English A Level

All pupils are expected to read **‘The Bloody Chamber’ by Angela Carter** (Gothic) and **‘The Handmaid’s Tale’** by Margaret Atwood (Dystopia) – you will study one of these texts as part of Comparative and Contextual paper which you start in September and your teachers will expect you to know these novels from the start of the course. Which text you study will depend on which teacher you have, but both are excellent reads that you will enjoy. The copies opposite are the ones used by your teachers and so we recommend you obtain the same version.

It is also recommended that you read ‘Dracula’ by Bram Stoker (Gothic) and ‘Nineteen Eighty-Four’ (Dystopia) as these will be the comparison texts which you will study later in the term and will have to read from September so getting ahead is advisable; again they are fantastic novels and certainly ones we feel every student of English should have read anyway.

Once you have read these, you can further develop your understanding and interests using the following lists.

# Gothic Reading List

*Vathek* – William Beckford

*The Italian –* Ann Radcliffe

*Light in August* – William Faulkner

*Outer Dark* – Cormac McCarthy

*The Wasp Factory –* Iain Banks

*Beloved* – Toni Morrison

*The Turn of the Screw* – Henry James

*The Castle of Otranto* – Horace Walpole

*The Hound of the Baskervilles –* Sir Arthur Conan Doyle

*The Mysteries of Udolpho* – Ann Radcliffe

*The Italian* – Ann Radcliffe

*Frankenstein* – Mary Shelley

*Northanger Abbey* – Jane Austen

*Wuthering Heights* – Emily Bronte

*The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde* – Robert Louis Stevenson

*The Raven* – Edgar Allan Poe

*The House of Seven Gables* – Nathaniel Hawthorne

*The Woman in White* – Wilkie Collins

*The Picture of Dorian Gray* – Oscar Wilde

*The Gormenghast Trilogy –* Mervyn Peake

*The Yellow Wallpaper* – Charlotte Perkins Gillman

*Jamaica Inn* – Daphne du Maurier

*Rebecca* – Daphne du Maurier Poetry

*The Rime of the Ancient Mariner* – Samuel Taylor Coleridge

*Christabel* – Samuel Taylor Coleridge

*Goblin Market* – Christina Rosetti

## Films and TV (other than adaptations of the list above)

Nosferatu: A Symphony of Horror (1922)

House of Usher (1960)

The Pit and the Pendulum (1961)

The Masque of the Red Death (1964)

Rosemary’s Baby (1968)

Near Dark (1987)

Interview with a Vampire (1994)

Sleepy Hollow (1999)

The Orphanage (2007)

The Others (2001)

Crimson Peak (2015)

True Blood (2008 – 2014)

# Dystopia Reading List

*Never Let Me Go* – Kazua Ishiguru

*The Time Machine* – H.G. Wells

*Brave New World* – Aldous Huxley

*Fahrenheit 451* – Ray Bradbury

*A Clockwork Orange* – Anthony Burgess

*The Drowned World* – J. G. Ballard

*Memoirs of a Survivor* – Doris Lessing

*The Children of Men* – P.D. James

*The Road* – Cormac McCarthy

*The Hunger Games* – Suzanne Collins

*Divergent* – Veronica Roth

*The Power* – Naomi Anderson

*The Giver* – Lois Lowry

*Animal Farm* – George Orwell

*Oryx & Crake* – Margaret Atwood

*The Windup Girl* – Paolo Bacigalupi

*Logan’s Run* – William F. Nolan & George Clayton Johnson

*Article 5* – Kristen Simmons

*Titus Alone* – Mervyn Peake (final text in a trilogy)

*Surface Detail* – Iain M. Banks

*The Caves of Steel* – Isaac Asimov

## Films and TV (other than adaptations of the list above)

Blade Runner (1982)

V for Vendetta (2005)

Equilibrium (2002)

Zootopia (2016)

Battle Royale (2000)

Elysium (2013)

I, Robot (2004)

Black Mirror (any episode)