

Sixth Form Wider  
Reading and Discovery  
Lists for A-Level Subjects

# Going Beyond the Classroom: Super-Curricular Learning

One of the best ways you stand out during your Sixth Form studies is through the amount of independent study you undertake outside of the classroom. Regardless of your future plans, the ability to extend yourself and research independently into your interests is an invaluable skill – this will support your university applications and/or future job applications and interviews. All universities expect more than just classroom knowledge, which is where super-curricular activities come in; these are academic enrichment tasks that show you are interested in your studies beyond what is on the school syllabus.

This 'Discovery List' has been put together to help you develop your interests not only in your chosen fields of study, but also in the wider world around you.

## General resources

- iTunes U
  - Free podcasts, video lectures, reading recommendations
  - A whole range of resources from leading universities (Oxford, Yale)



iTunes U app

- YouTube
  - Has its own educational channel – EDU



- Staircase 12
  - [www.staircase12.org](http://www.staircase12.org)
  - A website put together by University College, Oxford (our link college at Oxford)
  - Contains interviews and book reviews from current students



- Radio 4
  - Excellent range of archive material
  - Recommended – Week in Westminster / Thinking Allowed / A History of the World / In Our Time



- TED
  - Watch talks from experts from a variety of fields



- MOOCs – Massive Open Online Courses – These online courses provide videos, reading lists and activities – you often don't need to formally complete the course
  - FutureLearn – [www.futurelearn.com](http://www.futurelearn.com)
  - EdX – [www.edx.org](http://www.edx.org)
  - Coursera – [www.coursera.org](http://www.coursera.org)



- Websites of Professional organisations e.g.
  - [www.rsc.org](http://www.rsc.org) – Royal Society of Chemistry
  - [www.history.org.uk](http://www.history.org.uk) – The Historical Association



- Read newspapers!
  - Some online versions are free
  - Read more than one to develop your critical skills



# Art and Design

## Books

*AQA Art & Design Student Handbook* published by Nelson Thornes

*The Andy Warhol Diaries* Edited by Pat Hackett pub by Warner Books

*The American Leonardo: A Tale of 20th Century Obsession, Art and Money* by John Brewer

*I Was Vermeer: The Forger Who Swindled the Nazis* by Frank Wynne

*The Shock of the New*, by Robert Hughes

## Magazines/Journals

- **Modern Painters** -brilliant monthly magazine devoted to painting, only interviews with painters and exhibition reviews. **Crafts Magazine**- published every two months by the Crafts Council. For all aspects of the Applied Arts including interviews with Craftspeople, exhibition reviews, competitions to enter, job vacancies etc [www.craftscouncil.org.uk](http://www.craftscouncil.org.uk)
- **The Photographers' Magazine**
- **Printmaking Today**- pub by Cello Press, four issues per year [www.cello.press](http://www.cello.press). All aspects of Printmaking covered with interviews, exhibition reviews, competitions etc

## Galleries, exhibition spaces, permanent exhibitions

Larger galleries and Museum spaces, all with permanent exhibitions:

- The Tate Modern- Modern and Contemporary art
- The Tate Britain- British Art
- The Victoria and Albert Museum- Applied arts and design from around the world
- The Design Museum
- The National Portrait Gallery

## Contemporary Art Galleries with changing exhibitions:

- The White Cube
- The Saatchi Gallery
- The Whitechapel Art Gallery
- The Crafts Council Gallery
- Cork Street Galleries- commercial art galleries on London's famous Cork Street

**Bookshops:** All galleries listed have excellent art bookshops.

Others not listed

- **Waterstones**

### **Useful Websites**

Student Art Guide	<a href="http://www.studentartguide.com">www.studentartguide.com</a>
Pinterest	<a href="http://www.pinterest.com">www.pinterest.com</a>
The British Museum	<a href="http://www.thebritishmuseum.ac.uk">www.thebritishmuseum.ac.uk</a>
Victoria and Albert Museum	<a href="http://www.vam.ac.uk">www.vam.ac.uk</a>
Hayward Gallery	<a href="http://www.hayward-gallery.org.uk">www.hayward-gallery.org.uk</a>
National Gallery	<a href="http://www.nationalgallery.org.uk">www.nationalgallery.org.uk</a>
National Portrait Gallery	<a href="http://www.npg.org.uk">www.npg.org.uk</a>
Tate Britain/ Modern	<a href="http://www.tate.org.uk">www.tate.org.uk</a>
Whitechapel Gallery	<a href="http://www.whitechapel.org">www.whitechapel.org</a>
ICA	<a href="http://www.ica.org.uk">www.ica.org.uk</a>
Modern Painters – UK	<a href="http://www.moderpainters.co.uk">www.moderpainters.co.uk</a>

# Biology

## Books

Richard Dawkins:

The Selfish Gene  
The Blind Watchmaker.  
Unweaving the Rainbow  
Climbing Mount Improbable  
The Ancestor's Tale

Steve Jones:

Y: The Descent of Men  
In the Blood: God, Genes and Destiny  
Almost Like a Whale: The 'Origin of Species' Updated  
The Language of the genes

Matt Ridley

Genome: The Autobiography of a Species in 23 Chapters  
The Red Queen: Sex and the Evolution of Human Nature  
The Language of Genes  
Francis Crick: Discoverer of the Genetic Code  
Nature Via Nurture: Genes, Experience and What Makes Us Human

James Watson:

DNA: The Secret of Life  
The Double Helix: Personal Account of the Discovery of the Structure of DNA

Lewis Thomas:

The Lives of a Cell: Notes of a Biology Watcher.  
The Medusa and the Snail: More Notes of a Biology Watcher  
Barry Gibb: The Rough Guide to the Brain (Rough Guides Reference Titles)

Charles Darwin: The origin of species

Armand Marie Leroi: Mutants: On the Form, Varieties and Errors of the Human Body

David S. Goodsell: The Machinery of Life

Ernst Mayr: This Is Biology: The Science of the Living World

George C. Williams: Plan and Purpose in Nature

Steve Pinker: The Language Instinct

Edward O Wilson: The Diversity of Life

Richard Leaky: The Origin of Humankind

Bill Bryson: A Short History of Nearly Everything

Oliver Sachs: The Man Who Mistook His Wife For A Hat

Daniel Chamovitz: What A Plant Knows

### Websites

1. <http://www.ibiblio.org/virtualcell/index.htm> – An interactive cell biology site
2. <http://www.accessexcellence.org/RC/VL/GG> – A web site showing illustrations of many processes of biotechnology
3. <http://www.uq.oz.au/nanoworld> – Visit the world of electron-microscopy
4. <http://www.dnai.org/a/index.html> – Explore the genetic code
5. <http://nobelprize.org> – Details of the history of the best scientific discoveries
6. <http://nature.com> – The site of the scientific journal
7. <http://royalsociety.org> – Podcasts, news and interviews with scientists about recent scientific developments
8. <http://www.nhm.ac.uk> – The London Natural History Museum’s website with lots of interesting educational material
9. <http://www.bmj.com> – The website of the British Medical Journal
10. [http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science\\_and\\_environment](http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science_and_environment) - The BBC news page for Science and the Environment

# Business Studies

## [How I Made It: 40 Successful Entrepreneurs Reveal How They Made Millions](#)

- Rachel Bridge

An essential read for anyone that is thinking about starting their own business. Successful Entrepreneurs are interviewed about how they spotted a gap in a market, and developed a USP.

## **The Tipping Point: How Little Things Can Make a Big Difference**

- [Malcolm Gladwell](#)

A very readable and fascinating book, which looks into the reasons products become market leaders.

## [The Google Story](#)

- David A. Vise

An interesting investigation into the culture at Google, includes insights into the four day working week and soft management styles. The questions is; are these the things that made Google the world's number one search engine?

## [The Toyota Way: 14 Management Principles from the World's Greatest Manufacturer](#) - Jeffrey Liker

Covers Japanese Management Techniques such as Kaizen and TQM.

## **Billions of Entrepreneurs: How China and India Are Reshaping Their Futures and Yours**

- [Tarun Khanna](#)

An investigation into Asia's two growing economic powers.

## [Business Stripped Bare: Adventures of a Global Entrepreneur](#)

- Sir Richard Branson

The autobiography of Britain's most famous entrepreneur.

## [Sun Tzu - The Art of War for Managers: 50 Strategic Rules Updated for Today's Business](#)

- Gerald A. Michaelson

Applying the ancient Chinese rules of battle to modern day business.

## [The Intelligent Investor](#)

- Benjamin Graham

The classic book on stock market investment, as recommended by Warren Buffet.

## [No Logo](#)

- Naomi Klein

Klein investigates the negative side to marketing and globalisation.

## **House of Cards: How Wall Street's Gamblers Broke Capitalism**

- William D Cohan

Explains the reason behind the continuing global financial crisis, which started in September 2008.

The Economist

Business Review Magazine

## **Websites**

[www.tutor2u.net](http://www.tutor2u.net)

[www.bized.co.uk](http://www.bized.co.uk)

[www.businesscasestudies.co.uk](http://www.businesscasestudies.co.uk)

Freakonomics Podcast

[www.bbc.co.uk/news/business](http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business)

## **Days Out and Visits**

Museum of Brands – London

Legoland – the growth of a brand

Cadbury's World



# Chemistry

## **Books**

The Pleasure of Finding Things Out - Richard Feynman

Periodic Tales - Hugh Aldersey-Williams

The Disappearing Spoon - Sam Kean

Uncle Tungsten - Oliver Sachs

The Shocking History of Phosphorus: A Biography of the Devil's Element - John Emsley

## **Magazine/Journals**

Scientific American

New Scientist

The Mole

## **Places of Interest**

Royal Society of Chemistry - Burlington Arcade, Regents Street Londong

Science Museum, London

Museum of the Hlstory of Science, Oxford

Curie Museum, Paris

## **Websites**

Periodic Table of Videos by Martyn Poliakoff [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com)

Royal Society of Chemistry [www.rsc.org.uk](http://www.rsc.org.uk)

Institution of Chemical Engineers [www.icheme.org](http://www.icheme.org)

[www.chemguide.co.uk](http://www.chemguide.co.uk)

# Chinese

Websites-

Chinese grammar:

<http://chinesegrammar.info/>

Chinese Grammar WIKI:

<http://resources.allsetlearning.com/chinese/grammar/>

MDBG:

<http://www.mdbg.net/chindict/chindict.php>

Language components-

- Yuan, Boping and Kan, Qian Developing Writing Skills in Chinese, Routledge (ISBN: 0415215846)
- Colloquial Chinese by Kan Qian ISBN: 978-0-415-32828-0
- Basic Chinese- A Grammar and Workbook by Yip Po-Ching and Don Rimmington ISBN: 978-0-415-47215-9
- Li, X. and Ma, Y. Chinese Made Easy Book 5 and Workbook (ISBN: 9789620425929)

Chinese Culture-

The founding of the PRC

- Li Zhisui, The Private Life of Mao Zedong;
- Frederick Teiwes, Politics at Mao's Court; Judith
- Shapiro, Mao's War Against Nature.

Chinese economic trends since 1978

- Gordon Chang, The Coming Collapse of China;
- SH Donald, State of China Atlas;
- Susan Shirk, China: The Fragile Superpower;
- James Watson, Golden Arches East;
- Orville Schell, Mandate of Heaven;
- James Kynge, China Shakes the World: The Rise of a Global Superpower.

The city of Beijing

- Jasper Becker, City of Heavenly Tranquillity: Beijing in the History of China;
- Li, Dray-Novey & Kong, Beijing from Imperial Capital to Olympic City.

General

The China Quarterly and The China Journal.

Films –

- Yellow Earth, Chen Kaige
- Farewell my concubine, Zhang Yimou
- The Last emperor, Bernardo Bertolucci

Twitter-

Author of Chineasy: @ShaoLan\_Hsueh

BBC Chinese: @bbcchinese

Chinese podcast: @iMandarinPod

IOE Confucius Institute: @IOE\_CI

Chinese language blog: @importofChinese

Nciku: @nciku

# Computing & ICT

## **Books**

*Trigger Happy: The inner life of videogames* - Stephen Poole.

A witty, comprehensive and passionate discourse on the videogame explosion. Essential reading for anyone with an interest in this industry.

*Accidental Empires* - Robert X Cringely.

An insider's account of the origins and growth of the micro-computing industry from the earliest times to the present day; acerbic and funny in equal measure.

## **Magazines**

*Wired*

*New Scientist*

## **Websites:**

<http://www.tnmoc.org/>

<http://pcpro.com>

<http://www.theregister.co.uk/>

# Design & Technology

## Product Design

### Books

- AQA Design and Technology: Product Design (3D Design) – Nelson Thornes
- Design for the 21st Century (Icons Series) - Charlotte Fiell and Peter Fiell
- Thames and Hudson - the eco-design handbook - by Alastair Fuad-Luke.
- DATA - Designing with Pro/Desktop - John Hutchinson
- Design Sketching (ISBN 978-91-976807-0-7) by Erik Olofsson and Klara Sjolen

### Websites and Magazines:

- [www.dexigner.com](http://www.dexigner.com) - online magazine
- <http://designmuseum.org/>
- <http://www.designweek.co.uk/> - design week magazine.
- <http://www.id-mag.com/GeneralMenu/> - ID magazine
- <http://www.designcouncil.org.uk/>
- <http://www.core77.com/> online magazine
- <http://www.blueprintmagazine.co.uk/>
- [www.technologystudent.com](http://www.technologystudent.com)
- Pinterest

### Visits

- Design Museum
- Tate Modern

## Textiles

[Figure Drawing for Fashion Design \(Fashion & Textiles\)](#) by E Drudi

# English Language & Literature

## **General**

Bill Bryson, *Mother Tongue*

Victoria Fromkin, Robert Rodman and Nina Hyams, *An Introduction to Language*

Sara Thorne, *Mastering Advanced English Language*

R L Trask, *Language the Basics*

Crystal, *A Little Book of Language*

## **Language and mode**

Ursula Clark, *An Introduction to Stylistics*

David Crystal, *Rediscover Grammar* (for reference)

## **USEFUL WEBSITES**

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/>

The exam board site. The complete syllabus (Lang / Lit spec A) is downloadable.

<http://www.englishandmedia.co.uk/emag/>

Contains past articles from the ever-helpful 'e'magazine. Covers both Language and Literature. You will need to ask your teachers or the LRC for a special password.

<http://www.universalteacher.org.uk/>

Lots of invaluable information on all aspects of your English Language course.

[www.englishlangsfx.blogspot.com/](http://www.englishlangsfx.blogspot.com/)

Written by Dan Clayton at St Francis Xavier College; provides excellent materials and discussions, plus lots of links to other relevant sites.

<http://www.ling.lancs.ac.uk/>

Lancaster Uni Language and Linguistics site. Enormous. They have a specific A Level site within this and loads of resources.

<http://www.geoffbarton.co.uk/> useful site which covers many aspects of AS.

<http://www.phon.ucl.ac.uk/>

Very good for dialects, phonology.

# English Literature

Obviously you will have your set texts to read, but it would be beneficial and enjoyable for you to read around these. You could read more written by the author or written in the same genre.

For example, once you have read *Enduring Love* by Ian McEwan perhaps then read *Saturday* or *On Chesil Beach* or *Atonement*. Or once you have read *A Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time* by Mark Haddon then perhaps read *Life of Pi* by Yann Martel or *Great Expectations* by Charles Dickens or *Spies* by Micheal Frayn.

Solar, *Enduring Love*, *Saturday* by Ian McEwan

*Spies* by Michael Frayn

*Birdsong* by Sebastian Faulks

*A Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime* by Mark Haddon

*Outcast* by Sadie Jones

*Tess of the D'Urbervilles* by Thomas Hardy

*Alias Grace* by Margaret Atwood

*The Bell Jar* by Sylvia Plath

*The Big Sleep* by Raymond Chandler

*The Color Purple* by Alice Walker

*Dracula* by Bram Stoker

*The God of Small Things* by Arundhati Roy

*Captain Corelli's Mandolin* by Louis de Bernieres

*Do Androids Dream of Electric Sheep?* by Philip K. Dick

*Great Expectations* by Charles Dickens

*The Hound of the Baskervilles* by Arthur Conan Doyle

*Life of Pi* by Yann Martel

*The Reader* by Bernard Schlink

*Snow Falling on Cedars* by David Guterson

*Trainspotting* by Irvine Welsh

## Other

Try to read material from the 'prizes' e.g. The Man Booker prize or the Orange prize

Try to get into reading a broadsheet newspaper weekly

Try to read a range of non-fiction writing such as travel writing (Bryson, Palin), autobiography (Long Walk to Freedom by Nelson Mandela), biography etc.

## Reference Books

*A Dictionary of Literary Terms* by Martin Gray

*AQA English Literature B (AS and A2)* by Nelson Thornes

*AQA English Literature and Language B (AS and A2)* by Nelson Thornes

*Doing English* by Robert Eaglestone

*How to Write Better Essays* by Bryan Greetham

*Oxford concise companion to English Literature* by Margaret Drabble and Jenny Stringer

*Pastoral* by Terry Gifford

*The Ode Less Travelled* by Stephen Fry

*The Poet's Craft* by Sandy Brownjohn

## Magazines/Journals

- ***The Times Literary Supplement*** – a weekly literary review

## Literary Events

These events take place each year and are worth visiting as you are more than likely to meet some famous literary faces!

- THE GUARDIAN HAY FESTIVAL May/June <http://www.hayfestival.com>
- BBC PROMS LITERARY FESTIVAL July/Sept <http://www.bbc.co.uk/proms>
- HENLEY FESTIVAL July <http://www.henley-festival.co.uk>
- HENLEY LITERARY FESTIVAL Sept/Oct [www.henleyliteraryfestival.co.uk/](http://www.henleyliteraryfestival.co.uk/)



## Libraries/Bookshops

Our library at Highdown is kept well stocked and up-to-date; however you may need to venture out of our library to find a particular title. Try these libraries:

- **University of Reading** (Whiteknights Campus)
- **The British Library** (St Pancras London)

The best bookshops in Reading are:

- **Waterstones** – on Broad Street and The Oracle
- **Oxfam Bookshop** - on High Street
- **Risc** – on London Street

## Cinemas:

As well as your standard **Vue** Cinema in Reading why not try these cinemas which usually show more independent films:

- **Henley Cinema**
- **The Reading Film Theatre**

## Theatres:

As well as the huge choice of theatres in London why not try a production in one of these more local theatres:

- **The Corn Exchange**
- **The Hexagon**
- **The Watermill Theatre**

## Useful Websites

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/books>

<http://www.orangeprize.co.uk/home>

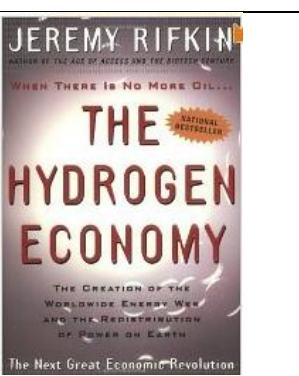
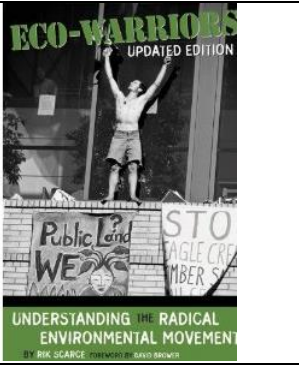
<http://www.themanbookerprize.com/>

# Environmental Studies

	<p><b>Alison Benjamin</b>  <b>Brian McCallum</b>          A World Without Bees [Paperback]</p>	<p>The decline of the honeybee</p>
	<p><b>Cohen, Joel.</b> How Many People Can the Earth Support? 1996.</p>	<p>Predictions for how many people the Earth can support have varied from 4 billion to 16 billion; Cohen suggests that the defining limits of land, food production, and water supply will lead to a more definitive number. Cohen also argues that while we might be able to prepare for future restrictions on our needs, our governments, our own personal choices, and time itself will ultimately determine the boundaries of our existence.</p>
	<p><b>Carson, Rachel.</b> Silent Spring. (Penguin Modern Classics) [Paperback]</p>	<p>First published in 1962, this book raised awareness about the environmental and human risks of using pesticides, such as DDT, and was one of the contributing factors that spurred the modern environmental movement.</p>
	<p><b>Richard Dawkins</b>          The Selfish Gene (1989)</p>	<p>It builds upon the principal theory of George C. Williams's first book <i>Adaptation and Natural Selection</i>. Dawkins coined the term "selfish gene" as a way of expressing the gene-centred view of evolution as opposed to the views focused on the organism and the group. From the gene-centred view follows that the more two individuals are genetically related, the more sense (at the level of the genes) it makes for them to behave selflessly with each other. Therefore the concept is especially good at explaining many forms of altruism, regardless of a common misuse of the term along the lines of a <i>selfishness gene</i>. Memetics has become the subject of many studies since the publication of the book.</p>

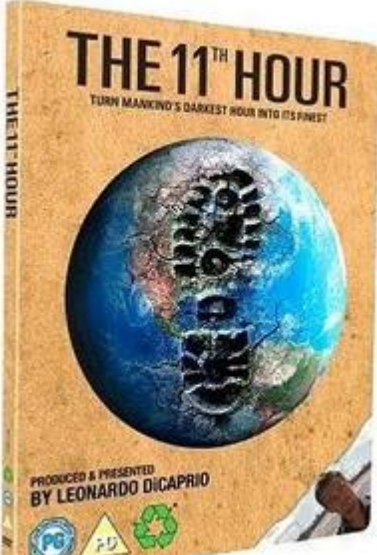
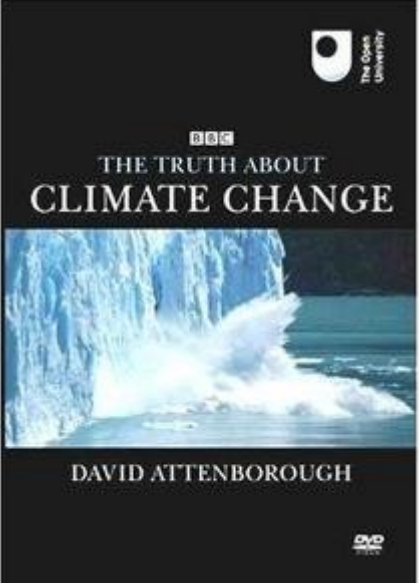
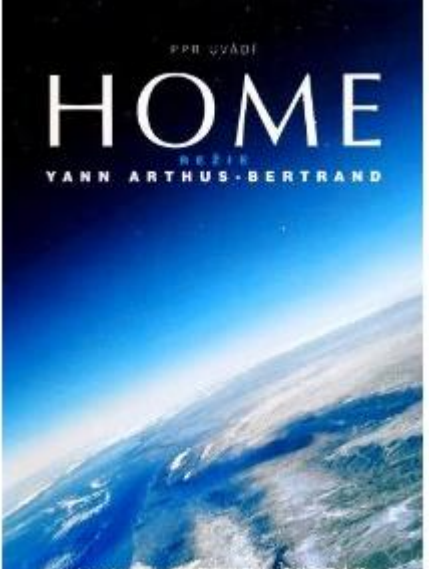
	<p><b>Diamond, Jared.</b> Guns, Germs, and Steel: The Fates of Human Societies. 1999, 2005.</p>	<p>In this Pulitzer-prize winning book, noted evolutionary biologist Jared Diamond poses an answer to the question of why some societies have been able to conquer and displace others. Diamond devotes a number of chapters to the history of the development of agriculture and its effect on human societies.</p>
	<p><b>Jared Diamond,</b> 2005 Collapse: How Societies Choose to Fail or Succeed by</p>	<p>Diamond examines why ancient societies, including the Anasazi of the American Southwest and the Viking colonies of Greenland, as well as modern ones such as Rwanda, have fallen apart, sometimes due to disregard for their environment.</p>
	<p><b>Al Gore, 1992.</b> Earth in the Balance</p>	<p>This book describes the plagues hoisted onto our environment; the second looks at how we got ourselves into this mess; and the final chapters present ways out</p>
	<p><b>Bjorn Lomborg</b> The Skeptical Environmentalist: Measuring the Real State of the World (2001),</p>	<p>A controversial book by Danish environmentalist author Bjørn Lomborg, which argues that claims on overpopulation, declining energy resources, deforestation, species loss, water shortages, certain aspects of global warming, and a variety of other global environmental issues are unsupported by analysis of the relevant data</p>
	<p><b>James Lovelock</b> The Ages of Gaia (1988)</p>	<p>The Ages of Gaia explains Lovelock's theory that the earth is a living organism. The book describes how the living earth may work, today, and in ages past, based on the latest research of Lovelock and others.</p>

	<p><b>James Lovelock</b> The Revenge of Gaia (2006)</p>	<p>Lovelock contends that our Earth, "Gaia," is very ill and, alarmingly, will become even sicker due to the effects of global warming. He contends that the nations of the Earth must immediately institute a series of drastic actions to reduce carbon emissions and the other greenhouse gases that contribute to global warming; and that they quickly must take other vital steps to protect the environment. According to Lovelock, if the Earth's people do not take these long-overdue actions, civilization will most possibly perish and, as he grimly puts it, the Earth will become a savage world ruled by "brutal warlords." Lovelock's book is a crucial wake-up call for the planet and life upon it..</p>
	<p><b>William McDonough, Michael Braungart,</b> Cradle to Cradle: Remaking the Way We Make Things Paperback: 208 pages, Publisher: North Point Press</p>	<p>A manifesto for a radically different philosophy and practice of manufacture and environmentalism; "Reduce, reuse, recycle" urge environmentalists; in other words, do more with less in order to minimize damage. As McDonough and Michael argue in their provocative, visionary book, however, this approach perpetuates a one-way, "cradle to grave" manufacturing model that dates to the Industrial Revolution and casts off as much as 90 percent of the materials it uses as waste, much of it toxic. Why not challenge the notion that human industry must inevitably damage the natural world, they ask. Elaborating their principles from experience (re) designing everything from carpeting to corporate campuses, the authors make an exciting and viable case for change</p>
	<p><b>Raup, David.</b> Extinction: Bad Genes or Bad Luck? 1992.</p>	<p>Raup, best known for his theory that extinctions come in 25-million-year cycles, examines what we know and don't know about extinction.</p>
	<p><b>Revkin, Andrew.</b> The Burning Season: The Murder of Chico Mendes and the Fight for the Amazon Rain Forest. 1990, 2004.</p>	<p>The story of the Brazilian rubber tapper and grass-roots environmentalist who was murdered in 1988.</p>

	<p><b>Jeremy Rifkin,</b> The Hydrogen Economy 2003.</p>	<p>In order to wean ourselves off of foreign oil, we need to develop hydrogen fuel to create a cleaner, safer, and more sustainable world.</p>
	<p><b>Scarce, Rik.</b> Eco-warriors: Understanding the Radical Environmental Movement. 1990, 2005.</p>	<p>Eco-warriors provided the first in-depth look at the people, actions, history, and philosophies of the controversial radical environmental movement. Scarce reviews several environmental groups with examples of their activities, and discusses the future of the movement; the updated 2005 version brings the path of the movement up to date.</p>

Film/DVD	Title	Information
 <p><b>an inconvenient truth</b> A GLOBAL WARNING "Totally Shockingly Fascinating. Everyone should see this film right now." - Paul Brown, ABC</p>	<p>Inconvenient Truth Al Gore</p>	<p>Human induced climate change</p>
 <p><b>BLOOD DIAMOND</b> LEONARDO DICAPRIO DJIMON HOUNSOU JENNIFER CONNELLY <b>BLOOD DIAMOND</b> 5 ACADEMY AWARD NOMINATIONS</p>	<p>Blood Diamond</p>	<p>Corruption and trade in Sub Saharan Africa</p>
 <p>STUDIO CLASSICS GARYL F. ZANUCK'S PRODUCTION <b>THE GRAPES OF WRATH</b> HENRY FONDA WINNER OF 2 ACADEMY AWARDS 1940</p>	<p>Grapes of Wrath</p>	<p>Dust bowl USA</p>

	<p>The Vanishing of the Bees</p>	<p>Ecosystems and environment</p>
	<p>Food Inc.</p>	<p>Includes intensive chicken farming</p>
	<p>The Age of Stupid</p>	

 <p>THE 11<sup>TH</sup> HOUR TURN MANKIND'S DARKEST HOUR INTO ITS FINEST PRODUCED &amp; PRESENTED BY LEONARDO DICAPRIO</p>	<p>The 11<sup>th</sup> Hour</p>	<p>Leonardo di Caprio presents</p>
 <p>BBC THE TRUTH ABOUT CLIMATE CHANGE DAVID ATTENBOROUGH</p>	<p>The Truth about Climate Change</p>	<p>David Attenborough</p>
 <p>HOME YANN ARTHUS-BERTRAND</p>	<p>Home</p>	
<p>Country File (BBC)</p>		<p>Regular series which runs on a Sunday evening covering lots of areas of the Environmental Studies course.</p>



# French

- [www.tv5.org](http://www.tv5.org)
  - Click on 'langue française' followed by 'apprendre le français' - wide range of interactive materials to develop vocab and grammar
  - Click on 'langue française' followed by '7 jours sur la planète' - a video clip with a weekly round-up of the world news in French with interactive activities pitched at a range of levels to test understanding
- [www.zut.org.uk](http://www.zut.org.uk)
  - Free after 4pm and at weekends- range of year 12 and 13 listening, reading, grammar and vocab resources on a variety of topics
- [www.bonjourdefrance.com](http://www.bonjourdefrance.com)
  - Interactive grammar, vocab, listening, reading and cultural activities
- Watch French TV online:
  - [www.france2.fr](http://www.france2.fr)
  - [www.france3.fr](http://www.france3.fr)
- Read French newspapers online:
  - [www.lemonde.fr](http://www.lemonde.fr)
  - [www.lexpress.fr](http://www.lexpress.fr)
  - <http://www.journauxfrancais.net>
    - A site with links to all the online French national and regional newspapers
- <http://www.institut-francais.org.uk>
  - Visit the French Institute in London- look at the website for details of specific courses, films, exhibitions etc. on offer
- [www.franceinlondon.com](http://www.franceinlondon.com)
  - A guide to French cultural events taking place in London
- [www.frenchradiolondon.com](http://www.frenchradiolondon.com)
  - Listen to the French radio station aimed at French speakers living in and around London either online or via digital radio.

# Geography

## Books

- Powerdown: Options and Actions for a Post-Carbon World (2004) by Richard Heinberg.
- The Grapes of Wrath (1939) by John Steinbeck.
- The Great Thirst – Californians and Water (1992) by Norris Hundley.
- Six Degrees: Our Future on a Hotter Planet (2008) by Mark Lynas.
- The Global casino (4<sup>th</sup> edition 2008) by Nick Middleton.
- Tinker, Tailor, Soldier, Spy (1974) and Smiley's people (1979) by John Le Carre – also watch the BBC's film series of these books, available on DVD.
- The New Rulers of the World (2003) by John Pilger.
- The White Tiger by Aravind Adiga (The Man Booker prize winner in 2008).
- The Debt Boomerang (1991) by Susan George.
- Fixing Climate (2008) by Wallace Broecker and Robert Kunzig.
- There is no such thing as a natural disaster ( 2006) by Chester Hartman and Gregory D Squires ( about the New Orleans flood).
- Richter 10- Taming the Earthquakes (1996) by Arthur Clarke and (late) Mike McQuay.
- Volcano – Nature's Inferno (1997) National geographic.
- Geography: An integrated approach by David Waugh (various editions). Excellent breadth and depth of A-Level content.
- Climate Wars: The Fight For Survival As The World Overheats by Gwynne Dyer.
- Here on Earth by Tim Flannery.

## Films

- Volcano (1997)
- Dantes Peak (1997)
- Earthquake (1974)
- Flood (2007)- a film about the technology in saving London!
- A.I. (2001)- Artificial Intelligence
- Water First- Reaching the Millennium Development Goals (2008) directed by Amy Hart. An inspiring story from Malawi
- Cyclo (1995) A Vietnamese film
- Tsotse (2005) a highly acclaimed but very violent film of life in black South African townships
- The Hunt for Red October (1990)
- When The Wind Blows (1986) a chilling cartoon
- State of the Planet – a series made in 2001 and presented by David Attenborough
- The Waterfront (2007)
- There will be blood (2007)
- Three Kings (1999)- a film based on an attempt to control Kuwait's oil fields
- Jarhead (2005) also about the Desert Storm conflict
- An Inconvenient Truth (2006) presented by Al Gore (Global Warming)
- Human Planet – 8 part BBC documentary series (2011) looking at human species interaction with the natural world

- City of God (2002) – Terrific film which examines life in Brazil’s turbulent and often violent favelas.
- Blood Diamond (2006) – Political war thriller depicting the ferocious business of trading diamonds mined in African war zones.
- Wall. E (2008) Covers themes of Globalisation and brand power. Also, environmental issues depicted through scenes of a post-apocalyptic world devoid of all natural life.
- Children of Men (2006) – Themes of population and migration.
- Simon Reeve (presenter) - Various BBC documentaries covering both physical and human geographical themes.
  1. Equator (2006)
  2. Tropic of Capricorn (2008)
  3. Tropic of Cancer (2010)
- Slumdog Millionaire - provides an insight into the life of children living in the Indian slums the problems associated here. Also illustrates how they are trying to improve education to enable development.
- Erin Brockovich - a good film that presents the negative impacts of the natural gas industry and the extent to which large companies are prepared to go to, to cover this up. Not only would this be good for the AS Energy module but also globalisation with reference to the negative impact of TNCs.
- [The Revenge of Gaia by James Lovelock](#) - applies the Gaia hypothesis to global climate change - again an intriguing read which presents some interesting ideas and solutions to problems we are likely to face with population expansion and coming global climate change.

## Websites

- <http://www.s-cool.co.uk/a-level/geography>
- <http://www.georesources.co.uk/indexalevel.htm>
- <http://www.geography.org.uk/resources>
- <http://www.nationalgeographic.com/>
- <http://www.edexcel.com/subjects/Geography/Pages/Useful-websites.aspx>

## German

Look at national websites for newspapers like Die Welt, Das Bild, Die Zeit, Der Tagesspiegel, etc. Pick out interesting news items or articles and go through them, looking up new vocabulary. Bring anything interesting you find to talk about in class, particularly anything related to the topic we are covering at the time.

**Watch** any German films you can. Even your local Blockbusters store has some films in German. This is fantastic listening practice, particularly as we don't usually have time to watch a whole film at school. If necessary put the English subtitles on, but if you do, try and watch it a second time without them. Make it fun and set up a DVD with popcorn evening with the other people in your class. Talk about the film afterwards, then come and tell me about it.

**Read** any books about Germany that you can find, even if they are in English. The more you know, the easier it will be to come up with ideas in an oral, and understand reading and listening texts in an exam.

Also read literature in German.

Use **Youtube.com** at home to watch clips in German on topics we are studying in class. Use **google.de** as your search engine instead of **google.co.uk**.

Watch online TV in German. Go to:

<http://www.dw.de/deutsch-lernen/nachrichten/s-8030>

<http://www.dw.de/>

<http://www.ard.de/>

<http://www.tagesschau.de/>

# Government & Politics

## Books

### For AS

- UK Government & Politics (Philip Allan Updates) by Philip Lynch & Paul Fairclough
- Understanding AS Level Government and Politics by Christopher Wilson
- AQA Government and Politics AS by Duncan Watts
- UK Government and Politics Annual Survey by Paul Fairclough, Richard Kelly & Eric Magee

### For A2

- US Government & Politics by Anthony J. Bennett
- American Politics and Society by David McKay
- Understanding American Government & Politics by Duncan Watts

## Websites and Magazines:

- HLP and Link to Politics Review
- Talking Politics
- Economist
- Quality Newspapers
- Any pressure group websites e.g. [www.greenpeace.org.uk](http://www.greenpeace.org.uk)
- [www.bbc.co.uk](http://www.bbc.co.uk)
- [www.labour.org.uk](http://www.labour.org.uk)
- [www.libdems.org.uk](http://www.libdems.org.uk)
- [www.conservative.com](http://www.conservative.com)
- [www.electoral-reform.org.uk](http://www.electoral-reform.org.uk)
- [www.statistics.gov.uk](http://www.statistics.gov.uk)
- [www.washingtonpost.com](http://www.washingtonpost.com)
- [www.nytimes.com](http://www.nytimes.com)
- [www.washingtontimes.com](http://www.washingtontimes.com)
- [www.realclearpolitics.com](http://www.realclearpolitics.com)
- [www.politics1.com](http://www.politics1.com)
- [www.democrats.org](http://www.democrats.org)
- [www.rnc.org](http://www.rnc.org)

# History

## **General websites**

<http://www.ocr.org.uk/qualifications/by-subject/history/>

[www.activehistory.co.uk](http://www.activehistory.co.uk)

[http://www.history.org.uk/resources/student\\_page\\_1868.html](http://www.history.org.uk/resources/student_page_1868.html)

## **Condition of England 1815-53**

Victorian Social Life: British Social History 1815-1914 by Evans and Jenkins

The Age of Reform by Brendon

Chartism by Behagg

Chartism by Royle

The Condition of England 1815-53 by Scott Baumann

## **Peace and War: International Relations 1890-1941**

### General

Rivalry and Accord: International Relations 1870-1914 by Lowe

The Origins of the First and Second World Wars by McDonough

War and Peace: International Relations 1914-45 Williamson

### Assess the causes of the First World War

The Origins of the First World War by Martel

Origins of the First World War by Henig

Origins of the First World War by Koch

### Why did the First World War last so long before Germany was defeated?

The First World War by Brendon

The First World War by Keegan

The First World War by Taylor

Butchers and Bunglers of World War One by Laffin

Assess the aims, the terms and the immediate impact of the Paris Peace settlement.

Versailles and After by Henig

Peacemakers by Macmillan

The First World War Peace Settlements 1919-25 by Goldstein

Assess the success of international diplomacy in resolving disputes in the 1920s.

The League of Nations by Bassett

Locarno Diplomacy. Germany and the West 1925-9 by Jacobson

The League of Nations, its Life and Times by Northedge

Assess the reasons for the outbreak of War in Europe in 1939.

Hitler, Appeasement and the Road to war 1933-41 by Darby

The Origins of the Second World War in Europe by Bell

The Origins of the Second World War by Taylor

Assess the reasons for war in Asia to 1941.

Japan and the League of Nations – Empire and World Order by Burkman

The Long Shadow: Reflections on the Second World War by Rose

**Nazi Germany**

Weimar and Nazi Germany by Hinton and Hite

Hitler: A Study in Tyranny by Bullock

The Third Reich in Power by Evans

Hitler by Kershaw

Inside Nazi Germany by Peukert

Nazis: A Warning From History (BBC documentary series)

**Russia and its rulers 1855-1964**

[http://www.schoolhistory.co.uk/alevel/modern\\_european\\_russian.shtml](http://www.schoolhistory.co.uk/alevel/modern_european_russian.shtml)

# Maths

## Books:

Why do buses come in threes? – Rob Easterway

Fermat's Last Theorem – Simon Singh

Alex's Adventures in Numberland – Alex Bellos

The Simpsons and their Mathematical Secrets – Simon Singh

## Websites:

<https://www.khanacademy.org/>

<https://archive.org/details/TheNumberDevil>

<http://mathsbank.co.uk/>

[www.mymaths.co.uk](http://www.mymaths.co.uk)



# Music

## **Publications**

- Edexcel Anthology – Julia Winterson
- AS Music Study Guide – 2008 edition – Rhinegold
- AS Music Harmony workbook – Hugh Benham - Rhinegold
- Writing about Music workbook – Alistair Wightman - Rhinegold
- A2 Music Study Guide – 3<sup>rd</sup> edition – Rhinegold
- History of Music – Cambridge assignments in Music – Roy Bennett
- A History of Western Music – Burkholder, Grout and Palisca

## **Websites/Listening resources**

- [www.lso.co.uk/gcse-a-level](http://www.lso.co.uk/gcse-a-level) - introductions to various eras in the history of music – A level detail plus specific workshops on some set works
- Classicfm
- BBC Radio 3

# Music Technology

## Books: -

- ***Creative Recording 1*** Paul White
- ***Creative Recording 2*** Paul White
- ***How Music Works: A listener's guide to harmony, keys, broken chords, perfect pitch and the secrets of a good tune*** John Powell
- ***Music Technology A survivor's Guide*** Paul White (***Recording and Production Techniques*** Paul White)
- ***Perfecting Sound Forever: The Story of Recorded Music*** Greg Milner
- ***Pop Music: The Text Book*** Toby Bricheno, Peter Nickol, Julia Winterson
- ***Quick Guide to Dance Music*** Ian Waugh
- ***Rock Music Styles*** Katherine Charlton

## Magazines: -

- Sound on Sound
- Future Music
- Music Tech Magazine
- Electronic Music Magazine
- Computer Music

## Films: -

- 24 hour party people
- Quadrophenia
- Ray
- Saturday Night Fever
- The Blues Brothers
- This is Spinal Tap
- Walk the line

## Useful Websites: -

Music technology A level resources  
Music technology student resources  
Music technology magazine

<http://sbsmusictech.wordpress.com/>  
<http://musictechstudent.co.uk/music-technology/>  
<http://www.soundonsound.com/>

## Places to visit: -

- The Music Museum (London)
- British Music Experience (London)

# PE

## **Books:**

- Bevis, P & Murray, M. AQA AS Physical Education (2008) Nelson Thornes.
- Roscoe D, Davis B, Roscoe J. AS Revise PE for AQA (2010) Jan Roscoe Publications
- Bizley, K. AQA Physical Education (2009) Nelson Thornes.
- Clegg, C. Exercise Physiology And Functional Anatomy (1995) Feltham Press
- Walder, P. Mechanics And Sport Performance (1998) Feltham Press (1998)
- Burrows, S. Byrne, M. Young, S. AQA AS Physical Education Student Revision Guide (2008) Philip Allan Updates
- Wiggins-James, N. James, R. Thompson, G. AS PE for AQA (2005) Heinemann

Also

- Sports rule books and coaching guides
- Sports Biographies/Autobiographies

## **Journals**

- Journal of Sports Sciences
- Journal of Sport & Social Issues
- All sports magazines will offer a view on performing, coaching, science, current issues or history of sport(s). They are therefore valuable wider reading material
- National newspapers. The sports pages report global events and the biggest issues

## **TV**

- Sky sports news
- Live sport – watch local, national and global events.
- Sports biographies and 'day in the life of' programs give an excellent insight into the world of the elite athlete

## **Websites**

- [www.mypeexam.com](http://www.mypeexam.com)
- [www.sportengland.org](http://www.sportengland.org)
- [www.brianmac.co.uk](http://www.brianmac.co.uk)
- NGB websites
  - e.g. The FA [www.thefa.com](http://www.thefa.com), The RFU [www.rfu.com](http://www.rfu.com) etc.

## **Live sport**

- Active involvement in a sports club or team is essential.
- Go to live sports fixtures and events – This is fun and may help your grades!

# Philosophy and Ethics

## **Books**

*The Puzzle of God* Peter Vardy

*The Puzzle of Evil* Peter Vardy

*The Puzzle of Ethics* Peter Vardy

*The Blind Watchmaker* Richard Dawkins

## **Journals**

R.E. Review (in the dept.)

Look for ethical issues reported in newspapers

## **Websites**

[www.bbc.co.uk/religion](http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion)

[www.iep.utm.edu](http://www.iep.utm.edu) (Internet Encyclopaedia of Philosophy)

[www.philosophypages.com](http://www.philosophypages.com)

# Physics

## Books

- A short History of Nearly Everything - Bill Bryson
- Why don't penguins' feet freeze? – NewScientist
- The Grand Design – Stephen Hawkin and Leonard Mlodinow
- Newton – Peter Ackroyd
- The Quantum Universe: Everything that can happen does happen – Brian Cox and Jeff Forshaw

## Magazines/journals

- *Physics World*
- *Scientific American*
- *New Scientist*

## Places of Interest-London

- Science Museum
- Imperial war museum
- The planetarium
- Greenwich observatory
- The space museum (Washington DC)

## Websites

[www.iop.org](http://www.iop.org)

[www.sixtysymbols.com](http://www.sixtysymbols.com)

[www.physicsworld.com](http://www.physicsworld.com)

<http://home.web.cern.ch/topics/large-hadron-collider>

# Psychology

## Books

- [Freud for Beginners](#) by Richard Appignanesi and Oscar Zarate
- *Introducing Psychology: A Graphic Guide to Your Mind and Behaviour* by Nigel Benson
- [Mindwatching: Why We Behave the Way We Do](#) by H.J. Eysenck and Michael W. Eysenck
- [Psychology: A Very Short Introduction](#) by Gillian Butler and Freda McManus
- *Psychology of Mind, Science and Behaviour* by R Gross (5th edition)
- *Routledge Modular Psychology Series:*
  - Awareness: biorhythms, sleep and dreaming
  - Classification and diagnosis
  - Early socialisation
  - Evolutionary explanations of human behaviour
  - Interpersonal relationships
  - Memory and forgetting
  - Physiological basis of behaviour
  - Psychopathology
  - Social cognition
  - Theoretical approaches in psychology
  - Therapeutic approaches

## Magazines/journals

- *Psychology Review* (Quarterly)
- *The Psychologist* (Monthly)
- *Scientific American* (Monthly)

## Websites/organisations

- *The British Psychological Society (BPS):* <http://www.bps.org.uk>
- *Washington University Neuroscience Dept:* <http://faculty.washington.edu/chudler/neurok.html>

# Sociology

## Magazines/journals

Key magazines would include:

- Sociology Review – available at a reduced rate subscription through the school
- New Internationalist
- The New Statesmen
- The Economist

All newspapers are valuable resources for students. A number of key newspapers have sociologists writing articles, and cover stories in a very sociological in-depth way. Key newspapers include:

- The Guardian – On Tuesday there is a useful 'Education' supplement, and on Wednesday there is a useful 'Society' supplement
- The Independent.
- The Times
- The Observer
- The Telegraph
- The Financial Times

## Television

Almost all television programmes have sociological value. From soaps & Big Brother to current affairs and documentaries. Ones to look out for include:

- Panorama (BBC1)
- Channel 4 News
- Cutting Edge (C4)
- Have I Got News For You

## Websites

- [www.educationforum.co.uk/sociology\\_2/onlinesochohome.htm](http://www.educationforum.co.uk/sociology_2/onlinesochohome.htm)
- [www.sociology.org.uk/](http://www.sociology.org.uk/)

AQA Home Page:

[http://www.aqa.org.uk/qual/gce/sociology\\_new.php](http://www.aqa.org.uk/qual/gce/sociology_new.php)

S-Cool Revision Site:

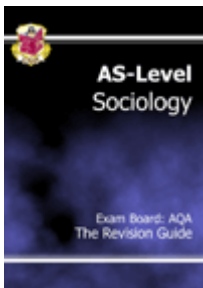
[http://www.s-cool.co.uk/topic\\_index.asp?subject\\_id=64](http://www.s-cool.co.uk/topic_index.asp?subject_id=64)

Sociology Central:  
<http://www.sociology.org.uk/>

National Statistics:  
<http://www.statistics.gov.uk/glance/>

Sociology Resources  
<http://www.ruthssociology.com/>

## Revision





# Spanish

## A LEVEL PREPARATION OUT OF SCHOOL

*Bring anything interesting you find to talk about in class, particularly anything related to the topic we are covering at the time.*

Read national websites for newspapers like ABC, El Mundo, El País, La Vanguardia, Cambio 16 and Muy Interesante. You can even download their Apps. Pick out interesting news items or articles and go through them, looking up new vocabulary.

**Watch** any Spanish films you can. Almodóvar films in Spanish are particularly popular. Mrs Edney will be happy to lend you her copies. This is fantastic listening practice.

**Read** any books about Spain that you can find, even if they are in English. Books like Dave Boling's Guernica and Victoria Hislop's The Return give you an insight into Spain at the time of the Civil War. Ian Gibson's Fire in the Blood: The New Spain has an enormous amount of information on Spain over the last century up to modern times. The more you know, the easier it will be to come up with ideas in an oral, and understand reading and listening texts in an exam.

Also read literature in Spanish – especially South American writers like García Márquez and Vargas Llosa. Try works by Antonio Gala, Arturo Perez Reverte and Alberto Vazquez Figueroa who are contemporary writers from Spain. Again, we have copies of Spanish literature in school or if there is a particular play or book you want to read Mrs Edney or Miss Packer may have a copy.

Use **Youtube.com** at home to watch clips in Spanish on topics we are studying in class. You can watch Easter processions, see fiestas like La Tomatina, carnival or San Fermín, listen to Spanish singers like Joaquin Sabina or Ana Belen or watch clips on the environment in Spanish. Use google.es as your search engine instead of google.co.uk. Have a go and set your phone language to Spanish!

There are lots of Spanish language courses in Spain for foreign language learners. Maybe sign up to one? Mrs Edney can guide you in your choice.

**Watch online TV in Spanish. Go to:**

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/languages/spanish/tv/>

[www.newsinslowspanish.com](http://www.newsinslowspanish.com)

[www.antena3.com](http://www.antena3.com)

[www.rtve.es](http://www.rtve.es)

There are many **websites** offering practice in the Spanish language. Try:-

<http://cvc.cervantes.es> (for the Instituto de Cervantes)

<http://spanishrevision.co.uk> (go to the A level index)

<http://lightbulblanguages.co.uk> (go to Resources and A'level)

[www.conjugemos.com](http://www.conjugemos.com) – excellent for practising conjugating verbs.

[www.languagesonline.org.uk](http://www.languagesonline.org.uk)

# Theatre Studies

## Books

### **AS Level**

*Antigone – NHB classics – Sophocles, translated by Don Taylor*  
*Greek Theatre Performance: An Introduction by David Wiles*  
*Guide to Greek Theatre and Drama by Kenneth McLeish*

### **Practitioners**

*An Actor Prepares by Constantin Stanislavski*  
*The complete Brecht toolkit by Stephen Unwin*  
*The Theatre and its double by Antonin Artaud*

### **A2**

*The Revenger's Tragedy (New mermaids edition) edited by Brian Gibbons*  
*The Trial by Steven Berkoff*  
*Steven Berkoff and the theatre of self-performance by Robert Cross*

## Bookshops:

**National Theatre Bookshop** – Royal National Theatre, Southbank, London  
**Reading library** has a good collection of play scripts

## YOUTH THEATRES IN READING

### **PROGRESS THEATRE**

<http://www.progresstheatre.co.uk/get-involved/youth-theatre>

### **READING YOUTH THEATRE**

<http://www.thehexagon.co.uk/members/General.asp?id=SX1343-A78157C0>

### **READING REPARTORY THEATRE**

<http://www.readingrep.com/?gclid=CKHWhuaHrr4CFQbMtAodfQIAWg>

### **SOUTH STREET YOUTH THEATRE**

<http://www.readingarts.com/Category.asp?cat=2382>

### **READING BETWEEN THE LINES THEATRE COMPANY**

<http://www.readingbetweenthelines.co.uk/education/education/foundations.html>

### **STARMAKER**

<http://starmakeruk.org/wordpress2/diary/auditions/>

### **BERZERK PRODUCTIONS**

<http://www.berzerkproductions.com/>