

# Year 11 Reading



## **The Time Machine – HG Wells**

*A timeless classic of science fiction and adventure. A short novel that explores man's impact on the world and the pointlessness of war.*

## **Midnight's Children – S Rushdie**

*This is a historical chronicle of modern India centring on the inextricably linked fates of two children who were born within the first hour of independence from Great Britain.*

## **The Kite Runner - Khaled Hosseini**

*A highly anticipated and competitive local kite championship attracts Amir and Hassan, who are keen to win. Set in Afghanistan in 1975, this novel hinges on one event afterwards which will change Hassan's life forever, and one which years later he seeks to put right.*

## **The Last Lecture – Randy Pausch**

*Suffering from terminal cancer, Professor Randy Pausch gave one final lecture. In it, he described, how to dream, how to overcome obstacles and how to live those dreams.*

## **A Short History of Nearly Everything – Bill Bryson**

*A masterful and accessible synthesis of mankind written with zip and flair. Funny and yet thought-provoking, Bill Bryson's book is great for sparking interest in areas such as Physics, History and Geography which school teaching might have dampened.*

## **Dune – Frank Herbert**

*A very readable and gripping science fiction trilogy with memorable characters. It's like Lord of the Rings meets Games of Thrones set on a remote desert planet system.*

## **The Name of the Rose – Umberto Eco**

*A murder mystery set in a 14th-century Italian monastery but, in essence, a questioning of "truth" from theological, philosophical, scholarly, and historical perspectives.*

## **The Colour Purple – Alice Walker**

*This novel documents the traumas and gradual triumph of Celie, an African American teenager raised in rural isolation in Georgia, as she comes to resist the paralyzing self-concept forced on her by others. Celie narrates her life through painfully honest letters to God.*

## **Birdsong – Sebastian Faulks**

*Stephen moves to live with a family in northern France and soon falls in love. But as tensions rise in the build-up to the first world war, so do tensions in his relationship. Although he escapes fighting for his country, he does not realise what awaits him.*

## **Felix Ever After - Kacen Callender**

*With complex themes of transphobia, racism, destructive relationships and self-discovery, this modern coming of age novel is sharply framed and beautifully written, but it's also one that may well become a period benchmark for future generations.*

## **Award Winners and Shortlisted books**

Normal People – Sally Rooney

Girl, Woman, Other – Bernadine Evaristo

The Poet X – Elizabeth Acevedo

The Long Shot - Kennedy Ryan

The Handmaid's Tale – Margaret Atwood

When Mr Dog Bites – Brian Conaghan

Orangeboy – Patrice Lawrence

## **Websites:**

The British Library – [www.bl.uk](http://www.bl.uk)

*Really good, challenging content for English Literature. Search for 'Macbeth' and 'A Christmas Carol' as a starting point.*

BBC Bitesize -

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/examspecs/zxqncwx>

*Lots here to consolidate knowledge of English Language and Literature.*

Sparknotes/Cliffs Notes

*Really useful for chapter/scene reviews, annotations, quick quizzes etc.*