

# Recommended Reading List for English 'A' Levels

This list is by no means exhaustive (although it would take you a while to get through it all!), nor are there any guarantees that you will enjoy all the books included. It is merely a list of suggestions that will give you somewhere to start when faced with a whole library full of possibilities. With any luck, there is something on the list that you will still be re-reading in 20 years time! Don't even get me started on drama and poetry...



## **Author**

**Particularly recommended titles (feel free to extend this to other titles by the same author.)**

Chinua Achebe	<i>Things Fall Apart</i>
Richard Adams	<i>Watership Down, The Plague Dogs</i>
Kingsley Amis	<i>Lucky Jim</i>
Martin Amis	<i>Time's Arrow, London Fields</i>
Margaret Atwood	<i>The Handmaid's Tale, Cat's Eye, Alias Grace</i>
Jane Austen	Any titles by this author.
Iain Banks	<i>Complicity, The Wasp Factory</i>
Louis de Bernieres	Any titles by this author.
John Braine	<i>Room at the Top</i>
Charlotte Bronte	<i>Jane Eyre</i>
Emily Bronte	<i>Wuthering Heights</i>
Anita Brookner	<i>Hotel du Lac</i>
Anthony Burgess	<i>A Clockwork Orange</i>
Angela Carter	<i>The Passion of New Eve</i>
Wilkie Collins	Any titles by this author
Joseph Conrad	<i>The Heart of Darkness, The Secret Agent</i>
Charles Dickens	Any titles by this author.
Margaret Drabble	<i>The Millstone, The Garrick Year</i>
George Eliot	Any titles by this author.
William Faulkner	<i>As I Lay Dying</i>
Sebastian Faulks	<i>Birdsong</i>
F. Scott Fitzgerald	<i>The Great Gatsby</i>
E.M. Forster	Any titles by this author.
John Fowles	<i>The French Lieutenant's Woman, The Collector</i>
Mrs Gaskell	<i>North and South</i>
William Golding	<i>The Lord of the Flies</i>
Robert Graves	<i>I Claudius, Claudius the God, Goodbye To All That</i>
Graham Greene	Any titles by this author.
Thomas Hardy	Any titles by this author.
L.P. Hartley	<i>The Go-Between</i>
Nathaniel Hawthorne	<i>The Scarlet Letter</i>
Joseph Heller	<i>Catch-22</i>
Ernest Hemingway	<i>For Whom the Bell Tolls, Farewell to Arms</i>

Peter Barry	<i>Beginning Theory</i> (non-fiction)
Susan Hill	<i>I'm The King of the Castle</i>
Aldous Huxley	<i>Brave New World</i>
Kazuo Ishiguro	<i>The Remains of the Day</i>
Henry James	Any titles by this author.
James Joyce	<i>Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man</i>
Ken Kesey	<i>One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest</i>
Milan Kundera	<i>The Joke</i>
D.H. Lawrence	Any titles by this author.
T.E. Lawrence	<i>Seven Pillars of Wisdom</i>
John Le Carre	Any titles by this author.
Harper Lee	<i>To Kill a Mockingbird</i>
Doris Lessing	<i>The Summer Before Death</i>
Iain McEwan	<i>The Child in Time, Enduring Love</i>
Toni Morrison	<i>Beloved, Song of Soloman, The Bluest Eye, Sula</i>
Alice Munro	<i>The Runaway</i>
Iris Murdoch	<i>The Sandcastle</i>
George Orwell	<i>Animal Farm, 1984</i>
Boris Pasternak	<i>Dr Zhivago</i>
Alan Paton	<i>Cry, The Beloved Country</i>
Mervyn Peake	<i>The Ghormenghast Trilogy</i>
Sylvia Plath	<i>The Bell Jar</i>
Mary Renault	Any titles by this author.
Luke Rhinehart	<i>The Dice Man</i>
Jean Rhys	<i>Wide Sargasso Sea</i>
Salman Rushdie	<i>Midnight's Children, Haroun and the Sea of Stories</i>
J.D. Salinger	<i>Catcher in the Rye</i>
Paul Scott	<i>The Jewel in the Crown</i>
Alan Sillitoe	<i>Saturday Night and Sunday Morning, The Loneliness of the Long Distance Runner</i>
John Steinbeck	Any titles by this author.
Bram Stoker	<i>Dracula</i>
Patrick Suskind	<i>Perfume</i>
William Makepeace Thackeray	<i>Vanity Fair</i>
Leo Tolstoy	<i>Anna Karinina</i>
Anthony Trollope	Any titles by this author.
Franz Kafka	<i>The Trial</i>
Alice Walker	<i>The Color Purple</i>
Evelyn Waugh	Any titles by this author.
Oscar Wilde	<i>The Picture of Dorian Gray</i>
Jeanette Winterson	<i>Oranges Are Not the Only Fruit</i>
Virginia Woolf	<i>Mrs Dalloway</i>

