

Reading List for Year 10 students

For students: What an opportunity! A week to lose yourself in a book, watch a documentary with your family on the sofa or pop a podcast in your ears while you go for a walk. Don't worry - the aim is not for you to read all of these! The aim is to enjoy a wide range of resources from a wide range of subjects, so don't limit yourself to your 'favourite' subjects or those in which you are strongest – reading should take you beyond your experience. See where the subjects can take you.

For parents: We want to promote intellectual curiosity and scholarship through independent reading, so please play your part in encouraging your child to read for pleasure. Departments have given you a wide range of resource formats, thus preventing the need to buy anything new (unless your child wants it as a special birthday gift!) – we highly recommend using your local library (you can order books in advance to collect for Reading Week): [Find me a Library!](#) Instructions on how to access our fantastic resources from the LRC are also included at the end.

Art

Explore the department's virtual Art Library at: rdgart.dropmark.com/768899

- *Drawing the Head and Hands* by Andrew Loomis – available [here](#) (PDF)
- *Drawing Futures: Speculations in Contemporary Drawing for Art and Architecture* edited by Allen and Pearson – available [here](#) (PDF)
- Any *Heterotopias* issue – available [here](#) (PDF)
- *Anatomy For The Artist* – available [here](#) (PDF)
- *The Lonely Palette* podcast – available [here](#)
- *You Will be Able to Draw Faces by the End of This Book* by Jake Spicer

Biology

Stretch

Support

Article:

- [Catalyst Magazine - Archive \(catalyst-magazine.org\)](http://catalyst-magazine.org)

Catalyst is an exciting science journal for young people aged 14-19. Covering scientific research and industrial developments, real life STEM stories, career journeys, STEM expeditions and adventure.

- [Catalyst Magazine - Issue 43 \(catalyst-magazine.org\)](http://catalyst-magazine.org)

Books:

- *Bad Science*. Ben Goldacre
- *Advice to a young scientist*. P. B. Medawar

Getting to grips with Ecology
Hodder online Magazine Biological Sciences
Review Volume 22 2009-2010 p14-16
[Getting to grips with ecology - Hodder Education Magazines](#)

Chemistry

- Periodic tales: The curious lives of the elements. Hugh Aldersey-Williams.
- [Periodic Tales | University of Oxford Podcasts](#)
- Technologies to capture wasted heat: <https://catalyst-magazine.org/articles/waste-heat-a-wasted-opportunity/>
- [Edible chemistry | Feature | RSC Education](#)
- [The most important village in chemistry | Feature | RSC Education](#)

- [Chromatography fights food fraud | Feature | RSC Education](#)

Classics: Ancient History and Latin

Listen:

- Natalie Haynes Stands up for the Classics: [Odyssey](#)
- Your Dead to me

Read:

- Stephen Fry: Mythos, Troy, Heroes
- Mary Beard: SPQR
- Tom Holland: Persian Fire
- Simon Scarrow; The Eagles series
- Madeline Miller: Circe

Watch:

- Stephen Fry reading the story of [Pandora](#)
- Extra credits: [the History of writing](#) Extra credits: [The Brothers Gracchi](#)
- Exam specific for Ancient History: [Stupid Ancient History](#)

Computer Science & Electronics

Learn Programming

- The LRC has a variety of books on programming. At GCSE level we recommend focusing on Python programming although other languages such as Javascript or web development in HTML are also appropriate. Keen students may find extensions on Python such as the ability to make games in Pygame particularly interesting or value the opportunity to learn other more complex languages like C#.
- Students interested in reviewing their Python programming knowledge can also refer to this video: [Python Full Course for Beginners \[2025\]](#)

Videos

- [Crash Course Computer Science - YouTube](#) - A fantastic and engaging series on the fundamental aspects of the entire subject, covering the breadth of topics we study at GCSE and more!
- [Crash Course Artificial Intelligence - YouTube](#) - A fun and informative series on AI and machine learning for curious students including "Labs" along the way that have built in programming activities.
- [Crash Course Navigating Digital Information - YouTube](#) - Want to know who and what to trust while browsing online? This video series walks you through all of the important aspects of being an informed digital citizen.
- [Crash Course Games - YouTube](#) - A less academic recommendation but a related and valuable addition to general knowledge on games and video games.

Books

- **Hello World : How to be human in the age of the machine** by Hannah Fry - You are accused of a crime. Who would you rather determined your fate – a human or an algorithm? Hannah Fry takes us on a tour of the good, the bad and the downright ugly of the algorithms that surround us.
- **Algorithms to Live By: The Computer Science of Human Decisions** by Brian Christian, Tom Griffiths - an exploration of the use of computer science in addressing life's problems
- **iWoz** by Steve Wozniak - an inspiring autobiography of Apple co-founder, Steve Wozniak. An electronics engineering genius!
- **The Innovators: How a Group of Hackers, Geniuses, and Geeks Created the Digital Revolution** by Walter Isaacson - Inspiring stories of the development of modern computing
- **You look like a thing and I love you** by Janelle Shane - an amusing look at the uses and limitations of AI and machine learning algorithms

Upcoming Competitions:

- November – **UK Bebras Computational Thinking Challenge**
Year 10s participate in this challenge at the **Seniors** level. Students should prepare for this imminent challenge by practising the past challenges (listed as **UK Bebras Challenge**) available on their website <https://www.bebbras.uk/>
- January – **Perse Coding Team Challenge**
Students will be able to enter in pairs to write code to solve a series of increasingly challenging problems with Python code. There are plenty of past challenges to practise with on the competition website: <https://pctc.cuttle.org/>
- April – **Bebras Coding Challenge**
Students can also get ahead and practice for the Coding Challenge at an appropriate difficulty level. Students should familiarise themselves with the different difficulty levels so they can select the right one for them at the time of the challenge.
- At Year 10, students will usually enter either the **Navigators** or **Pathfinders** challenge which requires foundational knowledge in Python programming. For very confident coders, the **Trailblazer** challenge can be explored.
- The practice challenges are also available at <https://www.bebbras.uk/>

Drama

I an Actor by Nigel Planer (Comedic and yet painfully true, spoof diary of an actor)
Nigel Planer, Nicholas Craig podcast (Fascinating interview on the art of performance)

<https://shows.acast.com/nicholascraig>

A selection of National Theatre productions, tuck in!

<https://www.dramaonlinelibrary.com/series/national-theatre-collection-iid-190464>

Username: 4Bk.7Bu'

Password: 1Hw'7Me+

Economics

Current affairs: read reputable news websites, such as BBC News.

- Recent items include: [How much money does the UK government borrow, and does it matter? - BBC News](#)
- [UK inflation: What is the rate and why are prices still rising? - BBC News](#)

Book recommendation for Y10:

- [Can't We Just Print More Money?: Economics in Ten Simple Questions eBook : The Bank Of England: Amazon.co.uk: Kindle Store](#)
- **Freakonomics** by Steven D. Levitt and Stephen J. Dubner
- **The Undercover Economist** by Tim Harford (or anything by Tim Harford)
- **Edible Economics** by Ha-Joon Chang
- **Economics: A very short introduction** by Partha Dasgupta

Videos:

- Look at **CNBC explains**; for example, [How inflation works | CNBC Explains \(youtube.com\)](#)
- [Crash Course Economics](#) (various topics to explore)

Electronics

Stretch	Support
Book: The Art of Electronics, Horowitz and Hill - From SharePoint	Transistors explained: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J4oO7PT_nzQ

English

- “Following The Martian Invasion” BBC Radio 4 quick documentary series about the locations used by HG Wells, available [here](#)
- “Word Of Mouth: Metaphors” BBC Radio 4 programme on how imagery works, available [here](#)
- “The Wind Singer” (series): William Nicholson
- “The Rain” (series): Virginia Bergin
- “Exodus” Julie Bertagna
- “The Knife Of Never Letting Go” (series); “More Than This”: Patrick Ness
- “Wool” (series): Hugh Howey
- “The Maze Runner” (series): James Dashner
- “The Hunger Games” (series): Suzanne Collins
- “Divergent” (series): Veronica Roth
- “The Giver” (series): Lois Lowry
- “Breathe” (series): Sarah Crossan
- “The One Hundred” (series): Kass Morgan
- “The Dark Wild” (series): Piers Torday
- “The Loop” (series): Ben Oliver
- “Shadow And Bone” (series): Leigh Bardugo
- “The Fifth Wave” (series): Rick Yancey
- “Mortal Engines” (series): Philip Reeve
- “The Outlaws Scarlett and Browne”: Jonathan Stroud
- “The Supreme Lie”: Geraldine McCaughrean
- “1984”: George Orwell
- “Brave New World”: Aldous Huxley
- “A Clockwork Orange”: Anthony Burgess
- “The Handmaid’s Tale”: Margaret Atwood
- “Noughts and Crosses”: Malorie Blackman
- “Fahrenheit 451”: Ray Bradbury
- “The Guardians”: John Christopher
- “The Day Of The Triffids”: John Wyndham
- “V For Vendetta”: Alan Moore and David Lloyd
- “Logan’s Run”: William F Nolan
- “The Circle”: David Eggers
- “Klara And The Sun”: Kazuo Ishiguro

French

Books

- Pick any book from the “French KS4” section in the LRC
- Pick a French comic book in French (Astérix, Tintin, Seuls...)
- *Le Petit Prince* by Antoine de Saint Exupéry
- *Arsene Lupin* by Maurice Leblanc
- [Article](#) on the work of a spy

Music

- [French pop 2025 playlist](#)
- [French rap 2025 playlist](#)

Films

- [Untouchables](#) (comedy)
- [Tell no one](#) (police)
- [A perfect man](#) (thriller)

Series on Netflix

- [Lupin](#)
- Any [French show](#) on Netflix

Vidéos et podcasts

- [Inspiring stories](#) of foreigners in France
- [Interviews](#) of French people on their holiday plans
- [Interviews](#) of French people on their student jobs

Geography

Stretch

Urban - [The global effort to improve the world's slums - Geographical](#)

Tectonics – *if you have Netflix, try watching 'Aftershock – Everest and the Nepal earthquake'*

Coasts - [Shifting shores: UK coastal erosion hotspots | National Trust](#)

Geopolitics and rivers - [The controversy over the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam \(brookings.edu\)](#)

Support

Rio – supporting the urban poor - [Geography-Rio-Case-Study.pdf \(obhs.co.uk\)](#)

Take time to explore the Temple Quarter, Bristol - [Bristol Temple Quarter Enterprise Zone – One of the UK's largest urban regeneration projects, in the centre of Bristol.](#)

Climate change - [Global warming and climate change effects: information and facts \(nationalgeographic.com\)](#)

[Wideworld - Hodder Education Magazines](#)

German

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCbxb2fge9oNggIAoYqsYOtQ>: People are being interviewed on the street. You will get German and English subtitles so you can understand everything that is said.

<https://www.newsinslowgerman.com/>: News with transcript which will give you the English translations for difficult words. This is a good way to improve your German.

<https://slowgerman.com/>: This site provides podcasts about different topics. It includes a transcript.

Go on: [Reading School Videos - Documents - MFL - Videos](#) and enjoy a German film

History

Stretch	Support
Read – Further detail on the Russo-Japanese War Russo-Japanese War Kees Van Dijk.pdf Watch – Think about the impact of WWI around the world They Shall Not Grow Old - Planet eStream	Revolutionary Russia by Orlando Figes. This chapter covers the 1905 revolution - Revolutionary Russia by Orlando Figes.pdf Listen - History Extra podcast: The Russian revolution: everything you wanted to know on Apple Podcasts

Mandarin

西游记

Journey to the West

- https://www.amazon.co.uk/Journey-West-Books-Simplified-Vocabulary/dp/1733165045/ref=sr_1_3?crd=3BU37YQP8SZMD&keywords=journey+to+the+west&qid=1650966399&s=books&sprefix=journey+to+the+west%2Cstripbooks%2C67&sr=1-3
- Chinese edition (highly recommended for senior language learners-Year 9 to Year 11)

上下五千年

Five Thousand years of Chinese Nation

- https://www.amazon.co.uk/Five-thousand-color-Collectors-Chinese/dp/7208123020/ref=sr_1_1?crd=13E6U0N4TDKXG&keywords=%E4%B8%8A%E4%B8%8B%E4%BA%94%E5%8D%83%E5%B9%B4&qid=1650964983&sprefix=%E4%B8%8A%E4%B8%8B%E4%BA%94%E5%8D%83%E5%B9%B4%2Caps%2C75&sr=8-1
- Chinese edition
- https://www.amazon.co.uk/Five-Thousand-Years-Chinese-Nation/dp/7119046365/ref=sr_1_1?crd=2H04FHABYIAZ8&keywords=five+thousand+years+of+chinese+nation&qid=1650965050&sprefix=five+thousand+years+of+chinese+nation%2Caps%2C59&sr=8-1
- English edition

唐诗三百首

300 Tang Poems

- https://www.amazon.co.uk/300-Tang-Poems-Chinese-Yuanchong/dp/7500164416/ref=sr_1_15?crd=22FSRB7QN1D4X&keywords=%E5%94%90%E8%AF%97%E4%B8%89%E7%99%BE%E9%A6%96&qid=1650965233&sprefix=%E5%94%90%E8%AF%97%E4%B8%89%E7%99%BE%E9%A6%96%2Caps%2C76&sr=8-15
- Chinese edition
- https://www.amazon.co.uk/300-Tang-Poems-Jerome-Seaton/dp/1935210262/ref=sr_1_1?crd=78TMGAHF1TV8&keywords=300+Tang+Poems&qid=1650965362&sprefix=300+tang+poems%2Caps%2C65&sr=8-1
- English edition

Mathematics

Stretch	Support
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Linear programming • Extending sketching inequalities and shading regions inequalities to linear programming (an Additional Maths topic) Video 1 – shading regions • https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9XqIngLPMNo • Video 2 – extension to linear programming • https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L8B_C8mcnV0 • Similar triangles • Application of scale factors to similar triangles • https://nrich.maths.org/5635 • Extra ideas • An Introduction to Modular Arithmetic (maths.org) • How Carl Friedrich Gauss Taught Us the Best Way to Hold a Pizza Slice WIRED • Humble Pi – Matt Parker 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MyMaths • Booster packs covering harder topics in block 3 and block 4 • (School login details: Username: readingsch Password: subtraction) • Exact trig values using your hand • Useful trick for learning your exact trig values • https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PF2nmCVSU_Es • Exploration of rationalising the denominator • https://undergroundmathematics.org/thinking-about-numbers/absurd

Music

- [Vintage Guide to Classical Music](#)
- <https://podcasts.apple.com/gb/podcast/the-great-composers-podcast-a-classical-music-podcast/id1125785164>
- <https://www.youtube.com/c/AdamNeely>

Physical Education

Mystery Spinner: The Story of Jack Iverson
Gideon Haigh
The Last Dance- Netflix

Physics

Stretch	Support
Seven brief lessons on physics - Carlo Rovelli (2014) - LRC - Seven Brief Lessons on Physics - Carlo Rovelli.pdf	50 physics ideas you really need to know - Joanne Baker (2014) - LRC - 50 Physics Ideas You Really Need to Know - Joanne Baker.pdf

PSHE

Face, Benjamin Zephaniah
Heads Up Money, DK
[PSHE4you-Episode 11- Unhealthy Relationships - YouTube](#)
Noughts and Crosses by Malorie Blackman

Spanish

Presente

[CBS To Go 2.10 | ¿Cuál es tu ciudad preferida de España? - What is your favourite Spanish city? - Coffee Break Languages](#)

Pasado

[CBS To Go 2.09 | ¿Cuál fue la última película que viste? - What was the last film you saw? - Coffee Break Languages](#)

[CBS To Go 2.04 | ¿Qué hiciste ayer? - What did you do yesterday? - Coffee Break Languages](#)

Futuro

[CBS To Go 2.08 | Si tuvieras que recomendar un plato típico de tu país, ¿cuál sería? - If you had to recommend a typical dish from your country, which would it be? - Coffee Break Languages](#)

[CBS To Go 2.06 | Si pudieras ir a cualquier lugar del mundo, ¿adónde irías? - If you could go anywhere in the world, where would you go? - Coffee Break Languages](#)

Documentaries to understand Hispanic culture

- [BBC One – Conociendo Sudamérica – Simon Reeves Series](#)

[BBC iPlayer - Simon Reeves South America](#)

[BBC iPlayer - Colombia with Simon Reeve](#)

[BBC iPlayer - Equator - 3. Latin America](#)

- Documentales Netflix:

[Boca Juniors Confidential](#) – Argentine football documental – Sport, Argentine culture.

Theology & Philosophy

1. [Virtue ethics in Aristotle's Nicomachean ethics](#)
2. [Are we different from machines?](#)
3. [Medical Ethics: Clinical Trials](#)

Accessing resources from the LRC

Using the LRC Before Reading Week

- By the start of October half-term, all year 7, year 9 and year 12 pupils will have been invited to the LRC to discover the range of resources available to them both within school and from home.
- New students should have received a Guide to Using the LRC.
- All pupils can borrow books from the LRC for Reading Week.

E-Resources Available From Home 24/7 The LRC subscribes to a range of high quality e-resources that can be accessed from home. An alphabetical list, complete with links and login details can be found on

here <https://readingschoolco.sharepoint.com/SitePages/LRC%20E-Resources.aspx> two **ebook** platforms. Both platforms can be accessed using pupil Office 365 logins:

This includes

VLeBooks is a small ebook library and provides access to both fiction and non-fiction ebooks. Books can be read online. You can access VLeBooks via this link www.vlebooks.com. This includes 6th form wider reader titles. You can also preview books we do not own.

ePlatform by Wheeler's is our new ebook and audiobook platform found here: <https://readingschool.eplatform.co>

The ePlatform library catalogue is full of bestselling, popular fiction titles. Students can have 2 books out on loan at any one time, and they will automatically return after 2 weeks, or students can return them early in order to loan a new book. The eBooks can be read on a computer, laptop, or through the free App on your tablets or smartphones.

Reading through your web browser on a laptop or computer

Students can browse the collection or search for a specific book title, author or publisher and loan the book they choose. It is then assigned to them for the 2-week period.

Reading through the App

To download the App, search "ePlatform" in the App store and download. Click on the app and you will then need to search for the library which will be **Reading School**. Once you start typing, it will bring up the school on the list. Click the 3 little lines in the top left corner and select sign in. Using the App, the books will be temporarily downloaded to the device so students will not need internet connections once the book has been loaned to read, great for travelling!

To access these resources, visit the LRC (Learning Resources) area of SharePoint and navigate to the eResources section. You can also click this [link](#).

Some of these resources require passwords, which are available from the LRC eResources page on SharePoint.

British Medical Journal	Online version of the weekly medical journal
The Economist Online	Provides insight and opinion on international news, politics, business, finance, science and technology.
Hachett/Hodder Magazine Online Archive (Review Magazines)	Written by board examiners, so is great for A-Level students. Ten titles accessible online, including Economic Review.
Issues Online	Excellent source of information, including statistics, on a wide range of social issues.
Complete Issues	Useful for articles on a wide range of current social issues.
JSTOR	JSTOR is an online archive of core scholarly journals in a wide variety of disciplines.

<https://reading-school.oliverasp.co.uk/library/home/search?search=%5B%5D&facets=%5B%7B%22field%22%3A%22topiclist%22%2C%22terms%22%3A%5B%22Reading%20Week%20Year%2010%22%5D%7D%5D&useListInput=false&isReloadFacets=true&isFromMainSearchBox=false&isFederated=false&searchField=KEYWORD&searchTerm=&origin=readingLists>