

Summer homework for English A level courses

If you are going to do English Literature, choose from the fiction/drama lists. English Language students should pick texts from the non-fiction lists. If you have chosen English Language and Literature Combined, pick from both lists.

(L) indicates an author whose work you may be studying in A level English Literature.
(LL) indicates an author whose work you may be studying in A level English Language and Literature Combined.

Fiction:

Novels e.g:

Brick Lane by Monica Ali
The Wasp Factory by Iain Banks
A Clockwork Orange by Anthony Burgess
Girl with a Pearl Earring by Tracy Chevalier
Captain Corelli's Mandolin by Louis de Bernieres
Room by Emma Donoghue (LL)
The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime by Mark Haddon
Strange Meeting by Susan Hill (L)
A Thousand Splendid Suns by Khaled Hosseini
Never Let Me Go by Kazuo Ishiguro
The Road by Cormac McCarthy (L)
If Nobody Speaks of Remarkable Things by Jon McGregor
Purple Hibiscus by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie
The Time Traveller's Wife by Audrey Niffenegger
Vernon God Little by DBC Pierre
The Bell Jar by Sylvia Plath
We Need to Talk About Kevin by Lionel Shriver
The Help by Kathryn Stockett
The Secret History by Donna Tartt

Short stories by:

Margaret Atwood (L/LL)
Ray Bradbury
Angela Carter
Raymond Carver
Alice Munro
Rose Tremain

Drama e.g:

The History Boys by Alan Bennett
A View from the Bridge by Arthur Miller (LL)
The Glass Menagerie by Tennessee Williams (L)
The Importance of Being Earnest by Oscar Wilde
A Doll's House by Henrik Ibsen

Non Fiction:

Travel Writing e.g:

In Xanadu by William Hamilton Dalrymple

Neither Here Nor There by Bill Bryson (LL)

Into The Heart of Borneo by Redmond O'Hanlon

A House Somewhere: Tales of Life Abroad ed. Don George and Anthony Sattin

Wild: From Lost to Found on the Pacific Crest Trail by Cheryl Strayed

Reportage e.g:

Faber Book of Reportage ed. John Carey

Cupcakes and Kalashnikovs – 100 years of the best journalism by women ed. Eleanor Mills

Biography and Autobiography e.g:

Stuart: A Life Backwards by Alexander Masterson

Angela's Ashes by Frank McCourt

Once in a House on Fire by Andrea Ashworth

Cider with Rosie by Laurie Lee

Bad Blood by Lorna Sage

The Diving Bell and the Butterfly by Jean-Dominique Bauby

Before I Say Goodbye by Ruth Picardie

Diaries and Letters e.g:

The John Lennon Letters ed. Hunter Davies

Writing Home by Alan Bennett

The Diary of Anne Frank

The Assassin's Cloak: An Anthology of the World's Greatest Diarists ed. Irene and Alan Taylor

<http://orwelldiaries.wordpress.com/>

Speeches e.g:

The Penguin Book of 20th Century Speeches ed. Brian MacArthur

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/theguardian/series/greatspeeches>