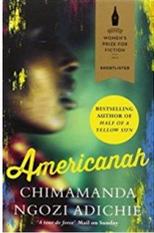


Key Stage 5

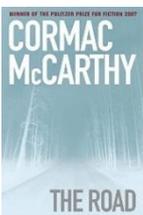
Recommended Reading List – FICTION

Contemporary Fiction

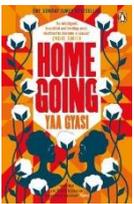


Americanah – Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie - Ifemelu and Obinze are young and in love when they depart military-ruled Nigeria for the West. Ifemelu heads for America, where despite her academic success, she is forced to grapple with what it means to be black

for the first time. Post-9/11 America is closed to Obinze, so he instead plunges into a dangerous, undocumented life in London.



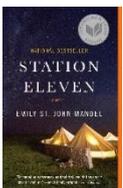
The Road – Cormac McCarthy - A post-apocalyptic tale of a journey of a father and his young son over a period of several months, across a landscape blasted by an unspecified cataclysm that has destroyed most of civilization and life.



Homegoing – Yaa Gyasi - Beginning in Eighteenth century West Africa, chapters alternately follow the descendants of two sisters: Effia, who is married off to a white slave trader, and Esi, who is sold into slavery.



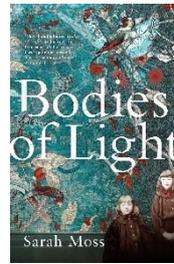
Tin Man – Sarah Winman –Ellis and Michael have been inseparable since boyhood. One day Annie walks into their lives, changing nothing and everything. A beautiful and moving exploration of love and masculinity.



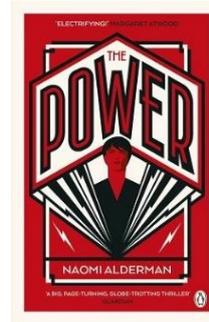
Station Eleven – Emily St. John Mandel – A science-fiction novel that takes place in America after a swine-flu pandemic which kills the majority of the population. Survivors band together in isolated settlements, and a theatre group travel to perform Shakespeare.



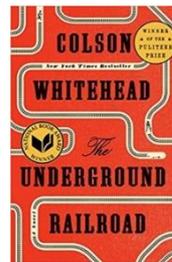
Hold – Michael Donkor – Belinda is summoned from Ghana to Brixton to befriend Amma, a troubled girl who has no desire for her friendship. The secrets they have both been hiding are gradually revealed.



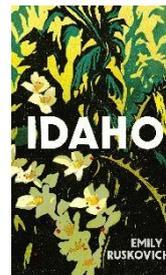
Bodies of Light – Sarah Moss - In Victorian Manchester, Alfred Moberley is a painter, unhappily married to Elizabeth, an Evangelical Christian who devotes her time and energies to helping fallen women and the poor. Their daughters, Alethea and May, grow up under intense pressure to live and work in the vanguard of nineteenth-century feminism. As she nears adulthood, Ally determines to be one of the first female doctors in Britain.



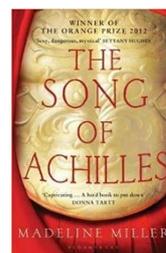
The Power – Naomi Alderman - All over the world women are discovering they have the power. With a flick of the fingers they can inflict terrible pain - even death. Suddenly, every man on the planet finds they've lost control. The Day of the Girls has arrived - but where will it end?



The Underground Railroad – Colson Whitehead - The story of Cora and Caesar, two slaves in the South Eastern United States during the 1800s who make a bid for freedom from their Georgia plantations by following the Underground Railroad - a rail transport system with a series of safe houses and secret routes.

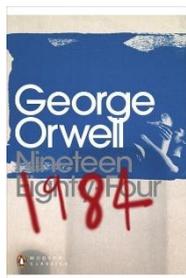


Idaho – Emily Ruskovich – On a hot August day, a family drives to a mountain clearing to collect birch wood. Jenny and Wade, the parents, chop and stack logs alongside their two young daughters. But then something unimaginably shocking happens.



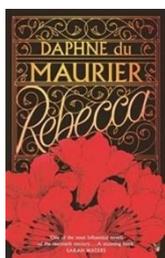
The Song of Achilles – Madeline Miller – A retelling of the Illiad. Patroclus, an awkward young prince, has been exiled to the kingdom of Phthia. Achilles, 'best of all the Greeks', is everything Patroclus is not—strong, beautiful, the child of a goddess. Yet one day, Achilles takes the shamed prince under his wing. Their tentative connection gives way to friendship, and then something deeper.

Classic 19th & 20th Century Fiction



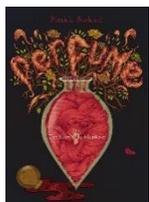
Nineteen Eighty-Four – George Orwell – A dystopian classic that has had an unprecedented influence on literature and popular culture. Hidden away in the Record Department of the Ministry of Truth, Winston Smith rewrites the past to

suit the needs of the Party. Yet he inwardly rebels against the totalitarian world he lives in, which demands absolute obedience and controls him through the all-seeing telescreens and the watchful eye of Big Brother.



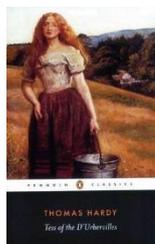
Rebecca – Daphne du Maurier - On a trip to the South of France, the shy heroine of Rebecca falls in love with Maxim de Winter, a handsome widower. After a surprise proposal, they marry. But as they arrive at his home, Manderley, a change comes over him. Friendless in the isolated mansion, the

young bride realises that she barely knows him. In every corner of every room is the presence of his beautiful first wife, Rebecca.



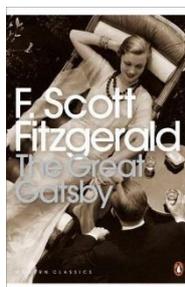
Perfume: The Story of a Murderer - Patrick Süskind - Jean-Baptiste Grenouille, an unloved 18th-century French orphan who is born with an exceptional sense of smell, is able to distinguish a vast range of scents in the

world around him. Grenouille becomes a perfumer but becomes interested in murder when he encounters a young girl with a wondrous scent.



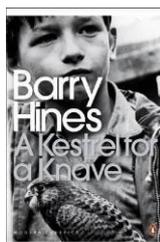
Tess of the d'Urbervilles – Thomas Hardy - Tess Durbeyfield, the daughter of a poor villager, learns that she may be descended from the ancient wealthy family of the d'Urbervilles. In her search for respectability, her fortunes fluctuate wildly and tragically. Through exploring

Tess' deeply problematic relationships with two very different men, Hardy depicts her struggle against the social mores of the hypocritical Victorian patriarchy.



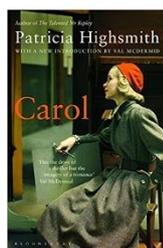
The Great Gatsby – F. Scott Fitzgerald – Set in the 'Roaring Twenties' of the Jazz Age, 'Gatsby' is considered one of the greatest American novels. Through the narration of Nick Carraway, the reader is taken into the superficially glittering world of the mansions which lined the Long Island shore in the 1920s, to

encounter Nick's cousin Daisy, her brash but wealthy husband Tom Buchanan, Jay Gatsby and the mystery that surrounds him.



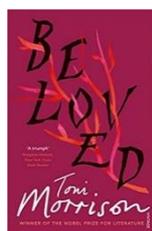
A Kestrel for a Knave – Barry Hines - Life is tough and cheerless for Billy Casper, a troubled teenager growing up in the small Yorkshire mining town of Barnsley. Treated as a failure at school, and unhappy at home, Billy discovers a new passion in life when he finds Kes, a kestrel hawk. Billy identifies with

her silent strength and she inspires in him the trust and love that nothing else can, discovering through her the passion missing from his life. A powerful story of survival in a tough, joyless world.



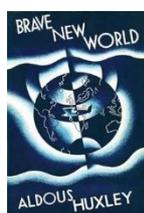
Carol – Patricia Highsmith – In 1950s New York, Therese is just an ordinary sales assistant working in a department store when a beautiful, alluring woman in her thirties walks up to her counter. Therese is an awkward nineteen-year-old with a job she hates and a boyfriend she doesn't love;

Carol is a sophisticated, bored suburban housewife in the throes of a divorce and a custody battle for her only daughter. As Therese falls in love and becomes irresistibly drawn into Carol's world, she soon realizes how much they both stand to lose.



Beloved – Toni Morrison - Terrible, unspeakable things happened to Sethe at Sweet Home, the farm where she lived as a slave for many years until she escaped to Ohio. Her new life is full of hope but eighteen years later she is still not free. Her

new home is not only haunted by the memories of her past but also by the ghost of her baby, who died nameless.



Brave New World – Aldous Huxley - Far in the future, the World Controllers have created the ideal society. Through clever use of genetic engineering, brainwashing and recreational sex and drugs, all its members are happy consumers. Bernard

Marx seems alone harbouring a longing to break free.