BOOKS in ENGLISH
Selection of Titles for Secondary Level

School Year 2023-2024
Matilda is the world's most famous bookworm, no thanks to her ghastly parents. Her father thinks she's a little scab. Her mother spends all afternoon playing bingo. And her headmistress, Miss Trunchbull? She's the worst of all. Despite these beastly grownups trying to push her down, Matilda is an extraordinary girl with a magical mind. And she's had enough. So all the terrible adults had better watch out, because she's going to teach them a lesson they'll never forget!

‘Greetings to you, the lucky finder of this Gold Ticket from Mr Willy Wonka! Tremendous things are in store for you!’ Charlie Bucket is one of the five kids who wins a visit to Mr Wonka’s chocolate factory and this will change his life forever. With a chocolate river, delectable confectionery and mysterious Oompa Loompas, Mr Wonka’s factory is the most wondrous, fun - and even dangerous - place Charlie has ever seen.

‘Let me get something straight: this is a JOURNAL, not a diary... The other thing I want to clear up right away is that this was MOM’s idea, not mine’. Things aren’t going well for Greg Heffley. He’s been thrust into a new school where undersize weaklings share the corridors with kids who are taller, meaner and already shaving. The first book in the global phenomenon from #1 international bestselling author Jeff Kinney - 250 million copies of the series sold worldwide!

‘My name is August. I won’t describe what I look like, whatever you’re thinking, it’s probably worse’. Born with a terrible facial abnormality, Auggie has been home-schooled by his parents his whole life. Now, for the first time, he’s being sent to a real school and all he wants is to be accepted. A funny, frank, astonishingly moving debut - and a true global phenomenon - to read in one sitting, pass on to others, and remember long after the final page.

A murder mystery novel like no other! Christopher is fifteen and has Asperger’s, a form of autism. He knows a great deal about maths and little about human beings. He loves lists, patterns and the truth. He hates the colours yellow and brown and being touched. He has never gone further than the end of the road on his own, but when he finds a neighbour’s dog murdered, he sets out on a terrifying journey which will turn his whole world upside down.

‘Isn’t it splendid to think of all the things there are to find out about? It just makes me feel glad to be alive-it’s such an interesting world. It wouldn’t be half so interesting if we knew all about everything, would it?’ Anne of Green Gables is a classic children’s story about knowing your worth, the power of imagination, and finding your family. Much beloved by readers for generations, the novel has also inspired the Netflix Original series Anne with an E.
This book is very difficult to describe. Usually we give some clues about the book on the cover, but in this case we think that would spoil the reading. We think it is important that you start without knowing what it is about. If you do start, you will go on a journey with a nine-year-old boy called Bruno. And sooner or later you will arrive with Bruno at a fence. We hope you never have to cross such a fence.

In a peaceful retirement village, four unlikely friends meet up once a week to investigate unsolved murders. But when a brutal killing takes place on their very doorstep, the Thursday Murder Club find themselves in the middle of their first live case. Elizabeth, Joyce, Ibrahim and Ron might be pushing eighty but they still have a few tricks up their sleeves. Can our unorthodox but brilliant gang catch the killer before it’s too late?

“All animals are equal. But some animals are more equal than others”. Animal Farm tells the story of a rebellion and how it goes wrong. First published in 1945, this unique political allegory is George Orwell’s brilliant satire on the corrupting influence of power. An author and journalist, Orwell was one of the most prominent and influential figures in twentieth-century literature.

First published in 1949, 1984 is George Orwell’s terrifying vision of a totalitarian future in which everything and everyone is slave to a tyrannical regime. Winston Smith works for the Ministry of Truth in London, in a time when Big Brother stares out from every poster and the Thought Police uncover every act of betrayal. When Winston finds love with Julia, he discovers that life does not have to be dull and starts questioning the Party. Yet Big Brother will not tolerate dissent—even in the mind. For those with original thoughts they’ve invented Room 101...

Meg, Jo, Amy and Beth – four ‘little women’ enduring hardships and enjoying adventures in Civil War New England. The charming story of the March sisters, Little Women has been adored by generations. Future writers have found inspiration in Jo’s devotion to her writing. In this simple, enthralling tale, both parts of which are included here, Louisa May Alcott has created four of American literature’s most beloved women.

Five students go to detention. Only four leave alive. Everyone has secrets, right? What really matters is how far you’ll go to protect them. One of Us is Lying is the international best-selling young adult thriller by acclaimed author, Karen M. McManus, now a major Netflix series.

With its ‘light and bright and sparkling’ dialogue, its romantic denouement and its lively heroine, Pride and Prejudice is Jane Austen’s most perennially popular novel. The love story of Elizabeth Bennet and Fitzwilliam Darcy, who misjudge, then challenge and change each other, is also a novel about the search for happiness and self-knowledge in a world of strict social rules, where a woman must marry well to survive.
Far in the future, the World Controllers have created the ideal society of happy consumers through genetic engineering and brainwashing. Yet Bernard Marx feels at odds and seeks to visit one of the few remaining Savage Reservations where the old, imperfect way of life still continues. *Brave New World* is one of the most important novels of the twentieth century—a dystopian classic which is also witty, thrilling and still uncannily prophetic.

Drifters in search of work, George and his simple-minded friend Lennie, have nothing in the world except each other—and a dream. A dream that one day they will have some land of their own. Tackling universal themes of friendship and shared vision, and giving a voice to America’s lonely and dispossessed, *Of Mice and Men* remains Steinbeck’s most popular work.

Lockwood, the new tenant of Thrushcross Grange on the bleak Yorkshire moors, is forced to seek shelter one night at Wuthering Heights, the home of his landlord. There he discovers the history of the tempestuous events that took place years before: of the intense passion between the foundling Heathcliff and Catherine Earnshaw, and her betrayal of him.

Set in the Gulf Stream off the coast of Havana, Hemingway’s magnificent fable is the tale of an old man, a young boy and a giant fish. This story of heroic endeavour won Hemingway the Nobel Prize for Literature. It stands as a unique and timeless vision of the beauty and tragedy of man’s struggle against the elements.

‘I believe in the resistance as I believe there can be no light without shadow; or rather, no shadow unless there is also light’. Discover the dystopian novel behind the award-winning TV series. Masterfully conceived and executed, this haunting vision of the future places Margaret Atwood at the forefront of dystopian fiction.

This bestselling, Pulitzer prize-winning classic is a coming-of-age story and a historical drama. Through the eyes of two little boys, Harper Lee explores the issues of race and class in the Deep South of the 1930s with compassion and humor. She also creates one of the great heroes of literature in their father, whose lone struggle for justice pricks the conscience of a town steeped in prejudice and hypocrisy.
5 KEYS TO CHOOSING THE BEST READS

1. ONLY TOP STORIES

What better way to learn a foreign language than with stories that will capture hearts and minds forever? The books in this brochure are a selection of classic and contemporary titles that will win over an entire classroom.

2. STUDENTS WILL READ LIKE NATIVES

The same way your students are watching their favourite TV shows and following international celebrities in English, they will read these original, unabridged editions, just like native speakers.

3. TEACHER GUIDES FOR YOU

The icon on the book cover tells you that a teacher guide is available. Like the books themselves, the questions, prompts and activities in the teacher materials are the original ones intended for students in the UK. You can adapt them to match your students’ level or challenge them with the real deal. Inspiring? Email us at penguin.aula@penguinrandomhouse.com or call 93 366 03 00 to get your guide!

4. LOOKING FOR SOMETHING NEW?

You might not have read all of these books -yet! So if you wonder whether the level is just right for your classroom, ask us for access to the first chapter of the books. Easy-peasy!

5. IF YOU LIKE WHAT YOU SEE...

Keep up to date with our latest news and sign up to our newsletter -there’s extra perks!
**RAFFLE!**

Get 10 sets of 3 books for your classroom

Subscribe to our teachers’ newsletter to keep up with news and be eligible for the raffle.*

*Offer limited to teachers at the secondary level. Valid until May 14, 2023.

Sign up using the QR code

penguin.aula@penguinrandomhouse.com | Tel. 93 366 03 00

PenguinAulaES