



ARENA
ACADEMY

Year 7 Reading Recommendations

NINETEENTH CENTURY CLASSICS

A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens

Treasure Island by R.L Stevenson

The Time Machine by HG Wells

Black Beauty by Anna Sewell

The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn by Mark Twain

TWENTIETH CENTURY CLASSICS

Watership Down by Richard Adams

Peter Pan by JM Barrie

The Wolves of Willoughby Chase by Joan Aiken

Across the Barricades by Joan Lingard

The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe by CS Lewis

AWARD WINNERS

Matilda by Roald Dahl

Flour Babies by Ann Fine

Navigating Early by Clare Vanderpool

Voyage of the Sparrowhawk
by Natasha Farrant

Asha and the Spirit Bird by Jasbinder Bilan

Out of Shadows by Jason Wallace

Holes by Louis Sachar

Charlotte's Web by E.B White



MODERN NOVELS

The Goldfish Boy by Lisa Thompson

The Island At The End of Everything by Kiran Milwood Hargrave

The Dark is Rising by Susan Cooper

Some Places More Than Others by Renee Watson

How to Train your Dragon by Cressida Cowell

The Book Thief by Markus Zusak

The Garbage King by Elizabeth Laird

Pig Heart Boy by Malorie Blackman

BAME

A Pocketful of Stars by Aisha Bushby

Other Words For Home by Jasmine Warga

Now Or Never by Bali Rai

Where the River Runs Gold by Sita Brahmachari

All American Boys by Jason Reynolds and Brendan Kieley

NON-FICTION

The Diary of Anne Frank - Anne Frank

Swimming the Dream - Ellie Simmonds

Boy: Tales of Childhood by Roald Dahl

LGBTQ+

The Best At It by Maulik Pancholy

One in Every Crowd by Ivan E. Coyote

George by Alex Gino

A NOTE TO PARENTS AND READERS

These texts have been selected to challenge pupils and promote debate and discussion. Reading as many of these texts as possible will certainly help our students in their quest for the top grades in the subject. A wider depth and breadth of reading, and exposure to more complex vocabulary, forms and themes will benefit them not just in English but in all of their subjects. As you may expect from more difficult texts, some deal with adult themes. Here at Arena we feel our students have the maturity to cope with these concepts but please do get in touch if you would like to query any of the content before they begin reading them.