



Leigh Technology Academy

**AS & A2 Level
English
Literature
Student Guide
2011 - 12**

Name
Tutor Group

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Year 12 AS English Literature 2740 Specification A

Students will study AQA English Literature Specification A. This consists of 2 units in Year 12 (and a further 2 in Year 13).

Year 12 AS 'Texts in context'

Chosen area of study: The Struggle for Identity in Modern Literature

This will cover all three genres of poetry, prose (fiction and non-fiction) and drama.

There are two units of study at AS:

Unit 1 Texts in context. Examination 2 hours

Set poetry text:

Maya Angelou "And Still I Rise" OR Carol Ann Duffy "The World's Wife" OR Owen Sheers "Skirrid Hill".

Section 1 will focus on a prose extract from the period. This could be a diary entry, speech or any non-fiction.

Section 2 will be a choice of two essay questions on the chosen poetry text. You will have a clean copy of the poetry text to work from.

Unit 2 Creative study coursework (2 essays - approx 2500 words in total)

You will study 1 novel and 1 play.

Set texts:

All My Sons Arthur Miller

We Need to Talk About Kevin Lionel Shriver

OR

A Streetcar Named Desire Tennessee Williams

Disgrace J. M. Coetzee OR *Notes on a Scandal* Zoe Heller

Essay 1 A re-creative essay linked to the prose text. You will write an extra chapter, letter or diary entry for the text you have been studying. You will be marked on how well you recreate the character's voice as well as the style and syntax of the author.

Alternatively you may write a more traditional style essay discussing a theme of your choice on one of the prose texts.

Essay 2 A comparative essay comparing the drama text to the prose text. The majority of the marks available for this task are on the drama text and your ability to analyse the similarities and differences between the texts. You will also need to consider other interpretations than your own.

Essential wider reading for the AS English Literature course:

You will also be reading extracts from memoirs, diaries, letters and biographies from the period.

Prose:

The Color Purple Alice Walker

Small Island Andrea Levy

Notes on a Scandal Zoe Heller

Drama

Translations Brian Friel

The History Boys Alan Bennett

The Homecoming Harold Pinter

Year 12 Programme of study

Module 1	Unit 2: Study of drama and prose texts. Planning of Essay 2 (comparative). Planning and discussion of Essay 1 (traditional or re-creative). Study of wider reading.
Module 2	Unit 2: Essay 2 due 31/10/11. Essay 1 due 12/12/11. Unit 1: Study of poetry. Study of wider reading.
Module 3	Unit 2: Completion of coursework folder 31/01/12 Unit 1: Preparation of wider reading extracts. Preparation of poetry. Mock exam.
Module 4	Unit 1: Exam practice - non-fiction texts, poetry and wider reading.
Module 5	Unit 1: Exam practice - non-fiction texts, poetry and wider reading.
Module 6	Final AS exam. Preparation for A2.

REMINDER

AS: The exam (Unit 1) 2 hours

The paper will consist of two sections and candidates will answer **one question** in each section. Candidates will be given a clean copy of the set poetry text in the examination room.

Section A Contextual Linking 45 marks

There will be **one** compulsory question in this section. A short extract related to the area of study (from a work of criticism, diary, letter, biography, cultural commentary, for example) will be printed. Candidates will then be invited to analyse the text closely, and link all their wider reading to the focus of the given passage.

Section B Poetry 45 marks

There will be a choice of two questions on each set poetry text. Candidates answer **one** question. One of the two questions will foreground one particular poem and its relation to the whole text, the other will provide a view about the poems for candidates to discuss.

Assessment Objectives for AS

A01 - Articulate creative, informed and relevant responses to literary texts, using appropriate terminology and concepts, and coherent, accurate written expression

A02 - Demonstrate detailed critical understanding in analysing the ways in which structure, form and language shape meanings in literary texts

A03 - Explore connections and comparisons between different literary texts, informed by interpretations of other readers

A04 - Demonstrate understanding of the significance and influence of the contexts in which literary texts are written and received.

IMPORTANT: THE EXAM IS WORTH 60% OF YOUR FINAL AS GRADE, AND THE 2 COURSEWORK ESSAYS ARE WORTH 40%.

Year 13 A2 English Literature 2741 Specification A

THEME: LOVE THROUGH THE AGES

Set texts:

A Shakespeare play
Two other texts

Wider reading & exam prep:

LTA Love Poetry Anthology
An anthology of drama about love
An anthology of prose about love

PLEASE NOTE DETAILS OF THE TEXTS TO BE STUDIED WILL BE GIVEN BY YOUR TEACHER

The Course

There are 2 units: Units 3 & 4

Unit 3: Reading for meaning exam – the synoptic paper.

This final A2 examination synthesises the skills and learning of the whole course. In the examination, candidates will study closely unprepared texts from all genres, chosen across time and linked by theme. They will compare the extracts in terms of subject matter and style, referring to their wider reading to inform their judgements about:

- the ways different writers at different times approach the chosen theme
- the ways different readers interpret texts.

Content

You will read at least **three texts** (one drama, one prose, one poetry) on the topic **Love Through the Ages**. Your teacher will give you more information about these texts before you start the A2 course. You will be expected to do a lot of wider reading as well, and refer to all the books you have read in your exam essays. The topic for this unit is 'Love' and will *include* romantic love, but will not be restricted to that single definition. Other definitions include: the darker side of love, unrequited love, parental love, forbidden love, vengeful love etc.

Unit 4: Extended coursework essay

This unit is an extended coursework essay (3,000 words) comparing a Shakespeare play and two other texts (prose and/or drama and/or poetry), on the theme of Love through the Ages or a similar theme. The choice of the Shakespeare text will be chosen by your teacher; the other 2 texts will be chosen by the student, with guidance from their teacher. You should read these 2 titles before you start the A2 course.

A2: The exam

The examination will take the form of a 2 1/2 hour written examination. The paper will contain four unseen extracts. The extracts will cover the three genres of poetry, drama and prose. There will be *two compulsory questions* to answer. Each question will be marked out of 40.

Question 1 will require candidates to compare two extracts of the *same genre*. The genre will change with each examination series. This question will require the close reading of the texts as well as reference to wider reading on the theme of love within the same genre as the extracts.

Question 2 will invite candidates to compare two extracts (of the remaining two genres). Candidates will use their wider reading on the theme of love through literature to inform their interpretations.

IMPORTANT:

**UNIT 3 (EXAM) IS WORTH 60% OF YOUR A2 GRADE ,
& THE COURSEWORK IS WORTH 40% OF A2.**

Year 13 Programme of study

Module 1	Unit 4 coursework essay & introduction to Unit 3
Module 2	Unit 4 coursework essay. Study of Unit 3 texts.
Module 3	Completion of the Unit 4 coursework essay & study of Unit 3 wider reading texts. <u>CW deadline: January 31st 2013</u>
Module 4	Unit 3 study of texts and exam preparation
Module 5	Unit 3 study of texts and exam preparation
Module 6	Final exams

Assessment Objectives

AO1 - Articulate creative, informed and relevant responses to literary texts, using appropriate terminology and concepts, and coherent, accurate written expression

AO2 - Demonstrate detailed critical understanding in analysing the ways in which structure, form and language shape meanings in literary texts

AO3 - Explore connections and comparisons between different literary texts, informed by interpretations of other readers

AO4 - Demonstrate understanding of the significance and influence of the contexts in which literary texts are written and received.

YOUR FINAL GRADE A LEVEL GRADE IS CALCULATED AS FOLLOWS:

Unit 1 (AS) – 30%

Unit 2 (AS) – 20%

Unit 3 (A2) – 30%

Unit 4 (A2) – 20%

NOTES:

A General Guide to Grade Descriptions for A Level English Literature

The following indicate the level of attainment characteristic at A Level:

Grade A	Candidates demonstrate a comprehensive, detailed knowledge and understanding of a wide range of literary texts from the past to the present, and of the critical concepts associated with literary study. Their discussion of texts shows depth, independence and insight in response to the tasks set, and they analyse and evaluate the ways in which form, structure and language shape meanings. Where appropriate, candidates identify the influence on texts of the cultural and historical contexts in which they were written. They are able to make significant and productive comparisons between texts which enhance and extend their readings, and are sensitive to the scope of their own and others' interpretations of texts. Their material is well organised and presented, making effective use of textual evidence in support of arguments. Written expression is fluent, well structured, accurate and precise, and shows confident grasp of appropriate terminology.
Grade C	Candidates demonstrate secure knowledge and understanding of a range of texts from different periods and of different types, and make use of some of the critical concepts relevant to the study of literature. Candidates comment perceptively on texts in response to the tasks set. They respond to some details in the ways authors use form, structure and language to create meaning, as well as showing some awareness of contextual influences. They relate their own judgements to those of others as appropriate in developing interpretations of texts. They are able to pursue comparisons between texts in order to show how texts can illuminate one another. Their material is clearly organised and presented, and incorporates examples to help sustain a line of argument. Written expression is accurate and clear and shows a sound use of appropriate terminology.
Grade E	Candidates demonstrate some knowledge and understanding of a range of different texts and comment on them in response to the tasks set, sometimes supporting their views by reference to the links between meanings and author's uses of form, structure and language. Candidates note the possible effects of context and may show some understanding of how other readers interpret the texts. They can draw out broad lines of similarities and differences between texts, not necessarily within a wider critical framework. Their written work is generally accurate in conveying statements and opinions, sometimes supported by reference to the texts, and shows the use of some terminology appropriate to the subject.

Guide to abbreviations used in essay marking

<i>in margin</i>	<i>meaning</i>
Sp	Spelling mistake (word underlined/circled)
NS or /	New Sentence: / shows sentence start.
NP or //	New paragraph: // shows paragraph start.
△	This part is confusing.
^	Something left out, or where to add more writing.
NSE	Non-Standard English: e.g. <i>my mate</i> used instead of <i>my friend</i> .
	Other mistakes may be underlined or circled.

Studying A level English Literature

1. You should read texts other than those which are being examined. A minimum of one a month will help you gain a perspective on the texts you study in class. (Make use of the A Level reading list, as well as reading as many from the prescribed wider reading.)
2. You need to read and finish the texts you are studying in class as quickly as you can. Knowing how the text ends helps in your discussion. Remember, you should no longer be an innocent reader.
3. You need to re-read the text even if you have read them several times before. They need to be clear and present in your mind so that you can take the fullest part in discussion. Remember that you cannot cover every aspect of a text in lessons. You will just explore some of the major areas: the rest is up to you.
4. As you go through a text, you should make notes in the margin whether or not you agree with an interpretation. You can use the ideas you disagree with to construct an alternative argument in your essays. In the future you might even change your mind. You must be able to debate alternative viewpoints.
5. As you go through a text making notes, you need to transfer these notes briefly onto A4, chapter-by-chapter or scene by scene etc.
6. You will need one folder for school to transport your notes, jottings and current essays. You need another folder for home, which is just for English and which you subdivide for the different texts you study.
7. Be sure to keep all your past essays - even disasters. Remember: *"From the ashes of disaster grow the roses of success"*
7. You need to be familiar with literary terms (found later in this guide), which will help you to understand the text and explain your ideas.
8. Essays need to be planned and written over the whole period they are set, not rushed. If you have a problem with an essay, see your teacher. Do not struggle alone. If you need an extension - see the member of staff in time - not on the day the essay is due.
9. Incorrect spelling loses marks. Endeavour to improve your spelling over the two years. It will not improve itself. Correct punctuation and grammar is vital.
10. Work at developing your essay style. Take the opportunity to read others' essays.
11. Take great care with York Notes etc. The Examining Board wants to hear your ideas - your ***informed personal opinion*** - not regurgitated, half-digested ideas. Make ideas your own by fully understanding them and their implications. You will manage this through discussion - in and out of the lesson.

Be sure to explain your ideas fully in essays. Critical views and quotations are welcome but they must be acknowledged and analysed in your essay .Do you agree with what they say?

A Guide to Essay Writing at A Level

You will be writing serious essays now. At A level there are two kinds: coursework essays, and the essays you write under exam conditions.

Coursework essays

This is intended for essays written during the course, but also prepares you for the exam. To do well, you always need a thorough knowledge of the text. You are advised to use a computer: it makes it easier to re-structure or change your essay.

1 First steps: the essay question or task – how to make a helpful essay title.

Choose a particular theme that occurs in your text or texts. See how many things you can find to say about the theme. Are there a lot? For comparative essays make notes on the interesting differences and similarities concerning the theme. Can you find lots to say about the writers' techniques?

An example of a clear and helpful essay title: *"Compare the ways Miller and Shriver present parent and child relationships in "All My Sons" and "We Need to Talk About Kevin". How far do you agree with the view that Miller's relationships are more distant than Shriver's."*

2 Do lots of research and make lots of notes.

Do some detailed brainstorming (mind maps, lists, tables, however you plan best) of your ideas.

3 Plan your conclusion

This is the point to which all the rest of the essay is leading. It's your considered response to the question, and you must save it up. If you open with this, you've destroyed any reason the reader had to read your essay. You should build up to your conclusion.

4 Pick an opening

This should be something relevant and specific. You are trying to show two things: that you have understood the question and that you are relating it to the text.

5 Planning the rest

Take the material from **2** and chart a path from the opening to the conclusion. It might be useful to write in pencil or different colour ink for this. Bracket or number ideas that go together. Decide which are the main points and which are subsidiary. You should find that the natural divisions between the paragraphs become clear. Pick which quotations to use.

6 Start writing. Check and re-check what you have written. Make sure each sentence is a gem.

Remember:

- Turn opinion into criticism. One opinion is worth as much as another; you must persuade the reader that your views are worth taking seriously. To do this you need supporting evidence. This will often be quotation.
- A quotation by itself is not usually enough to support a point: analysis is needed. This is not so much a matter of explaining what the words mean as explaining how they support the point you are making. (Remember: Point – Evidence – Explain).

Musts to avoid in essay writing:

"Obviously"	If it's obvious it doesn't need saying. What "Obviously" usually means is: "I'm not quite sure about this point but if I state it firmly enough perhaps the reader will be bullied into believing me."
"Supposed"	As in " <i>Othello is supposed to be a great warrior</i> ". Who supposes this?
Unspecific opening:	" <i>There are many issues involved in this question</i> ". " <i>The answer to this question cannot be properly considered until we have looked at what we mean by 'credible'</i> ". These will send the reader to sleep - however true they may be as observations. The points should emerge as the essay moves from its specific starting points.
Narration:	Don't re-tell the story; the reader already knows it.
Translating:	Do not follow a quotation with a paraphrase or "translation". The reader can be assumed to know what the words mean.
Irrelevance.	However fascinating or true your information may be, there is no point at all in writing it down unless it is relevant. This is particularly true of biographical details.

Finally: **Trust to your own judgement.**

There are no "right answers" in English, though some may be so peculiar as to be wrong. The words which all A Level examiners have at the front of their minds are **INFORMED PERSONAL RESPONSE**. The above notes should help you to clarify your thoughts and to express them clearly and persuasively.

Effective coursework essay writing - a checklist

Prior to writing the final draft of any coursework essay, check through using the following:

1	Does the introduction refer specifically to the question?	
2	Is it clear what each paragraph is going to be about from the opening sentence?	
3	Does everything in a paragraph relate to the topic sentence of that paragraph?	
4	Have I backed up each point by reference to the text?	
5	Are quotations brief and clearly related to the point they illustrate?	
6	Is there a clear structure and sense of development between the paragraphs?	
7	Is each paragraph developed to full paragraph length?	
8	Does my conclusion round off the essay without merely summarising it?	
9	Check spelling and punctuation and ensure that the style is appropriate to the task.	

Technical Terms in English Literature

You do not have to know all of these - but some kind of familiarity will help you to look closely at poetry and prose by knowing what devices authors consciously use and for what effect. A facility for using technical terms alone will not impress examiners - being sensitive to shades of meaning and multiple meanings does.

Allegory: Use of words which gives them double significance: a superficial one and an underlying, more important one. e.g. *Pilgrim's Progress, Animal Farm.*

Assonance: Repetition of vowel sounds e.g.
And in the stream the long-leaved flowers weep.

Ballad: Originally a dance, but it has come to mean a narrative poem written in four line stanzas, rhyming abcb or abab, sometimes with a refrain.

Blank verse: Unrhymed iambic pentameters.

Couplet: Two consecutive lines of verse which rhyme and usually have the same metre e.g. *Had we but World enough and time
This coyness, lady, were no crime.*

Dirge: public song of lament (see also Elegy)

Dissonance: Harsh sounding words as in Hopkins:
No worst, there is none. Pitched past pitch of grief

Elegy: (or monody or threnody) A personal poem in honour of the dead. (See Dirge)

Ellipsis: Words necessary to the completion of a sentence from a grammatical point of view sometimes omitted by authors. e.g.
*Jack (**went up the hill**) and Jill went up the hill*
Sometimes the missing words are represented by three dots.

Enjambment: or run on - where the sense continues from one line to another.

Epic: celebration of some great theme of human life, legend or tradition. It is necessarily long, and its diction and form are in a "high" style. e.g. Milton's *Paradise Lost*. It is sometimes called a Heroic poem.

Genre: Different forms of literature e.g. novel, poem, play

Imagery: Comparison between two or more usually unrelated objects or ideas e.g.
"Sleep that knits up the ravelled sleeve of care."

Lyric: originally a song sung to a lyre (musical instrument), has come to mean short poem expressing feelings and ideas.

Malapropism: where words are confused e.g. Bottom in MSND "*comparisons are odorous.*"

Technical Terms in English Literature - continued

Parody: deliberate comic imitation of a series original. Lampoon = any published attack which is savage and full of hatred. Caricature: imitation which deliberately distorts features of the original. Travesty: unintentional parody.

Pastoral: a poetic tradition which poets have used in many ages; it deals with the countryside, especially the life of shepherds, usually from an unrealistic point of view: the weather is always fine, and the shepherds do no work other than composing verses and songs. Developed from Greece and Rome. In the sixteenth century came to be sentimental and lavish, removed from the real world, so took on a fairy-like Arcadian quality, idyllic, beautiful but ideal. The faithful pipe-Playing shepherd is the hero and Chlorinda, lovely and limp, is the heroine. e.g. Marlowe's *The Passionate Shepherd to his Love*. They are sometimes called bucolics. See also ECLOGUE

Pathetic fallacy: phrase to describe the idea that inanimate objects have feelings and are able to sympathise with human situations e.g. Wilfred Owen's:

*"Where even the little brambles would not yield,
But clutched and clung to them like sorrowing hands."*

Poetic diction: The type of language used by poets to create effects. To the Augustans it meant "words refined from the grossness of domestic use"; to Wordsworth it meant "the real language of men in a state of vivid sensation."

Prosody: There are four major "feet" in English Poetry:

Iambus	X /	(tee-tum)
Trochee	/ X	(tum-tee)
Anapaest	X X /	(tee-tee-tum)
Dactyl	/ X X	(tum-tee-tee)

Sonnet: a short poem with fourteen lines, usually ten-syllable rhyming lines, divided into two, three, or four sections.

It was introduced into England in 16th century and comes from the 13th century Italian poet Petrarch (1304-1374). A Petrarchan sonnet is a single stanza divided into an octave and sestet with the rhyme scheme abbaabba and cdecde (or cdecde). A Shakespearian sonnet rhyme scheme is abab cdcd efef gg.

Symbol: simple image or comparison which sums up a much larger sphere of activity or interest e.g. cross for Christianity.

Wit: Facility with words. In the 17th century a comparison which "compels interest by its far-fetched or outrageous quality". In the 18th century "thoughts and words elegantly adapted to the subject." Wilde's work contains some good examples.

NOTES:

Some classic novels to read
(both modern and pre-1914)

Reading is still the most effective way of improving one's vocabulary, punctuation, style of writing – in short, one's written expression.

Ackroyd P	First Light - Chatterton, The Great Fire of London
Adams R	Watership Down
Angelou Maya	I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings
Atwood M	The Handmaid's Tale, Oryx and Crake
Austen	Pride and Prejudice, Sense and Sensibility, Persuasion, Emma
Baldwin J	Another Country, Tell me How Long the Train's Been Gone
Barnes Julian	Metroland
Bernieres de, L	Captain Corelli's Mandolin
Borges Jorge Luis	Extraordinary Tales
Brink A	A Dry White Season
Bronte C	Jane Eyre
Bronte E	Wuthering Heights
Camus	The Trial, The Plague, The Outsider
Carey P	The True History of the Kelly Gang, Oscar and Lucinda,
Carter A	Wise Children, Nights at the Circus
Chekov	The Princess and other stories
Chopin K	The Awakening
Coetzee J	Disgrace, Waiting for the Barbarians
Collins, Wilkie	The Moonstone, The Woman in White
Conrad J	The Heart of Darkness
Clarke Lindsay	The Chemical Wedding The
Dahl R	Tales of the Unexpected
Defoe	Moll Flanders, Robinson Crusoe
Desai, Anita	The Village by the Sea
Dickens	Oliver Twist, Hard Times, Little Dorrit, Dombey and Son
"	David Copperfield, A Christmas Carol, Great Expectations
Dos Passos	U.S.A.
Dostoyevsky	Crime and Punishment, Uncle's Dream and other stories
Eco U	Foucault's Pendulum
Eliot G	Silas Marner, Middlemarch, Daniel Deronda
Farrell J G	The Siege of Krishnapur
Faulkner W	The Sound and the Fury, Sanctuary
Fielding	Joseph Andrews
FitzGerald S	The Great Gatsby, Tycoon
Forster	Howard's End, Room with a View, Where Angels Fear to Tread
Frayn M	Spies
Golding	Lord of the Flies, Pincher Martin, The Spire, Rites of Passage,
Graves R	Goodbye to All That
Greene G	The Power and the Glory, Brighton Rock, A Burnt out Case
Hardy	Far from the Madding Crowd, The Mayor of Casterbridge
Hardy	Tess of the Durbevelles, Jude the Obscure
Hartley LP	The Go-Between
Hawthorne N	The Scarlet Letter
Heller Z	Notes on a Scandal

Hemingway	The Old Man and the Sea, To have and To Have Not
Hesse	Steppenwolf
Hill S	Strange Meeting, The Woman in Black
Huxley A	Eyeless in Gaza, Point Counter Point, Brave New World
Ishiguro K	The Remains of the Day
Joyce, James	The Turn of the Screw, Portrait of a Lady Dubliners, Portrait of the Artist
Kafka	Metamorphosis
Lawrence D H	Women In Love, Sons and Lovers, The Rainbow,
Lee L	Cider with Rosie
Lehmann R	Invitation to the Waltz
Lessing D	The Grass is Singing
Mansfield K	Collected Stories
Miller A	The Crucible, All My Sons
Morrison T	Beloved
Murdoch	The Bell, The Red and the Green, A Severed Head
Orwell	1984, Animal Farm, Down and Out in Paris and London
Pagnol M	Manon of the Springs, Jean de Florette
Poe	Tales of Mystery and Imagination
Powell A	A Dance to the Music of Time
Peake M	Gormenghast, Titus Groan
Proulx A	Brokeback Mountain, The Shipping News
Rushdie S	The Satanic Verses
Sackville West V	The Edwardians, No Signposts in the Sea, All Passion Spent
Salinger	Catcher in the Rye
Satre	Roads to Freedom Trilogy
Shelley M	Frankenstein
Shriver L	We Need To Talk About Kevin
Solzhenitsyn	A Day in the life of Ivan Denizovitch, Cancer Ward, Third Circle
Soyinka W	You Must Set Forth at Dawn
Steinbeck	The Grapes of Wrath, Of Mice and Men
Stevenson R L	Treasure Island
Swift J	Gulliver's Travels
Thackeray	Vanity Fair
Tolkien	The Hobbit, Lord of the Rings
Tolstoy	War and Peace
Trollope A	The Last Chronicle of Barset
Twain M	The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn
Walker A	The Color Purple
Waters, S	Fingersmith
Waugh E	Vile Bodies, A Hand Full of Dust, Decline and Fall
Wells HG	War of the Worlds, Ann Veronica, Kipps,
West, Nathaniel	The Day of the Locust
Wilde O	The Happy Prince & other stories, The Importance of Being Earnest
Winterson J	Oranges are Not the Only Fruit, Sexing the Cherry,
Wolfe T	Bonfire of the Vanities
Woolf V	To The Lighthouse, Jacob's Room, Orlando

And some twenty-first century classic novels to try

Booker – winners and shortlists

2011 Long list

Julian Barnes *The Sense of an Ending*
 Sebastian Barry *On Canaan's Side*
 Carol Birch *Jamrach's Menagerie*
 Patrick deWitt *The Sisters Brothers*
 Esi Edugyan *Half Blood Blues*
 Yvvette Edwards *A Cupboard Full of Coats*
 Alan Hollinghurst *The Stranger's Child*
 Stephen Kelman *Pigeon English*
 Patrick McGuinness *The Last Hundred Days*
 A D Miller *Snowdrops*
 Alison Pick *Far to Go*
 Jane Rogers *The Testament of Jessie Lamb*
 D J Taylor *Derby Day*

2010

Howard Jacobson *The Finkler Question*
 Peter Carey *Parrot and Olivier in America*
 Andrea Levy *The Long Song*

2009

Hilary Mantel *Wolf Hall*
 A S Byatt *The Children's Book*
 J M Coetzee *Summertime*

2008

Aravind Adiga *The White Tiger*
 Sebastian Barry *The Secret Scripture*
 Tom Rob Smith *Child 44*

2007

Anne Enright *The Gathering*. (winner Booker)
 Nicola Barker *Darkmans*
 Mohsin Hamid *The Reluctant Fundamentalist*
 Lloyd Jones *Mister Pip*
 Ian McEwan *On Chesil Beach*
 Indra Sinha *Animal's People*

2006

Kiran Desai *The Inheritance of Loss* (winner Booker)
 Kate Grenville *The Secret River*
 M J Hyland *Carry Me Down*
 Hisham Matar *In the Country of Men*
 Edward St Aubyn *Mother's Milk*
 Sarah Waters *The Night Watch*

2005

John Banville *The Sea* (winner Booker)
 Julian Barnes *Arthur and George*
 Sebastian Barry *A Long, Long Way*
 Kazuo Ishiguro *Never Let Me Go*
 Ali Smith *The Accidental*
 Zadie Smith *On Beauty*

2004

Alan Hollinghurst *The Line of Beauty* (winner Booker; short-list Whitbread)
 David Mitchell *Cloud Atlas* (shortlist AC Clarke SF Award)

2003

DBC Pierre *Vernon God Little* (winner Booker; winner Whitbread)
 Monica Ali *Brick Lane*
 J M Coetzee *Disgrace*
 Zoe Heller *Notes on a Scandal*
 Margaret Atwood *Oryx and Crake* (shortlist Orange)

2002

Yann Martel *Life of Pi* (winner)
 Sarah Waters *Fingersmith* (shortlist Orange)

Whitbread– winners and shortlists

(Unfortunately, this prize stopped in 2006)

2005

Nick Hornby *A Long Way Down*
 Salman Rushdie *Shalimar The Clown*
 Ali Smith *The Accidental*
 Christopher Wilson *The Ballad of Lee Cotton*

2004**Best Novel**

Andrea Levy *Small Island* (winner Whitbread; winner Orange)
 Alan Hollinghurst *The Line of Beauty* (winner Booker Prize 2004)
 Louis de Bernieres *Birds Without Wings*
 Kate Atkinson *Case Histories*

2003

Mark Haddon *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* (winner)
 Rachel Cusk *The Lucky Ones*
 Sheens MacKay *Heligoland* (shortlist Orange)
 Barbara Trapido *Frankie and Stankie*

2002

Michael Frayn *Spies* (winner)
 Justin Cartwright *White Lightning*
 Tim Lott *Rumours of a Hurricane*
 William Trevor *The Story of Lucy Gault* (short list Booker)

Orange Book Awards and shortlists**2009**

Marilynne Robinson *Home* (winner)
 Steve Toltz *A Fraction of the Whole*
 Ellen Feldman *Scottsboro*
 Samantha Harvey *The Wilderness*
 Samantha Hunt *The Invention of Everything Else*
 Deirdre Madden *Molly Fox's Birthday*
 Kamila Shamsie *Burnt Shadows*

2008

Rose Tremain *The Road Home* (winner)
 Nancy Huston *Fault Lines*
 Sadie Jones *The Outcast*
 Charlotte Mendelson *When We Were Bad*
 Heather O'Neill *Lullabies for Little Criminals*
 Patricia Wood *Lottery*

2007

Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie *Half of a Yellow Sun* (winner)
 Rachel Cusk *Arlington Park*
 Kiran Desai *The Inheritance of Loss*
 Xiaolu Guo *A Concise Chinese-English Dictionary for Lovers*
 Anne Tyler *Digging to America*

2006

Zadie Smith *On Beauty* (winner)
 Hilary Mantel *Beyond Black*
 Ali Smith *The Accidental*
 Sarah Waters *The Night Watch*

2005

Lionel Shriver *We Need to Talk About Kevin* (winner)
 Maile Meloy *Liars and Saints*
 Marina Lewycka *A Short History of Tractors in Ukrainian*
 Sheri Holman *The Mammoth Cheese*

Jane Gardam *Old Filth*
 Joolz Denby *Billie Morgan*

2004

Andrea Levy *Small Island* (winner Whitbread; winner Orange)
 Margaret Atwood *Oryx and Crake* (shortlist Booker)
 Shirley Hazzard *The Great Fire*
 Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie *Purple Hibiscus*
 Gillian Slovo *Ice Road*
 Rose Tremain *The Colour*

AC Clarke SF Award – winners and shortlists

2009

Ian R. MacLeod *Song of Time*
 Paul McAuley *The Quiet War*
 Alastair Reynolds *House of Suns*
 Neal Stephenson *Anathem*
 Sheri S. Tepper *The Margarets*
 Mark Wernham *Martin Martin's on the Other Side*

2008

Matthew de Abaitua, *The Red Men* (winner)
 Stephen Baxter, *The H-Bomb Girl*
 Sarah Hall *The Carhullan Army*
 Steven Hall, *The Raw Shark Texts*
 Ken MacLeod *The Execution Channel*

2007

M. John Harrison *Nova Swing* (winner)
 Jon Courtenay Grimwood *End of the World Blues*
 Lydia Millet *Oh Pure and Radiant Heart*
 Jan Morris *Hav*

Adam Roberts *Gradisil*
 Brian Stableford *Streaking*

2006

Geoff Ryman *Air* (winner)
 Kazuo Ishiguro *Never Let Me Go*
 Ken MacLeod *Learning The World*
 Alastair Reynolds *Pushing Ice*
 Charles Stross *Accelerando*

Liz Williams *Banner Of Souls*

2005

China Mieville *Iron Council* (winner)

Ian McDonald *River of Gods*

David Mitchell *Cloud Atlas* (shortlist Booker)

Audrey Niffenegger *The Time Traveller's Wife*

Neal Stephenson *The System of the World*

And finally some writers worth discovering:

(How many have you heard of?)

Chinua Achebe, Richard Adams, Louisa Alcott, Kingsley Amis, Maya Angelou, Isaac Asimov, Margaret Atwood, WH Auden, Jane Austen, Alan Ayckbourn, Beryl Bainbridge, James Baldwin, Iain Banks, Julian Barnes, HE Bates, Samuel Beckett, Saul Bellow, Alan Bennett, Arnold Bennett, Louis de Bernieres, Steven Berkoff, Alan Bleasdale, Ray Bradbury, Andre Brink, Charlotte Bronte, Robert Browning, Anthony Burgess, Geoffrey Chaucer, Peter Carey, Joyce Cary, Angela Carter, Raymond Chandler, GK Chesterton, Kate Chopin, AC Clarke, JM Coetzee, Wilkie Collins, Ivy Compton-Burnett, William Congreve, Joseph Conrad, Stephen Crane, Roald Dahl, Thomas De Quincey, Daniel Defoe, Len Deighton, Anita Desai, Charles Dickens, John Dos Passos, Sir A Conan-Doyle, Daphne Du Maurier, Michael Moorcock, Gerald Durrell, Lawrence Durrell, George Eliot, TS Eliot, Ralph Ellison, WC Faulkner, Henry Fielding, F Scott Fitzgerald, Ian Fleming, EM Forster, John Fowles, Michael Frayn, Marilyn French, Elizabeth Gaskell, William Golding, Nadine Gordimer, Robert Graves, Graham Greene, Thomas Hardy, Nathaniel Hawthorne, Joseph Heller, Ernest Hemmingway, Patricia Highsmith, Susan Hill, Chenjerai Hove, Langston Hughes, Aldous Huxley, John Irving, Christopher Isherwood, Henry James, Samuel Johnson, James Joyce, Rudyard Kipling, DH Lawrence, TE Lawrence, Edward Lear, John LeCarre, Harper Lee, Ursula LeGuin, Doris Lessing, David Lodge, Jack London, Ian McEwan, Norman Mailer, Katherine Mansfield, Nagio Marsh, Somerset Maugham, Herman Melville, George Meredith, Arthur Miller, Henry Miller, Toni Morrison, Charles Mungoshi, Iris Murdoch, Shiva Naipaul, RK Narayan, Njabulo S Ndebele, James Ngugi, Anais Nin, Edna O'Brien, Sean O'Casey, Flannery O'Connor, Ben Okri, Michael Ondaatje, Eugene O'Neill, Joe Orton, George Orwell, John Osborne, Alan Paton, Mervyn Peake, Samuel Pepys, Harold Pinter, Edgar Allen Poe, Anthony Powell, JB Priestley, Annie Proulx, Ruth Rendell, Mary Renault, Jean Rhys, Samuel Richardson, Mordecai Richler, Philip Roth, Salman Rushdie, Vita Sackville-West, JD Salinger, Siegfried Sassoon, Walter Scott, Shakespeare, George Bernard Shaw, Mary Shelley, Richard Sheridan, Nevil Shute, Osbert Sitwell, Tobias Smollett, Wole Soyinka, Muriel Spark, Lawrence Sterne, RL Stevenson, Harriet Beecher Stowe, Jonathan Swift, W.Makepeace Thackeray, Paul Theroux, Dylan Thomas, JRR Tolkien / Claire Tomlinson, Anthony Trollope, Mark Twain, John Updike, Laurens van der Post, Gore Vidal, Kurt Vonnegut, Alice Walker, Sarah Waters, Evelyn Waugh, HG Wells, Nathaniel West, Rebecca West, Edith Wharton, Patrick White, Oscar Wilde, David Williamson (Aus), PG Wodehouse, Tom Wolfe, Mary Wollstonecraft, Virginia Woolfe, Richard Wright. John Wyndham. WB Yeats. Benjamin Zephaniah.

Some websites to help you with your reading:

www.amazon.co.uk
www.cool-reads.co.uk

and with your studying:

www.sparknotes.com
www.onlineshakespeare.com
www.universalteacher.org.uk
www.literature.org
www.bibliomania.com

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