Ourselves*** by Robin Talley  
***The Hate U Give*** or ***On the Come Up*** by A Thomas  
***The List*** by Siobhan Vivian  
***It's Kind of a Funny Story*** by Ned Vizzini  
***My Name is Leon*** by Kit de Waal  
***What Momma Left Me*** by Renee Watson





***The Art of Being Normal*** by Lisa Williamson

***Frankly in Love*** by David Yoon

***In The Wild Light*** by Jeff Zentner

***Teacher's Dead, Face, Terror Kid* or *Gangsta Rap***

by Benjamin Zephaniah

#### Dystopian or Science Fiction

***The Power*** by Naomi Alderman\*

***Chasing the Stars*** by Malorie Blackman

***Gamer*** (& Virtual Combat series) by Chris Bradford+

***Ink*** (& sequels) by Alice Broadway

***World War Z*** by Max Brooks\*

***Three Bullets*** by Melvin Burgess

***The Girl With All the Gifts*** by MR Carey\*

***Matched*** (& sequels) by Ally Condie

***The Maze Runner*** (& sequels) by J. Dashner

***Cell 7*** (& sequels) by Kerry Drewery

***The Upper World*** by Femi Fadugba

***The Gender Game*** by Bella Forrest

***Gone; Front Line*** (& sequels) by Michael Grant

***Lifers*** by M.A. Griffin

***Department 19*** (& sequels) by Will Hill

***The Outrage*** by William Hussey

***Bearmouth*** by Liz Hyder

***Raybearer*** by Jordan Ifueko

***The Loneliest Girl in the Universe* or *The Quiet at the End of the World*** by Lauren James

***Maladapted*** by Richard Kurti

***I Am Number Four*** (& sequels) by Pittacus Lore

***Legend*** (& sequels) by Marie Lu

***Station 11*** by Emily Mandel\*

***The Passengers; The One*** by John Marrs\*

***The 100*** by Kass Morgan

***Killer T*** by Robert Muchamore

***No Man's Land*** by Joanna Nadin

***The Knife of Never Letting Go*** series by Patrick Ness

***Z For Zachariah*** by Robert O'Brien

***The Loop*** by Ben Oliver

***Replica* or *Delirium*** (& sequels) by Lauren Oliver

***Only Ever Yours*** by Louise O'Neill

***Divergent*** (& sequels) by Veronica Roth

***Plague Land*** by Alex Scarrow

***Scythe, Unwind*** (& sequels) -N Shusterman

***Concetr8*** by William Sutcliffe

***Contagion* or *Slated*** (& sequels) by Teri Terry

***The Martian* or *Project Hail Mary*** by Andy Weir\*

***Partials*** (& sequels) by Dan Wells

***Uglies* or *Zeroes*** (& sequels) by Scott Westerfield

***The Foreverers*** by Chris Whitaker

***The Infinity Files*** by SM Wilson

***The 5th Wave*** (& sequels) by Rick Yancey

#### Environment or Climate Change Fiction

***American War*** by Omar El Akkad\*

***The Drowned World*** by J.G. Ballard\*

***Exodus*** by Julie Bertanga

***Parable of the Sower*** by Octavia Butler\*

***The Well*** by Catherine Chanter\*

***Greenwood*** by Michael Christie\*

***Breathe*** by Sarah Crossan

***The Ice People*** by Maggie Gee\*

***The Territory*** by Sarah Govett

***Floodworld*** & *DustRoad* by Tom Huddleston

***The End We Start From*** by Megan Hunter

***Green Rising*** by Lauren James

***Runners*** by Ann Kelley

***Unsheltered, Prodigal Summer* or *Flight Behaviour***  
by Barbara Kingsolver\*

***The Carbon Diaries*** by Saci Lloyd

***The Dog Runner & Across Risen Sea*** - B MacDibble

***The Overstory*** by Richard Powers\*

***Floodland* or *Snowflake, AZ*** by Marcus Sedgwick

***Dry*** by Neal & Jarrod Shusterman

***The Survival Game* or *The Island*** by Nicky Singer

***The Grapes of Wrath*** by John Steinbeck\*

#### Fantasy, Epic or Urban Fantasy or Magic Realism

***Children of Blood and Bone*** by Tomi Adeyemi

***A Jigsaw of Fire & Stars*** by Yaba Badoe

***Six of Crows; Crooked Kingdom*** by Leigh Bardugo

***Cinderella is Dead*** by Kalynn Bayron

***City of Bones*** (& sequels) by Cassandra Clare

***Legendborn*** by Tracy Deonn

***Half Bad*** (& sequels) by Sally Green

***The Gilded Ones*** by Namina Forna

***The Deathless Girls*** by Kiran Millwood Hargrave

***The Eye of the World*** (Wheel of Time) by R Jordan

***A Blade So Black*** (& sequels) by L.L. McKinney

***Burn*** by Patrick Ness

***Way of Kings*** (Stormlight Archive) by B Sanderson

***Voyages in Underworld of Orpheus Black***-Sedgwick


***Oh My Gods*** by Alexandra Sheppard

***An Ember in the Ashes*** (& sequels) by Sabaa Tahir

***Children of the Quicksands*** by Efua Traore

#### History & War

***The Short Knife*** by Elen Caldecot



**Wolf Children, Bomber, Red Shadow, Eleven Eleven** or **The Great Revolt** by Paul Dowswell  
**Copper Sun** by Sharon M Draper  
**When the Sky Falls** by Phil Earle  
**Under a War-Torn Sky** or **Suspect Red** by L. Elliott  
**Fatal Throne: Henry VIII** (multiple YA writers)  
**An Act of Love** or **The Trap** by Alan Gibbons  
**Grenade, Ground Zero** or **Prisoner B-3087** - A Gratz  
**Bone Talk** by Candy Gourlay  
**The Mercies** by Kiran Millwood Hargrave\*  
**Sawbones** or **Blade and Bones** by C Johnson  
**Orphan, Monster, Spy** by Matt Killeen  
**Among Red Stars** by Gwen Katz  
**When the World Was Ours** by Liz Kessler  
**The Librarian of Auschwitz** by Antonio Iturbe\*  
**The Beekeeper of Aleppo** by Christy Lefteri\*  
**Dog Tags: Semper Fido** or **Strays** by CA London  
**A Berlin Love Song** by Sarah Matthias  
**Red Stars** by Davide Morosinotto  
**Fallen Angels** or **Sunrise over Fallujah**-WD Myers  
**Things a Bright Girl Can Do; Silent Stars** - S Nicholls  
**Salt to the Sea** or **Fountains of Silence** - R Sepetys  
**Maus** by Art Spiegelman (graphic novel)\*+  
**Milkweed** by Jerry Spinelli  
**The Land** (& sequels) or **Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry** by Mildred Taylor  
**Code Named Verity & Enigma Game; Firebird+** by Elizabeth Wein  
**Cane Warriors** or **Kemosha of the Caribbean** by Alex Wheatle  
**Kent State** by Deborah Wiles^  
**My Dear I Wanted to Tell You** by Louisa Young\*  
**The Book Thief** by Marcus Zusak

#### Humorous books

**Half My Facebook Friends Are Ferrets** by J Buckle  
**The Princess Diaries** by Meg Cabot  
**A Man Called Ove** by Fredrik Backman\*  
**The Private Blog of Joe Cowley** by Ben Davis  
**Boys Don't Knit** or **An English Boy in NY** by T Easton  
**An Abundance of Katherines** by John Green  
**Noah Can't Even; Alex in Wonderland** - SJ Green  
**The Boomerang Effect** by Gordon Jack  
**The Reformed Vampire Support Group** by Jinks  
**Hellbent** or **Henry Tumour** by Anthony McGowan

**Don't Even Think About It** – Sarah Mylnowski  
**Discworld** series by T Pratchett (try **The Last Hero**)\*  
**Good Omens** by Terry Pratchett and Neil Gaiman\*  
**Geekhood** series by Andy Robb  
**The Rosie Project** (& sequel) by Graeme Simsion\*  
**Something I Said** by Ben Bailey Smith  
**The Gifted, The Talented and Me** by W Sutcliffe  
**Dark Lord: The Teenage Years** by Jamie Thomson  
**The Secret Diary of Adrian Mole** – Sue Townsend  
**The Savages** and **American Savage** by M Whyman

#### Relationships

**Ace of Spades** by Faridah Abike-Iyemede  
**Yes, No, Maybe So** by R Albertalli & Aisha Saeed  
**Beautiful Broken Things** or **Fierce Fragile Hearts**  
 Sara Barnard  
**Tender Earth** by Sita Brahmachari  
**We Come Apart** by S Crossan & Brian Conaghan^  
**Alex & Eliza** by Melissa de la Cruz (Hamilton)  
**On Midnight Beach** by Marie-Louise Fitzpatrick  
**Floored: When Seven Lives Collide** (various authors)  
**Fault in Our Stars** or **Looking for Alaska** by J Green  
**Why We Broke Up** by Daniel Handler  
**To All the Boys I've Loved Before** by Jenny Han  
**Slammed** or **Regretting You** by Colleen Hoover  
**Hold Back the Stars** by Katie Khan  
**Falling Fast** (& sequels) by Sophie McKenzie  
**Release** by Patrick Ness  
**One Day** or **Sweet Sorrow** by David Nicholls\*  
**Unboxed; Second Best Friend** by Nan Pratt  
**Heartstopper** graphic novels by Alice Oseman+  
**The Boy in the Black Suit** by Jason Reynolds  
**Attachments & Fangirl** by Rainbow Rowell  
**Written in the Stars** by Aisha Saeed  
**The Art of Racing in the Rain** by Garth Stein\*  
**Shiver** or **The Raven Boys**(&sequels) - M. Stiefvater  
**Our Chemical Hearts** by Krystal Sutherland  
**They Both Die at the End** by Adam Silvera  
**Love is a Revolution** by Renee Watson  
**If You Come Softly** by Jacqueline Woodson  
**Everything, Everything** & **Sun is Also a Star**-Yoon

\* = Books written for adults; may contain mature content  
 + = top picks for reluctant readers or readers who prefer visual/less dense texts. Includes some dyslexia-friendly titles; quick-paced reads of longer books

^ = verse novel