



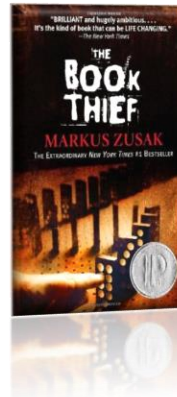
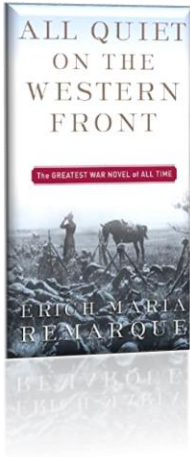
Senior English Reading List

These novels represent a selection of the texts we study across our Senior English classes. If you would like to read additional novels beyond your class text, you are welcome to borrow it out through the library.

All Quiet On The Western Front

Erich Maria Remarque

All Quiet on the Western Front is a novel by Erich Maria Remarque, a German veteran of World War I. The book describes the German soldiers' extreme physical and mental stress during the war, and the detachment from civilian life felt by many of these soldiers upon returning home from the front.



The Book Thief

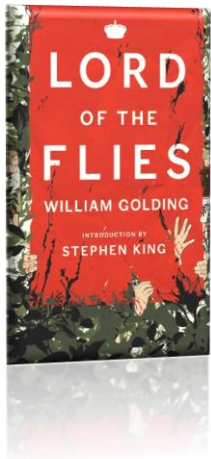
Markus Zusak

The Book Thief centres on the life of Liesel Meminger, a nine-year-old girl living in Germany during World War II. Liesel's experiences are narrated by Death, who describes both the beauty and destruction of life in this era.

Lord of the Flies

William Golding

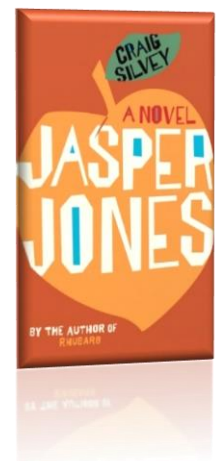
Lord of the Flies is a thought-provoking novel authored by William Golding in 1954. The book describes in detail the horrific exploits of a band of young children who make a striking transition from civilized to barbaric. This book commands a pessimistic outlook that seems to show that man is inherently tied to society, and without it, we would likely return to savagery.

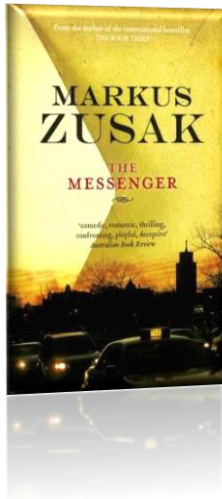


Jasper Jones

Craig Silvey

Charlie Bucktin is a thirteen-year-old boy living in the fictional rural mining town of Corrigan in Western Australia. On a summer evening in 1965, Charlie has an unexpected late night visit from fourteen-year-old Jasper Jones, an outcast in Corrigan due to his mixed White-Aboriginal heritage and rebellious lifestyle. Jasper takes Charlie to his private glade in the bush where a terrible crime has taken place.



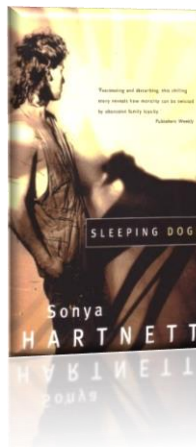


The Messenger

Markus Zusak

Meet Ed Kennedy - his life is one of peaceful routine and incompetence - until he inadvertently stops a bank robbery.

That's when the first Ace turns up and Ed becomes the messenger. Chosen to care, he makes his way through town, helping and hurting (where necessary) until only one question remains. Who's behind Ed's mission?



Sleeping Dogs

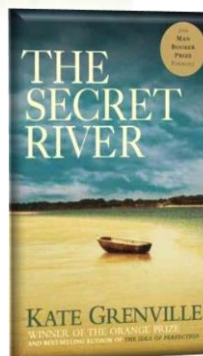
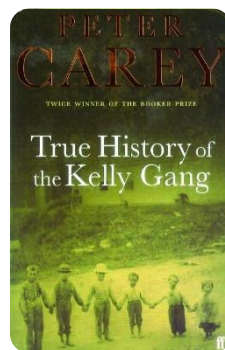
Sonya Hartnett

Sleeping Dogs is a 1995 young adult novel by Australian author, Sonya Hartnett. The novel centres on the depressed Willow family - isolated, dysfunctional and violent. Bow Fox, an artist, arrives to stay at the family's caravan park, precipitating a dark downward spiral.

True History Of The Kelly Gang

Peter Carey

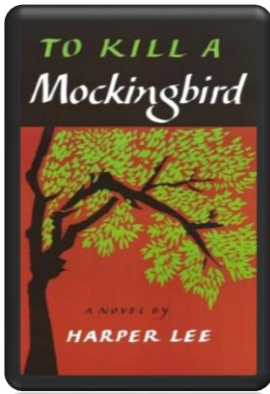
In True History of the Kelly Gang, the legendary Ned Kelly speaks for himself, scribbling his narrative on errant scraps of paper in semiliterate but magically descriptive prose as he flees from the police. To his pursuers, Kelly is nothing but a monstrous criminal, a thief and a murderer. To his own people, the lowly class of ordinary Australians, the bushranger is a hero, defying the authority of the English to direct their lives. Here is a classic outlaw tale, made alive by the skill of a great novelist.



The Secret River

Kate Grenville

The Secret River is a historical novel about an early 19th-century Englishman transported to Australia for theft. The story explores what may have happened when Europeans colonised land already inhabited by Aboriginal people.



To Kill A Mockingbird

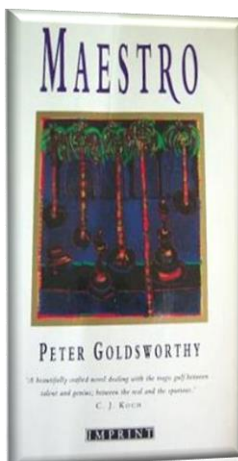
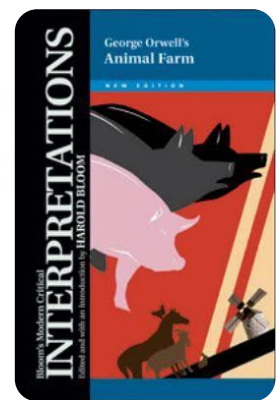
Harper Lee

To Kill a Mockingbird is primarily a novel about growing up under extraordinary circumstances in the 1930s in the Southern United States. The story covers a span of three years, during which the main characters undergo significant changes.

Animal Farm

George Orwell

'All animals are equal - but some are more equal than others'. When the downtrodden animals of Manor Farm overthrow their master Mr Jones and take over the farm themselves, they imagine it is the beginning of a life of freedom and equality. But gradually a cunning, ruthless elite among them, masterminded by the pigs Napoleon and Snowball, starts to take control. Soon the other animals discover that they are not all as equal as they thought, and find themselves hopelessly ensnared as one form of tyranny is replaced with another.



Maestro

Peter Goldsworthy

A boy called Paul Crabbe, is taught piano by his teacher (or maestro), Eduard Keller. Paul does not like his teacher at first, but by the end of the novel has grown to appreciate him dearly. Paul learns the limits of his own musical ability through Keller, but he also grows to understand himself and Keller enough to write the novel.



Macbeth

William Shakespeare

Macbeth is a tragedy written by William Shakespeare. Set mainly in Scotland, the play dramatises the damaging physical and psychological effects of political ambition on those who seek power for its own sake. It centres on a brave Scottish general named Macbeth who receives a prophecy that one day he will become King of Scotland. Macbeth murders King Duncan and takes the throne for himself. He is then wracked with guilt and paranoia, and he soon becomes a tyrannical ruler as he is forced to commit more and more murders to protect himself from enmity and suspicion.

Hamlet

William Shakespeare

Hamlet is Shakespeare's longest play. Set in the Kingdom of Denmark, this play dramatises the revenge Prince Hamlet is called to wreak upon his uncle, Claudius by the ghost of Hamlet's father, King Hamlet.

