

Laurus Ryecroft's Y10 Academic Book List

CORE		
Subject	Book	Form ✓
English	One of Us is Lying – Karen M. McManus	
Five students go to detention. Only four leave alive. We have picked this book as a good example of the 'Whodunnit' mystery, a genre which is excellently subverted by Priestley in 'An Inspector Calls' - the very play you'll be studying in Year 10 English.		
Science	The Disappearing Spoon – Sam Kean	
This book features fascinating tales which follow the elements on the table as they play out their parts in human history, finance, mythology, conflict, the arts, medicine, and the lives of the (frequently) mad scientists who discovered them. It's an essential read for any student with a passion for physics.		
Maths	How Not to Be Wrong: The Hidden Maths of Everyday Life – Jordan Ellenberg	
Jordan Ellenberg shows how Math isn't confined to abstract incidents that never occur in real life, but rather touches everything we do—the whole world is shot through with it. Math allows us to see the hidden structures underneath the messy and chaotic surface of our world.		
OPTIONS		
Subject	Book	Form ✓
Art & Design	Playing to the Gallery: Helping Contemporary Art in its Struggle to Be Understood – Grayson Perry	
With this book, Grayson Perry wants to show that anyone, regardless of their background, can appreciate art. This funny, personal journey through the art world answers the basic questions that might occur to us in an art gallery but that we're too embarrassed to ask. Questions such as: What is "good" or "bad" art—and does it even matter? Is art still capable of shocking us or have we seen it all before?		
Business	Shoe Dog – Phil Knight	
This memoir chronicles the history of Nike from its early struggles to its evolution into one of the world's most recognized and profitable companies. From business school to beyond, this book accounts the personal and professional life of entrepreneur Phil Knight - including his product design, creation of a company, business management and experiences in worldwide travel. An inspiring read for any student interested in pursuing a career in business.		
Computing	Ready Player One – Ernest Cline	
Ernest Cline's science fiction novel looks at a world where living in a virtual reality game, the OASIS, is better than real life. The protagonist, Wade Watts, is a teenager with no parents, prospects, or future. The thrilling story focuses on the battle for the late James Halliday's Easter egg, which is hidden within the OASIS and can only be found by solving a number of clues. Ready Player One gives us a tantalizing glimpse of what our VR future may look like!		
Drama	Teechers by John Godber	
A classic play for a small cast and a minimal set. The actors playing the three main parts of students Gail, Hobby and Salty are performing a play within a play to their favourite teacher who, like them is leaving at the end of term. A very amusing play, with a serious message at its heart.		
French	Chocolat – Joanne Harris	
A witch, who goes by the name of Vianne Rocher, arrives in the fictional village of Lansquenet-sous-Tannes to open a chocolate boutique with her six-year-old daughter. The store is a treasure of chocolatey delights that successfully lures the conservative villagers in during Lent, much to the dismay of Father Reynaud. This is a perfect read for those studying French, as the country and culture lies right at the heart of this novel - with vivid scenery, colours, smells - even the taste of the chocolates that Vianne makes!		
Geography	The Boy who Harnessed the Wind (Young Readers edition)- Bryan Mealer and William Kamkwamba	
Exploring science books in a library, William Kamkwamba decided to build a windmill out of scrap metal and old bicycle parts. The windmill generated electricity to pump the water which his community needed to farm the land, thus rescuing them from starvation. A true story of human and environmental interaction told through a young boy's experience with an inspiring thirst for knowledge, perseverance and strength of character.		
History	The Book Thief by Markus Zusak	
This novel tells the story of death who happens to be following the story of a young girl living in Nazi Germany.		
Music	House of Music: Raising the Kanneh-Masons - Kadiatu Kanneh	
Kadiatu Kanneh-Mason opens up about what it takes to raise a musical family in a Britain divided by class and race. What comes out is a beautiful and heartrending memoir of the power of determination, camaraderie and a lot of hard work.		
Latin	The Everything Essential Latin Book: All You Need to Learn Latin in No Time	
For students with an interest in etymology. Learning the basics of Latin can vastly improve your vocabulary and even provide keys to understanding legal, medical, and scientific terminology.		
Media	The Hate U Give – Angie Thomas	
One night, Starr and her childhood friend Khalil get pulled over by police. They end up shooting and killing Khalil after apparently mistaking the boy's hairbrush for a gun. Starr is the only witness and has to decide whether to use her voice to try and fight for justice. In showing how the media reacts to Khalil's death, T.H.U.G. teaches a valuable lesson on bias and stereotyping in modern journalism.		
P.E	Jonny: My Autobiography – Jonny Wilkinson	
This is the unrelenting and brutally honest account of one of the most revered, successful and complex athletes ever to play rugby for England. A gripping true story about the lessons Jonny learnt about mental resilience, how to be a team leader and why it's important to stay present with a focus on your goals.		
R.E	Bila Yarrudhanggalangdhuray - Anita Heiss	
When she meets Wiradyuri stockman Yindyamarra, Wagadhaany's heart slowly begins to heal. But still, she dreams of a better life, away from the degradation of being owned. She longs to set out along the river of her ancestors, in search of lost family and country. Can she find the courage to defy the White man's law? And if she does, will it bring hope ... or heartache?		