

The Crypt School



A Level Summer Super Curriculum Further reading and resources

2023-24

To help students with of A Level study we have put together a Super Curriculum Booklet. The aim of this booklet is for students to read beyond the taught curriculum at A Level. This is primarily aimed at students already in Year 12 and 13 and especially for those who intend on attending a Russell Group University or an Apprenticeship where you need to show evidence of your passion and deeper understand in a subject.

Year 12 Academic Enrichment

Record the **Academic Enrichment** activities that you have participated in/ completed to extend your learning beyond the taught curriculum:

Example	Description of activity/ What have you learnt?
Extended Project Qualification (EPQ)	
Future Learn	
MOOC	
Further reading for a subject	
Subject based Olympiad/ Challenge	
Subject based club	
Teaching English as a Foreign Language (TEFL)	
Activity completed from the Super Curriculum booklet	
Tedtalk	
Podcast	
University Visit	
Visited an Art Gallery/ Museum	
Other?	

Please find below a range of websites that are available to support a range of subjects and interests:

Unifrog: A website that Crypt students have a password for other schools may use. This is great for researching future University courses, apprenticeships as well as well being. Plus a whole range of other great resources.

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

Seneca learning: (a free learning tool for both GCSE and A Level)

<https://www.senecalearning.com/>

Brighton College: (a range of free resources for numerous subject areas)

<https://www.brightoncollege.org.uk/college/enrichment/onlinelearning/>

My tutor online school: (free resources to support learning from home)

https://m.mytutor.co.uk/online-school/?dm_i=5PMK,W3T,4USPK,328I,1

The next 20-30 pages includes subject specific further reading, resources and challenge from Crypt teachers:

Applying for Art –

Before choosing an undergraduate degree course **check to see if a pre-degree course is necessary first.** Sometimes referred to as Further Education (FE) courses; they give the opportunity to explore a wide range of subject areas before choosing a specialism for undergraduate-level study.

Most Arts based courses will require **the submission of a Portfolio of work.** Practical subjects such as architecture, art and photography will require images worked on to be included, while film programmes will require digital files of work. Similarly, more theory based topics will need evidence of writing ability.

The portfolio, should showcase creativity, imagination and technical ability relevant to the area of chosen study. It should consist of high quality images or pieces of work, including sketches and drafts to show how ideas have developed to demonstrate artistic skills and style. Most universities want to see hard copies of work, but may also expect the submitting of the portfolio as a digital file.

Preparations in addition to A Level Art work will need to be undertaken to demonstrate the key skills they will be looking for. Some key skills for Art & Design courses (depending on the area of specialism – i.e. Fashion/Fine Art/Graphics etc.) may include

- Imagination, creativity and ingenuity
- Critical awareness
- Interpersonal and social skills
- An appreciation for diversity
- Creative problem-solving and decision-making
- IT including using creative software

Some Courses will interview candidates, typical questions are –

- Why do you want to do this course?
- Did you attend the open day?
- Why do you want to study here?
- Do you have a favourite artist?
- What are your favourite books/magazines/films?
- What contemporary practitioner or artist inspires you?
- What are your most successful pieces of work?
- What exhibitions have you visited recently?
- Have you any ambitions of what you want to do in the future?

•**What extra-curricular preparation have you done?** – Exhibitions visited, addition courses/art clubs/drawing circles taken part in. Addition sketchbooks and journals compiled in addition to school based work. Which express motivation and enthusiasm, as well as a self-developed artistic education.

Biology

Magazines and Journals

New Scientist (www.newscientist.com)

Nature (www.nature.com)

Biological Sciences Review (<https://www.liverpool.ac.uk/life-sciences/outreach/biological-sciences-review/>)

Big Picture <https://bigpictureeducation.com/>

British Medical Journal (<http://www.bmj.com>)

Scientific American (<https://www.scientificamerican.com/>)

Books

Blood Work: A Tale of Medicine and Murder in the Scientific Revolution, Holly Tucker

Life Ascending, Nick Lane.

Genome, Matt Ridley.

The Energy of Life, Guy Brown

Bad Science, Ben Goldacre

The Human Brain: A Guided Tour, Susan Greenfield

The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks, Rebecca Skloot.

The Epigenetics Revolution, Nessa Carey

The Incredible Unlikelihood of Being, Alice Roberts

Calculus Diaries, Jennifer Ouellette.

Seed to Seed, Nicholas Harberd

The Botany of Desire, Michael Pollan

The Selfish Gene, Richard Dawkins

The Unnatural Nature of Science, Lewis Wolpert

Websites

www.intobiology.org.uk – A website that gives information on the latest research into Biology

www.aobblog.com – Short summary blog of up-to-date research on plant biology and ecology

<https://www.ted.com/topics/biology> - Educational lectures around many different subject areas

<https://www.rsm.ac.uk/> and <https://www.rsb.org.uk/> - Royal society for medicine and biology

<http://www.accessexcellence.org/RC/VL/GG/> - Animations on latest development in biotechnology

<https://www.bma.org.uk/> - Latest news in the world of medical sciences

<https://www.bva.co.uk/> - Latest news in the world of veterinary sciences

Miscellaneous

Cambridge Science Podcasts: www.thenakedscientists.com/HTML/podcasts/

Oxford Science Podcasts: <http://podcasts.ox.ac.uk/units/mathematical-physical-life-sciences-division>

Radio programmes on Medical Ethics: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b007xbtd>

Radio 4 Science and Nature Podcasts: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/radio/categories/factual-scienceandnature>

Online courses to help develop your subject knowledge and stand out from the crowd –

<https://www.futurelearn.com/partners/university-of-leeds>

or <http://www.open.edu/openlearn/science-maths-technology/science/biology>

Business

It is important to challenge yourself to see what is possible. You do not know until you try. This booklet has been designed to give you ideas to broaden your understanding and to challenge your skills within a Business context. You may not do them all, however, even if you only attempt one, you will improve your knowledge and understanding of Business and hopefully your love for the subject. It will also capture your imagination and inspire you to enquire further into topic areas.

Challenge One

Listen to the [Business As Usual](#) podcast.

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC6ge7hG78ys_wERt4SbZQWg

This written by Business teachers each week and rounds up the key business stories of the week.

Challenge Two

Investigate an industry of your choice. For example, Clothing retail, Electricity, Motor Vehicle industries.

Write an article for a broadsheet newspaper that analyses that industry, how it has changed over the past 5 years and how things may change in the next 5 years.

Challenge Three

Analyse a chosen business. How has it progressed year on year? How do you know?

Can you:

Access the Annual Accounts

Identify the Profit for the last few years

Identify the Dividends issued to shareholders

Create a case study of your findings

Challenge Four

Create your own Podcast that investigates a topic of your choice. For example, **imports and exports**; the role that **advertising** plays promoting product; the benefits that **technology** has had on production.

Challenge Five

Take part in business competitions. Young Enterprise have teamed up with TELOS to offer an essay writing competition for young people up to the age 18. Full details can be found by clicking [here](#). Scroll down to 'Entry Criteria' for further details.

<https://www.young-enterprise.org.uk/telos-sustainable-success-competition>

Challenge Six

Expand your reading by researching articles by respected academics, such as

- Charles Handy
- Tom Peters
- Peter Drucker
- Ian Marcouse

There are range of books you are able to read to enhance your knowledge and joy of the subjects. Some examples include:

- 7 Habits of Highly Effective People – Stephen R. Covey
 - Book Summary Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ktlTxC4QG8g&t=23s>
 - Audio Book FREE - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nDDWLXI60TY>
- How To Win Friends & Influence People – Dale Carnegie
 - Book Summary Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0uMZi1gc0Nc>
 - Audio Book FREE - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hQDV9M7yeX4>
- In Search of Excellence – Tom Peters & Waterman
 - Book Summary Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H_xZoFxpT0
 - Book Summary Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sWK9RwGTWNA>
- The Effective Executive – Peter Drucker
 - Book Summary Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UVYg6qQ2YK4>
 - Audio Book FREE - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ucdilms_XBM
- Strengths Finder 2.0 – Tom Rath
 - Book Summary Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qS1mT_NmDoM
- Built to Last: Successful Habits of Visionary Companies – Jim Collins
 - Book Summary Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NcgjPrcoSH0&t=6s>
- Good To Great – Jim Collins
 - Book Summary Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Yk7bzZjOXaM&t=1s>
 - Audio Book FREE - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WNJ6ZrfOCX8>
- Think & Grow Rich: The Secret to Wealth Updated for the 21st Century – Napoleon Hill
 - Book Summary Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jwmxp2UNyVY>
 - Audio Book FREE - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TMbOEj5ofMU>
- Rich Dad, Poor Dad – Kyosaki
 - Book Summary Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wuSgn8511fQ>
 - Audio Book FREE - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q0Dwa7Bh-zE>
- Awaken the Giant Within – Tony Robbins
 - Book Summary Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kw-Mz0-zSUG>
- The 4 Hour Work Week – Tim Ferriss
 - Book Summary Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j3TeLsaKzAM>
 - Audio Book FREE - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sSN7OFBPwYo>
- Legacy: What the All Black's Can Teach Us About the Business of Life – James Kerr
 - Book Summary Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7ncqQt4j_Cc
- Chop Wood, Carry Water: How to Fall in Love with the Process of Becoming Great – Joshua Medcalf
 - Book Summary Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vL1qpbTCmog>
- The Virgin Way – Richard Branson
 - Audio Book FREE - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5wz40rdz7i4>

- The Everything Store: Jeff Bezos and the Age of Amazon – Brad Stone
 - Book Summary Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IDh2R6M6jfw>
- Elon Musk – Ashlee Vance
 - Book Summary Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rWU6tUISG9w>
- Shoe Dog: A Memoir by the Creator of Nike – Phil Knight
 - Book Summary Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PHtFbB0Z_N4
 - Audio Book FREE - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=565nBHNInqI>
- It's Not about the Coffee: Lessons on Putting People First – Howard Behar
 - Book Summary Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w355vtnDae8>
- 5 Languages of Appreciation in the Workplace: Empowering Organisations by Encouraging People – Chapman and White
 - Book Summary Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TmU_CPox9NQ
- Start with Why – Simon Sinek
 - Book Summary Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wb8KpHqU5tg>
 - Audio Book FREE - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HDhU2SA0eaw>
- Crucial Conversations – Tools for Talking when Stakes are high – Patterson et al
 - Book Summary Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EFaXx3pgaxM>
 - Audio Book FREE - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I0EQ52VRjAM>
- The New One Minute Manager – Blanchard & Johnson
 - Book Summary Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v3NLetsLYu4>
 - Audio Book FREE - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ar4lrwXM4ao>
- The Little Black Book of Human Resource Management – Barry Wolfe
 - Book Summary Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dF19ZU9UBeo>
- Carrots & Sticks Don't Work – Marciano (Culture)
 - Book Summary Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ddrGOjZ5W6U>
 - Book Summary Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4YvuDRjpG8c>
- Our Iceberg is Melting – John Kotter (Change Management)
 - Book Summary Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gh2xc6vXQgk>
- The Energy Bus – Jon Gordan
 - Book Summary Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WVNP6avC1Iq>
- Leaders Eat Last – Simon Sinek
 - Book Summary Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VZar2kAqyzQ>
 - Audio Book FREE - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xqiAqNSQ7gQ>
- The 21 Irrefutable Laws of Leadership – John C Maxwell
 - Book Summary Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EyW6neGd1Nw>
 - Audio Book FREE - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rKC3eTxoHi0>
- Freakonomics – Levitt & Dubner
 - Book Summary Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R0CoI3Ohptg>
- Buyology – Lindstrom
 - Book Summary Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aN_I0yc_YQ4
- The Total Money Makeover – Dave Ramsey
 - Book Summary Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h-fcl7W-ucY>

- Lean In – Sheryl Sandberg
 - Audio Book FREE - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Yw4tkf6EsaY>
 - Book Summary Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z7qYTD_zhvo
- Give and Take – Adam Grant
 - Book Summary Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YyXRYgjQXX0>



Useful Websites & Podcasts:

The Royal Society of Chemistry (RSC) has an excellent website <http://www.rsc.org/> which will be a useful source of information

Example: Podcasts on different elements [Periodic Table: Podcast](#)

‘Chemistry World’ - An interesting, accessible & topical publication – you are bound to find something here that interests you & will be useful for extending your knowledge, UCAS applications & interviews [Chemistry World](#)

‘Periodic videos’ is a YouTube channel hosted by Sir Martyn Poliakoff that has a video for every element on the periodic table and also demonstrates a lot of exothermic reactions. [Periodic Videos - YouTube](#)

Reading:

There are many good science-based books available to read for fun in popular fiction such as:

- *What if?*, Randall Munroe
- *A is for Arsenic, the poisons of Agatha Christie*, Kathryn Harkup
- *The Knowledge: How to rebuild our world after an apocalypse*, Lewis Dartnell
- *Stuff Matters*, Mark Miodownik

Wider reading : For more specific reading and UCAS applications, there are also many good books available, search online or in a bookshop. Choose one (or two) & ensure that you can describe how they interested you. There are too many to list but a selection are:

- *Why chemical reactions happen* – James Keeler & Peter Wothers
- *The periodic kingdom, a journey into the land of chemical elements* – P.W.Atkins
- *Four Laws that drive the Universe* - P.W.Atkins
- *Nature’s Building blocks* – J. Emsley
- *Molecules at an exhibition* – J. Emsley
- *Magic molecules – how drugs work* – Susan Aldridge
- *Chemistry, an introduction to Organic, Inorganic and Physical Chemistry* – Prof Catherine Housecroft

If you do not currently, or intend to, study maths at A-level, you may wish to have a book to help you:

- *Maths for Chemists* - Martin Cockett and Graham Doggett

Journals: The RSC has free access to many journals (see below) but it also has its own journal which focuses on reviewing new and emerging topics of chemistry, and brings together all the research on that topic which makes interesting reading [Chemical Society Reviews](#)

For more specific research & interesting articles, access the free journals

http://pubs.rsc.org/en/journals?_ga=2.51860395.347455215.1529666660-1795276304.1529666660

There are over 30 available – look at ones that are specific to your interests/the course you are applying for. Some examples are below with links:

- [Analyst](#)1876 - Present
- [Analytical Methods](#)2009 - Present
- [Biomaterials Science](#)2013 - Present
- [Catalysis Science & Technology](#)2011 - Present
- [Chemical Science](#)2010 - Present
- [Environmental Science: Nano](#)2014 - Present
- [Faraday Discussions](#)1991 - Present
- [Green Chemistry](#)1999 - Present
- [Inorganic Chemistry Frontiers](#)2014 - Present

Chemistry specific, commonly used textbooks at Universities (not necessarily the easiest to read but will give you a flavour of the content)

**Some Universities will ask you to purchase/read certain chapters of these books before commencing the course, so maybe worth looking at pre-course reading lists.*

- *Physical Chemistry*, P W Atkins, Oxford University Press
- *Inorganic Chemistry*, Shriver and Atkins, Oxford University Press
- *Foundations of Organic Chemistry*, Hornby & Peach, Oxford Chemistry Primer
- *A Guide to Mechanism in Organic Chemistry*, Sykes, Pearson
- *Organic Chemistry*, Maitland, Jones, Norton
- *Mathematical Methods for Science Students*, G. Stephenson, Pearson
- *Organic Chemistry*, Clayden, Greeves, Warren and Wothers, OUP

For UCAS applications : Some useful websites to access before interviews to ensure you are confident

[Pre-University Chemistry Course](#)

<http://burton.chem.ox.ac.uk/how-to-use-curly-arrows.pdf>

Summer Schools are offered by many universities – search on the internet & ensure you apply early as they are often over-subscribed. A local example is:

[University of Bristol - Sutton Trust](#)

Computer Science

Books

- Computational Fairy Tales by Jeremy Kubica. ISBN: 978-1477550298 - a romp through the principles of computational thinking, illustrating high-level computer science concepts, the motivation behind them, and their application via the medium of a fairy tale. Aimed at secondary school students. "Bonkers, but very enjoyable."
- Computer Science: An Overview by J. Glenn Brookshear. ISBN: 978-0321544285 - overview of what computer science is all about: each topic is presented with its historical perspective, current state, and future potential, as well as ethical issues.
- Code: The Hidden Language of Computer Hardware and Software by Charles Petzold. ISBN: 978-0735611313 - "What do flashlights, the British invasion, black cats, and seesaws have to do with computers? ...see how ingenuity and our very human compulsion to communicate have driven the technological innovations of the past two centuries."
- Out of Their Minds by D Shasha and Cathy Lazere. ISBN: 978-3540979920 - the lives and discoveries of fifteen unsung computer scientists whose programs have helped people from factory owners to cartoonists.
- The Pattern on the Stone: The Simple Ideas That Make Computers Work by Daniel Hillis. ISBN: 978-0465025961 - explains the basic concepts of the computer in everyday language.
- The Information: A History, a Theory, a Flood by James Gleick. ISBN: 978-0007225736 - a chronicle that shows how information has become "the modern era's defining quality - the blood, the fuel, the vital principle of our world."
- The Pleasures of Counting by Tom K rner. ISBN: 978-0521568234 - puts Maths into the context of how it is used to solve real-world problems.
- The Code Book by Simon Singh. ISBN: 978-1857028898 - not strictly about Computer Science, but an interesting introduction to code-breaking and cryptography, fields that have a strong connection to Computer Science.
- The New Turing Omnibus by A Kee Dewdney. ISBN: 978-0805071665 - mini articles on Computer Science topics.
- Algorithmic Puzzles by Anany Levitin and Maria Levitin. ISBN: 978-0199740444 - "...The emphasis lies in training the reader to think algorithmically and develop new puzzle-solving skills: the majority of puzzles are problems where we are asked to find the shortest distance or the fewest moves to get from A to B, or construct a proof that a puzzle has no solution ..."

Drama and Theatre

Books for Drama and Theatre

Callery, D. (2001)
'Through the Body: A Practical Guide to Physical Theatre.' Nick Hern Books, London.

'Theory for Performance Studies: A Student's Guide', London, Taylor & Francis.

'The Frantic Assembly Book of Devising Theatre' (2014) Scott Graham, Steven Hoggett.

'Theatre & History'(Theatre) (2014). Rebecca Schneider.

'Theatre in Practice: A Student's Handbook' (2018) Nick O'Brien, Annie Sutton.

'Grand-Guignol: The French Theatre of Horror'(2002) Richard J Hand.

'Making Contemporary Theatre: International Rehearsal Processes' (Theatre: Theory-Practice-Performance) (2010) Jen Harvie, Andy Lavenderichard

Suggested plays

Edmunson	Coram Boy, Helen
Bertolt Brecht	Caucasian chalk circle,
Mike Bartlett	Earthquakes in London,
Bradley manning, Tim Price	The radicalisation of
Night, AMSND, Hamlet.	Shakespeare – Twelfth
Ibsen	The effect, Lucy Prebble
Anton Chekhov	Oscar Wilde plays
	A Doll's house, Henrik
	The Cherry Orchard,
	Lovesong, Abi Morgan

Journals and Websites

<https://www.nationaltheatre.org.uk/>

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

<https://www.franticassembly.co.uk/> - physical theatre

<https://www.theguardian.com/stage/theatre+tone/reviews> - find reviews for recent productions.

<https://www.londontheatre.co.uk/>

<https://www.tandfonline.com/toc/crde20/current> - Online Drama Journals.

Available from the Drama Department on request – books on theatre, stage design, costume/ make up, masks, special effects and many more...

Theatre Venues and offers

Cheltenham Everyman Theatre - £5 tickets 16-25 year olds to most of their shows!

<https://www.everymantheatre.org.uk/>

Royal Shakespeare Company -

<https://www.rsc.org.uk/students-and-young-people/bp-5-tickets>

Sherman Theatre, Cardiff. Half price tickets for under 25s!

<http://www.shermantheatre.co.uk/homepage/?ga=2.164519871.1056669977.1531136177-983369135.1516607938>

National Theatre Live – broadcast in numerous cinemas all over the country showing a live NT show – usually around £16 but you don't have to travel to London!

<http://ntlive.nationaltheatre.org.uk/>

Theatre Practitioners/ Companies:

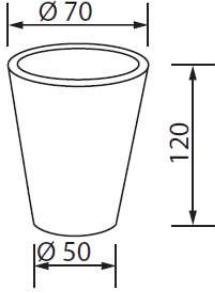
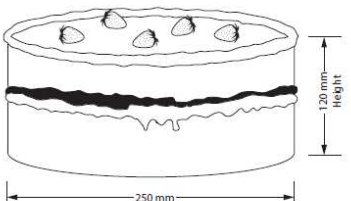
DV8

Frantic assembly

Not Fit State (Circus Theatre)

Gecko

Design Technology

Task 1	<p><u>Play mat</u></p> <p>A large retailer of baby products would like you to design and manufacture a play mat suitable for babies who are unable to walk.</p> <p>Design specification The specification for the product is that it must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • be suitable for babies lying on their front and back • be educational • support the baby's body • be easy to care for • have a visually recognisable theme • include a decorative technique <p>Use sketches and notes to show two different design ideas for the play mat that meet the specification points above.</p>
Task 2	<p><u>Welcome light</u></p> <p>A company is planning to manufacture a welcome light that can be fixed to the outside of a house. Design the welcome light only.</p> <p>Design specification The specification for the welcome light is that it must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have a festive or celebration theme • be brightly coloured • have a suitable power supply • be easy to turn on and off • be fixed to the outside of the house • include one specific material e.g. Pine <p>Use sketches and notes to show two different design ideas for the welcome light that meet the specification points above.</p>
Task 3	<p><u>Drink cup holder</u></p> <p>You have been asked to design a drink cup holder to be used by the waiters in a fast food restaurant.</p> <p>Design specification The specification for the drink cup holder is that it must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • hold four drink cups • stop the cups from falling over as they are carried • be easy to remove the cups from the holder • be easily wiped clean • stack when not being used • be made from materials available in a school workshop <div style="text-align: right; margin-top: 20px;">  <p style="text-align: center;">All dimensions in mm</p> </div> <p>Use sketches and notes to show two different design ideas for the drinks cup holder that meet the specification points above.</p>
Task 4	<p><u>Cake display</u></p> <p>You have been asked to design a cake display unit for a coffee shop.</p> <p>Design specification The specification for the cake displays unit is that it must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • hold two cakes • allow the cakes to be seen by the customers • allow coffee shop staff to access the cakes • protect the cakes from flies <div style="text-align: right; margin-top: 20px;">  </div>

- have a stable base
- allow any crumbs to be removed easily

Use sketches and notes to show two different design ideas for the cake display unit that meet the specification points above.

Investigate the following links:

<https://www.unifrog.org/student/subjects/all/industrial-product-and-packaging-design>

<https://www.unifrog.org/student/subjects/featured/architecture>

<https://www.unifrog.org/student/subjects/featured/graphic-design>

<https://www.unifrog.org/student/subjects/all/civil-engineering>

<https://www.unifrog.org/student/subjects/all/general-engineering>

ECONOMICS

Take part in Economics competitions. They are regularly published in the Financial Times for School's. Institute of Economic Affairs and Bank of England's websites:

<https://www.ft.com/stream/dc4eb395-7eaa-4cea-a0c8-4ad46ec26347>

<https://www.bankofengland.co.uk/education/competitions>

<https://iea.org.uk/essay-competition/>

Check out competitions, articles and suggested and texts at CoreEcon – Economics for sustainability.

<https://www.core-econ.org/>

Do some really ambitious reading, find interest articles on Project Syndicate: <http://www.project-syndicate.org/>

Find some authors of new books on topics of particular interest and which challenge what you have been studying in routine lessons. For example: The Big Three in Economics: Adam Smith, Karl Marx, and John Maynard Keynes Hardcover – 15 Jan 2007 by Mark Skousen

Keep reading:

1. Animal Spirits (Akerlof and Shiller) ISBN: 978-0-691-14233-3
2. Art of Strategy (Dixit and Nalebuff) ISBN: 978-0-393-06243-4
3. Development as Freedom: (Amartya Sen): ISBN: 0192893300
4. Drunkard's Walk (Leonard Mlodinow) ISBN: 0713999225
5. Economics – Short Introduction: (Partha Dasgupta): ISBN: 0192853457
6. How Markets Fail: The Logic of Economic Calamities (John Cassidy) ISBN: 1846143004
7. How we Decide: (Jonah Lehrer) ISBN 978-0-618-62011-1
8. Keynes – the Return of the Master (Skidelsky) ISBN: 184614258X
9. Logic of Life (Tim Harford): ISBN: 0316027561
10. Meltdown – the end of the age of greed (Paul Mason) ISBN: 1844673960
11. New Ideas from Dead Economists (Todd Buchholz) ISBN: 0452288444
12. Origins of Virtue (Matt Ridley) ISBN: 0140244042

13. Predictably Irrational: Hidden Forces That Shape Our Decisions (Dan Ariely) ISBN: 0007256523
14. Prophet of Innovation: Joseph Schumpeter and Creative Destruction (TK McCraw) ISBN: 0674025237
15. Return of Depression Economics and the Crisis of 2008 (Krugman) ISBN: 1846142393
16. The Ascent of Money (Niall Ferguson) ISBN: 014103548X
17. The Big Questions: Tackling the Problems of Philosophy with Ideas from Mathematics, Economics and Physics (Stephen Landsburg) ISBN: 143914821X
18. The Bottom Billion: Why the Poorest Countries Are Failing (Paul Collier): ISBN: 0195374630
19. Why Popcorn Costs So Much at the Movies: Other Pricing Puzzles (McKenzie) ISBN: 0387769994

Watch films about Economics to develop your evaluative skills and ability to transfer theory into practice.

<https://inomics.com/insight/10-movies-all-economists-will-love-1292886>

Follow the News, Economics blogs on Twitter and Instagram such as FT and Tutor 2 u and the School's Economics Instagram page @CryptEconomics.



English Literature

Getting to know Shakespeare rather better



Bate, Jonathan	<i>The Genius of Shakespeare</i> (2016)
Kermode, Frank	<i>Shakespeare's Language</i> (2001)
McDonald, Russ	<i>Shakespeare: an anthology of Criticism and Theory</i> (2004)
Wells, Stanley	<i>Shakespeare's Tragedies: A Very Brief Introduction</i> (2017)

Approaches to fiction



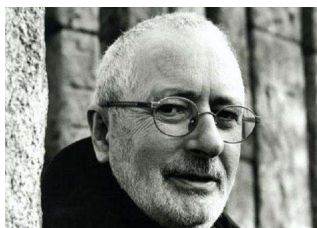
Lodge, David	<i>The Art of Fiction</i>	(1994)
Eagleton, Terry	<i>The English Novel: an Introduction</i>	(2004)
Mullen, John	<i>How Novels Work</i>	(2008)
Wood, James	<i>How Fiction Works</i>	(2009)

Approaches to Poetry



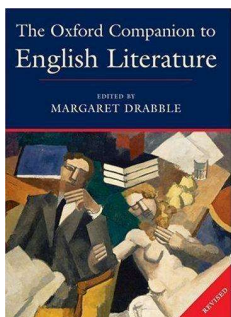
Bloom, Harold	<i>The Art of Reading Poetry</i> (2005)
Eagleton, Terry	<i>How to Read a Poem</i> (2006)
Wolosky, Shira	<i>The Art of Poetry</i> (2008)

Literary Theory



Culler, Jonathan	<i>Literary Theory: A Very Short Introduction</i> (2011)
Selden, Raman (et al)	<i>A Reader's Guide to Contemporary Theory</i> (2018 edition)
Bennet and Royle,	<i>An Introduction to Literature, Criticism and Theory</i> (2016 edition)
Upstone, Sara	<i>Literary Theory: A Complete Introduction</i> (2017)

The Essential Guides



Bate, Jonathan	<i>English Literature: A Very Short Introduction</i> (2010)
Drabble, Margaret	<i>The Oxford Companion to English Literature</i> (2009 edition)
Murfin and Ray,	<i>The Bedford Glossary of Critical and Literary Terms</i> (2009)
Peck and Coyle,	<i>A Brief History of English Literature</i> (2013)
Sutherland, John	<i>A Little History of Literature</i> (2014)

Websites and free online courses



FutureLearn Courses (as of June 2018):
https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/explore-english-shakespeare
https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/english-for-study
Did you know that the Open University offer a number of free courses to anyone older than 16? Some successful Oxbridge and Russell group entrants have worked through Level 1 and 2 modules for fun in the summer.
http://www.open.ac.uk/courses/modules/l185
See what else you can find in the OU website ...
Get in the habit of reading the <i>Books</i> bit of <i>The Guardian</i> website's culture section. Do this with <i>The Independent</i> website too.

You are applying for a place at an old and/or elite institution to read English Literature. You have to seem well above-average. Put yourself in their shoes. Why should they offer you a place? You will need to *interest* them.

General Advice and Points for Reflection:

1. Reflect upon your A Level. What text did you most enjoy this year? Why? What is the purpose of literature? What is the purpose of criticism? You are there to listen and learn, but you are still allowed an opinion. Do remember that they don't want a passenger.
2. Who are the critically acclaimed novelists producing literary fiction at the moment? Are you the sort who peruses a serious novel every few weeks? If not, why not? You need to have much more to talk about than a token book from the young adult shelf. You will be competing with candidates from the best grammar schools and the wealthiest independent schools in the country.
3. Who are the main literary scholars influencing the critical study of texts? Do you at least have a creditable beginner's bearing as to what is going on in your subject?
4. Are you a twentieth-century wonder? You should be prepared to have reading and research interests in seventeenth-, eighteenth- and nineteenth-century literature. If you say foolishly that you have no interest in "old stuff" then you will not make the best impression.
5. Can you express an interest in poetry as well as fiction? You must be prepared to handle verse as well as prose fiction if you wish to read English at a prestigious institution.
6. Is literature merely poems, plays and novels? Can it be letters, speeches, journals, works of political science, histories and philosophical tracts?
7. What are your other A levels? Can history be relevant to the study of literature? Can human geography interest literary critics? Why? Are some of them interested in visual art and other cultural forms? Why? What about psychoanalytical and sociological approaches to literature?
8. It is not too early for you to be checking out the reading lists for first-year modules at your desired university. These can often be found from a mere google search. Type into google "Warwick University English module reading list" and see what comes up. Can you express an interest in and knowledge of these modules at interview? This might make a good impression.
9. You can treat yourself to some of the books in this study pack via amazon.co.uk. Most of these are available as inexpensive paperbacks that can be purchased even cheaper second-hand.
10. What about a dummy interview at the school? It should not be overly friendly: be prepared for challenge and pressure. Is there a teacher who will give you a suitably hard time?

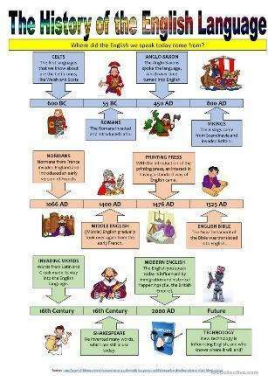
English Language

Start with ownership and extra reading of these course favourites



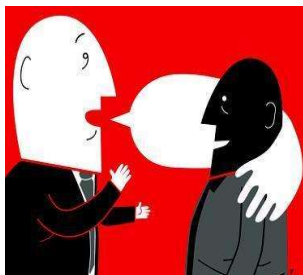
Aitchison, Jean *The Language Web: the Problem and Power of Words* (1996)
 Crystal, David *Rediscover Grammar* (2004 edition)
 Deutscher, Guy *The Unfolding of Language* (2006)
 McWhorter, John *What Language is, What it Isn't and What it Could be* (2011)
 Nelson and Greenbaum, *An Introduction to English Grammar* (2015 edition)
 Pinker, Stephen *The Stuff of Thought: Language as a Window into Human Nature* (2008)

Make further inquiry into the history of the English Language



Bragg, Melvyn *The Adventure of English* (2004)
 Crystal, David *The Stories of English* (2005)
 Crystal, David *The English Language: A Guided Tour* (2002)
 Horobin, Simon *How English became English: A Short History of a Global Language* (2016)

Getting academic – language, society and power



Fairclough, Norman *Language and Power* (2014)
 Holmes, Janet *Power and Politeness in the Workplace* (2003)
 Mooney, Annabelle *Language, Society and Power* (2015)

Language and gender



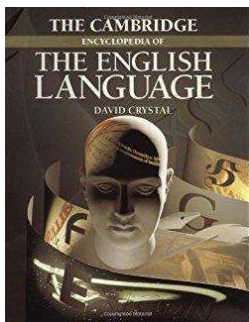
Pichler and Coates, *Language and Gender: A Reader* (2011)
 Talbot, Mary *Language and Gender* (2010)
 Tannen, Deborah *You just Don't Understand* (1990)
 Titjen, Felicity *Language and Gender* (2018)

Children and Language



Ambridge, Ben *Child Language Acquisition: Contrasting Theoretical Approaches* (2011)
 Piaget, Jean *The Language and Thought of the Child* (2001 edition)
 Saxton, Matthew *Child Language: Acquisition and Development* (2017)

The Essential Guides



Websites and free online courses

- Crystal, David *The Cambridge Encyclopaedia of the English Language* (2003 edition)
- Hornsby, David *Linguistics: A Complete Introduction – Teach Yourself* (2014)
- Matthews, P.H. *Linguistics: A Very Short Introduction* (2003)
- Matthews, P.H. *The Concise Oxford Dictionary of Linguistics* (2014)
- McArthur, Tom *The Oxford Companion to the English Language* (1992 edition)



FutureLearn Courses (as of June 2018):

<https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/corpus-linguistics>

<https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/english-for-study>

Blogs that are useful for linguistics:

<https://aggslanguage.wordpress.com/>

Did you know that the Open University offer a number of free courses to anyone older than 16? Some successful Oxbridge and Russell group entrants have worked through Level 1 and 2 modules for fun in the summer.

<http://www.open.ac.uk/courses/modules/l185>

<http://www.open.ac.uk/courses/modules/u214>

See what else you can find in the OU website ...

You are applying for a place at an old and/or elite institution, to take a challenging and quite scientific

approach to English: in short, linguistics. How can you convince them that you have the analytical rigour for this? Be prepared for some challenging questions.

General Advice and Points for Reflection

1. Does language express thought? Or does language control thought? Which comes first? Why?
2. Do males and females use language differently? If so, how? Assuming that they do, why is this the case?
3. Are you comfortable about addressing the thorny issue of language and ethnicity? If not, why not? Some university linguists have done just this.
4. Should formal grammar be taught in primary and secondary schools? Be prepared to justify your choice.
5. Is language an innate property? Or is it intrinsically social? Practise arguing each case.
6. Should British citizens be subject to any form of political correctness? Is it acceptable to attempt to correct a person whose choice of language offends? Be prepared to justify your choice.
7. Be prepared to discuss the *methodology* of your language investigation with the admissions tutor. Have you any ideas for future corpus projects as an undergraduate?
8. Is there English? Or are there Englishes? Why?
9. List as many discussion points as you can under these headings: language and gender, language and region, language and class, language and generations, language and power, and language and ethnicity.
10. You can treat yourself to some of the books in this study pack via amazon.co.uk. Some of these are available as inexpensive paperbacks that can be purchased even cheaper second-hand.

11. What about a dummy interview at the school? It should not be overly friendly: be prepared for challenge and pressure. Is there a teacher who will give you a suitably hard time?

GEOGRAPHY

The study of Geography involves knowledge and understanding of a wide range of different topics. Therefore, many of the suggestions below are starting points which should help you identify your particular areas of interest. A rounded, well-prepared application will have a broad knowledge of current geographical issues whilst having explored some areas in greater depth. The ability of analyse and interpret geographical data (graphs, maps, tables GIS) is also a vital skill and is likely to be tested in interview.

WATCH

- A quality news broadcast e.g. Channel 4 News at 7pm
- Television programmes and documentaries e.g. Blue Planet, BBC Natural History Channel, Countryfile
- Films covering geographical issues e.g. Deep Water Horizon
- TED talks – search by topic for relevant talks e.g. Cities, Environment, Plastic
- Feedback from Keble College, Oxford about the application / interview process:
<http://www.keble.ox.ac.uk/admissions/undergraduate/subjects/past-feedback/geography-2016>

READ

<http://everythingisconnected.io/> (Can be downloaded for free)

Geography: Ideas in Profile by Danny Dorling (available on Amazon)

Geofiles (on school J Drive)

Geography Review Magazine (in Room 39)

‘Prisoners of Geography’ by Tim Marshall

‘Factfulness’ by Hans Rosling

‘Six Degrees’ by Mark Lynas

‘This changes everything’ by Naomi Klein

Suggested reading lists from Oxford University:
<http://www.geog.ox.ac.uk/undergraduate/course/reading-list.html> and
https://www.spc.ox.ac.uk/sites/www.spc.ox.ac.uk/files/Geography_Reading_List_2017.pdf

Suggested reading list from Kings College, Cambridge:
<http://www.kings.cam.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/offerholders/reading-lists/geography.html>

DO

Download the BBC News and / or The Guardian app to your phone AND read it regularly

Work through some of the Introductory and Intermediate courses on the Open Learn website: <http://www.open.edu/openlearn/free-courses/full-catalogue>. There are many free courses on this web site; the last three categories (Nature and Environment, Science, Maths and Technology; Society, Politics and Law) include courses which are more geographical in content.

Go and visit places (especially coasts and cities). Look around you; identify examples of the content covered in lessons; find examples where the theories do not apply

Work through the past papers for the Oxbridge Admissions Tests:

<https://www.undergraduate.study.cam.ac.uk/courses/geography#entry-requirements> (this is the link to the Cambridge Geography Department);

Subscribe to the Geography Review Magazine (see Mrs Brooks for more details)

Work through some of the activities designed to introduce university level study to Sixth Form students on this website: <http://www.myheplus.com/subjects/geography>

Revise all the content of your A Level course so that you are very familiar with all topics.

Government & Politics

ESSENTIAL RESOURCES

Students are expected to follow the news, usually by reading a serious newspaper most days of the week (= *Times*, *Telegraph*, *Guardian* or *Independent*); these are all available online. You should also watch or listen to a reputable news programme regularly, e.g. *Newsnight*, *Channel 4 News*, *Radio 4's Today*, *PM*, etc. Websites such as BBC News are also highly recommended – put it in your favourites on your smartphone.

Students would also benefit from reading one of the weekly news magazines, such as *The Economist*, *The Spectator* or *The Week* (student subscriptions available but all have free online access) and from following political blogs (e.g. Nick Robinson of the BBC, Guido Fawkes, Labour List, LSE Politics and Policy). Give several different ones a try and subscribe/follow one or more that suit you.

Podcasts are also a great way of getting political analysis – try Nick Robinson's Political thinking, the *Guardian's Politics Weekly*, *Times Red Box*, and the BBC's *Week in Westminster*, *Westminster Hour* and *BrexitCast*, for example.

The Economist is recommended reading for A Level politics students. Politics Review magazine is also available in the school library, and back editions have been scanned onto Google Classroom. This Google Classroom will provide a variety of the above resources broken down by each module, to allow your wider reading to be targeted & easy to navigate.

The Politics Department also subscribes to *Prechewed Politics*, an online resource that provides overview videos and a range of articles for wider reading. The details for this resource is also on Google Classroom.

Please read widely - a list of suggested texts is available below:

The Crypt School Politics Resource List

Blogs:

<https://blog.politics.ox.ac.uk/> – Ran by the University of Oxford.
<https://www.politics.co.uk/> – Independent Blog.
<https://labourlist.org/> – Labour supporting Blog.
<https://www.conservativehome.com/> – Conservative supporting Blog.
www.blogs.spectator.co.uk - run by The Spectator newspaper

Podcasts

‘Americast’ - analysis on events in American politics by the BBC
‘Political thinking with Nick Robinson’ - legendary BBC politics correspondent interviews major political figures & discusses their lives in & outside of politics
‘Analysis’ by BBC Radio 4 - have episodes giving insight into aspects of politics in society - eg ‘towns versus gowns’ on voting behaviour in Brexit

News websites:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news>
<https://www.theguardian.com/uk>
<https://www.nbcnews.com/us-news>
<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/home/index.html>
www.economist.com
www.independent.co.uk

Useful Websites:

<https://www.hoddereducation.co.uk/magazines/magazines-extras/politics-review-extras> - Downloadable free articles, posters, and exam technique resources.
<https://www.prechewedpolitics.co.uk/> - Useful revision videos/summaries, case studies, and wider reading. See Google Classroom for log-in details.
<https://www.tutor2u.net/politics> - Lots of useful resources and articles to support knowledge and understanding.
<https://studyrocket.co.uk/revision/a-level-politics-edexcel> - Useful revision resources for most of the key questions on year 12 content
www.alevelpolitics.com - General resources for all the content

YouTube Channels/ TV programmes:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCSMqateX8OA2s1wsOR2EgJA> - TLDR News summarises key news simply and succinctly.
<https://www.youtube.com/user/UKParliament> - Keep up to date with the latest updates within parliament (especially PMQs)
<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL8dPuuaLjXtOfse2ncvffeelTrqvhrz8H> - US Government & Politics crash course
Newsnight on BBC2- www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b006mk25
Panorama - www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b006t14n

Key Twitter Follows:

@easypoliticsUK – Simple Politics gives short updates on what is happening in the UK.
@easypoliticsUS – Simple PoliticsUS gives short updates on what is happening in the US.
@LGS_Politics – LGS_Politics tweets useful links to expand examples for both Y12 and Y13.
@AlevelPoliticsR – A Level Politics tweets useful links to expand examples for both Y12 and Y13.
@studypoliticsuk – Study Politics tweets UK political updates

General & UK-focused Books:

Jessamyn Conrad, What you should know about politics...but don't (General)
Steve Richards, The Prime Ministers: Reflections on Leadership from Wilson to Johnson (UK)
Isabel Hardman, Why We Get the Wrong Politicians (UK)

Andrew Marr, A modern history of Britain (UK)
Germaine Greer The Female Eunuch (Feminism)
Jessamyn Conrad, What you should know about politics...but don't (General)
Steven Levitsky and Daniel Ziblatt, How Democracies Die (General)
The Prime Ministers: Reflections on Leadership from Wilson to Johnson
Why We Get the Wrong Politicians: Isabel Hardman

USA-focused Books:

Jon Sopel, Notes from Trump's America
Barack Obama, The Audacity of Hope
Michael Wolff, Siege: Trump under fire
Naomi Klein 'No Is Not Enough: Resisting Trump's Shock Politics and Winning the World We Need'
Arlie Russell Hochschild 'Strangers in Their Own Land: Anger and Mourning on the American Right'

HISTORY

The study of History involves knowledge and understanding of a wide range of different topics as well as the connections between different themes and time periods. Therefore, many of the suggestions below are starting points which should help you identify your particular areas of interest. A rounded, well-prepared application will have a broad knowledge of historical themes whilst having explored some areas in greater depth. The ability to analyse and interpret historical sources is also vital; these skills will be assessed through the History Aptitude Test (HAT <https://www.history.ox.ac.uk/history-aptitude-test-hat>) and at interview.

From Mr Higgs:

For a great introduction into debates in historiography (the study & writing of history), have a look at E H Carr's "What is History". You can see chapter summaries online before reading the whole thing:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/What_Is_History%3F

Oxbridge want to see that you have started to identify which areas of history you are most passionate in, and have started reviewing historical literature in this area. If, for example, you are really interested in the Roman Empire, then you need to identify some of the most seminal (important/ground-breaking) books in the area.

Alternatively, you might have an interest in a variety of areas but have a passion for a particular perspective of history. For example, you might have a focus on women's history, 'history from below' (life for the bottom of society rather than the political elites), economic history (if you are inclined towards statistics & figures), or 'history of mentalities' (my favourite – the study of how people view/interpret their world). For the latter, Carlo Ginzburg's 'The Cheese and the Worms' is a seminal book.

Final piece of advice, before jumping in and reading through lots of thick & often-dense texts, have a look at chapter summaries/book reviews online first of all!

From Mrs Hayes:

- Know your course content for all four topics in precise detail so that you can tackle any exam question confidently; read and make detailed notes from all your textbooks and key revision guides recommended to you.
- Answer / practice all the past questions distributed in class.

Read the following texts/podcasts/shows to help with the USA course:

- Bury my Heart at Wounded Knee by Dee Brown (This gives you a personal and direct account on the lives of the Native Americans and the various conflicts that occurred between different tribes and the union.
- The war before the war: Fugitive slaves and the struggle for American's soul from the Revolution to the Civil War (This demonstrates the importance of the Fugitive Slave Act and the role slavery had on the USA's society).
- The West by Ken Burns is a documentary you can find on Youtube (This gives you a deeper understanding of what westward expansion was all about in 19th century America).
- Dickinson on Apple TV (This fictional TV is based on the life of Emily Dickinson one of the USA's most famous poets - it gives good contextual understanding to the lead up to the US Civil War and the War itself).
- The Civil War (1861-1865) A History Podcast by Richard Youngdahl (This podcast goes through the lead up to the Civil War and different battles in lots of detail - pick and choose areas that interest you the most to stretch yourself beyond the textbook).

And to assist with the coursework:

- Richard J Evans- In defence of history (he is also a Cambridge Professor)

From Mr James:

Consider reading around your interests and explore them further. You also need to research sources of information such as museums, radio programmes, television documentaries, websites (see Resources to explore below). Then consider the following questions:

- Explore the provenance of what you are reading/sources that you are exploring. What are the key points that are being made? What were the aspects that were of interest to you or that you found challenged your preconceptions? To what extent did you agree/disagree with the author's point of view?
- What are implications of the ideas being proposed; the reasons to agree with the judgements that have been set out, and what are the counter arguments/analysis.

Making your own notes will help you identify the theories that are being suggested and allows you to find additional evidence to support or argue against a given viewpoint. Thinking about the material in this way will help you understand and remember it and it may further help you decide how to explore the topic in far greater depth.

RESOURCES TO EXPLORE

History Review Magazine (in the library / Room 37)

E H Carr "What is History"

J Tosh, "The Pursuit of History"

R Hilton, "*Bondmen Made Free*"

J C D Clark, "*English Society 1688-1832*"

M. Desai, "Marx's Revenge"

K Thomas "Religion and the Decline of Magic"

J Scott, "Gender and the Politics of History"

J Hanhimaki, J A Maiolo, K Schulze and A Best, "*An International History of the Twentieth Century and Beyond*"

<http://www.myheplus.com/subjects/history> - activities designed by Cambridge university for Sixth Form students

TED talks – search by topic for relevant talks

Work through some of the Introductory and Intermediate courses on the Open Learn website: <http://www.open.edu/openlearn/free-courses/full-catalogue>. In particular, the History and The Arts section includes some courses relevant to History.

Go and visit historical sites (castles, museums, historic houses, the homes of influential people).

Watch / listen TV documentaires, radio programmes, films, websites related to your areas of interest.

Advice on how to use historical sources and suggested reading from Cambridge:

<https://www.hist.cam.ac.uk/prospective-undergrads/virtual-classroom/suggested-reading>

Suggestions of sources and reading from Oxford:

<https://www.ox.ac.uk/admissions/undergraduate/courses/suggested-reading-and-resources?wssl=1>

https://www.spc.ox.ac.uk/sites/www.spc.ox.ac.uk/files/History_Reading_List_2017.pdf

Oxbridge History reading list & brief advice:

<http://oxbridgeinterviews.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/08/History-Reading-List.pdf>

Mathematics and Further Mathematics

Maths can play an integral part of many careers, and can provide numerous opportunities, both academically and career-wise. Good mathematical knowledge has many advantages, even beyond the subject itself. If you're interested in studying subjects such as medicine, economics, physics, or engineering at university level, then having a strong mathematical education will enhance your enjoyment and performance in these areas of study. Studying Maths at A-

Level is also a facilitating subject for many other areas so be sure to look at see if mathematics is a requirement or recommendation for the career you wish to follow.

Books to read:

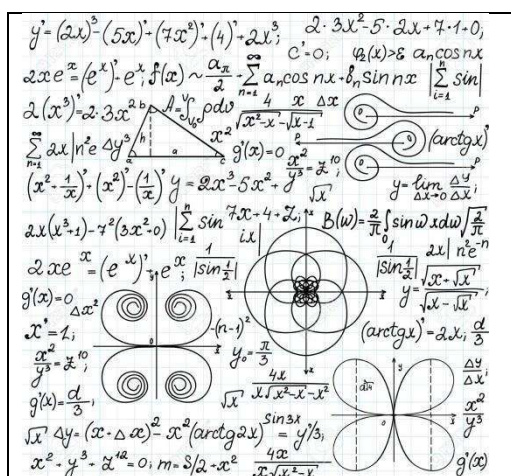
- L. Alcock: "How to Study for a Maths Degree"
- S. Hollingdale: "The Makers of Mathematics" – some of the history of mathematics.
- M. Gardner: "The Colossal Book of Mathematics"
- I. Stewart: "Game, Set and Math"
- E. Maor: "To Infinity and Beyond"
- K. Houston: "How to think like a Mathematician"
- S. Siklos: "Advanced Problems in Mathematics" – excellent for problem solving.

The best thing, however, to deepen and extend your knowledge is to "do" mathematics, not just read around the subject in year 12 and 13 you can

- Attend Mr Foster's weekly STEP club. This will give you an opportunity to look at problems seen in STEP and AEA exams which are needed to get into the top Universities for mathematics.
- STEP and AEA materials can be found on the student drive in the A Level folder.

In September you will need Casio Fx-991Ex calculator or the Casio CG50 graphics calculator learning all the new functions on these calculators will really give you a headstart.

Excellent websites for problem solving and extending knowledge:



<https://nrich.maths.org/>

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

<http://www.cut-the-knot.org/>

<https://madasmaths.com/>

MFL – German/French/Spanish

Spanish:

www.elpais.com - El Pais: Spanish national newspaper.

www.bbc.com/mundo - BBC Mundo: The BBC's Spanish language news service.

www.elmundo.es - El Mundo: Spanish broadsheet with a high level of challenge.

www.20minutos.es – 20 Minutos: Spanish national newspaper.

Success in Key Stage 5 Modern Languages is all about taking a strong personal interest in the subject outside of lesson time.

The phrase 'little and often' should be your guideline – regularly reading articles, news reports, watching videos and listening to the radio whenever you have some spare time.

Doing this will help you expand your vocabulary, sharpen your grammatical skills and crucially, allow you to develop an innate 'feeling' for the language.

Thanks to the internet, this is now incredibly easy to do!

Online Dictionaries:

German – www.dict.cc

French/Spanish – www.wordreference.com

News Sources:

German:

www.spiegel.de – Der Spiegel: Current affairs magazine aimed at native speakers.

www.tagesschau.de – Tagesschau: Nightly news program presented in 100 second bulletins on the website.

www.welt.de – Die Welt: Broadsheet newspaper with a high level of challenge..

www.zdf.de/kinder/logo - Logo: Daily news programmes available to stream. Aimed at native speaker teenagers.

French:

www.figaro.fr – Le Figaro: Daily national newspaper covering current affairs.

www.herodote.net – Herodote: French historical and cultural journal aimed at native speakers and more advanced learners.

www.frenchcrazy.com – Language blog focusing on grammar consolidation and extended vocabulary that you don't often learn in the classroom.

www.lemonde.fr – Le Monde: French broadsheet newspaper with a high level of challenge.

Apps for all Languages:

Tunein Radio App: Access to hundreds of foreign language radio stations.

FluentU App: Subscription based website focusing on language learning through video media.

Duolingo App: Free language learning app – good for practising the basics.

Grammatical Resources:

German:

Hammer's German Grammar & Usage; Martin Durrell; Routledge, 2011.

French:

Philosophy

Some of these texts are essential to the course and we'll study them together, others are optional / extension.

Epistemology

Berkeley, G, *Three dialogues between Hylas and Philonous*, 1713

Descartes, R, *Meditations on first philosophy*, 1641

Gettier, E, *Is justified true belief knowledge?*, 1963

Hume, D, *An enquiry concerning human understanding*, 1748

Leibniz, G, *New essays on human understanding*, 1705

Locke, J, *An essay concerning human understanding*, 1690

Plato, *Meno*, 380 BC

Russell, B, *The problems of philosophy*, 1912

Trotter Cockburn, C, *A letter from an anonymous writer to the author of the Minute philosopher index*, Appendix to Berkeley, G, *Theory of vision vindicated and explained*, 1732

Zagzebski, L, *What is knowledge?*, 1999, in Greco, J, Sosa, E, *The Blackwell guide to epistemology*, 1998

Moral philosophy

Annas, J, *Virtue ethics*, in Copp, D, *The Oxford handbook of ethical theory*, 2006

Aristotle, *Nicomachean ethics*, 350 BC

Ayer, A J, *The central questions of philosophy*, 1973/1991

Ayer, A J, *Language, truth and logic*, 1936

READ

Elgar (An extraordinary life) (JPE Harper-Scott)

Mozart (An extraordinary life) (Rushton)

A History of Western Music (Burkholder/Grout/Palisca)

The Rest is Noise (Ross)

The Classical Style (Rosen)

Rough Guides (including Jazz, Opera and Multicultural Music)

Revolution in the Head (MacDonald)-Analysis of the Beatles musical style

Orchestration (Piston)

Music in the Castle of Heaven (Elliot-Gardner)-Analysis of the music of JS Bach

The Music Instinct (Powell)

Fire on all sides (Rhodes)-experiences of a performing concert pianist dealing with anxiety

Electric Eden (Young)-history of British folk music

Bentham, J, *Introduction to the principles of morals and legislation*, 1789

Diamond, C, *Eating meat and eating people*, 1978

Foot, P, *Morality as a system of hypothetical imperatives*, 1972

Hare, R M, *The language of morals*, 1952

Hume, D, *Treatise of human nature*, 1739-40

Kant, I, *Foundations of the metaphysics of morals*, 1785

Mackie, J L, *Ethics: inventing right and wrong*, 1977

Mill, J S, *Utilitarianism*, 1863

Moore, G E, *Principia Ethica*, 1903

Smart, J J C, Williams, B, *Utilitarianism: for and against*, 1973

Metaphysics of God

Anselm, *Proslogium*

Aquinas, T, *Summa Theologica – whether God is omnipotent?*

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Ayer, A J, *The central questions of philosophy*, 1973/1991

Ayer, A J, *Language, truth and logic*, 1936

Descartes, R, *Meditations on first philosophy*, 1641

Flew, A, Hare, R M, Mitchell, B, *Theology and falsification*, in Flew, A, Macintyre, A, *New essays in philosophical theology*, 1955

Hick, J, *Evil and the God of love*, 1966/1978

Hume, D, *Dialogues concerning natural religion*, 1779

Hume, D, *An enquiry concerning human understanding*, 1748

Leibniz, G, *Monadology*, 1714

Malcolm, N, *Anselm's ontological arguments: the philosophical review*, 1960

Midgley, M, *Wickedness: a philosophical essay*, 1984

Paley, W, *Natural theology*, 1802/2008

Plantinga, A, *God, freedom and evil: essays in philosophy*, 1975

Plato, *Euthyphro*, 380 BC

Stump, E, Kretzmann, N, *Eternity: journal of philosophy*, 1981

Swinburne, R G, *The argument from design*, 1968

Metaphysics of mind

Avramides, A, *Other minds*, 2001

Block, N, *Readings in philosophy of psychology – troubles with functionalism*, 1980

Chalmers, D, *The conscious mind: in search of a fundamental theory*, 1996

Chalmers D, *Blackwell guide to the philosophy of mind – consciousness and its place in nature*, 2003

Churchland, P S, *Brain-wise*, 2002

Churchland, P M, *Eliminative materialism and propositional attitudes*, 1981

Descartes, R, *Meditations on first philosophy*, 1641

Hempel, C, *The logical analysis of psychology*, in Jeffrey, R, Hempel, C, *Selected philosophical essays*, 1949/2000

Jackson F, *Epiphenomenal Qualia*, 1982

Putnam, H, *Mind, language and reality: the nature of mental states*, 1975/1986

Ryle, G, *The concept of mind*, 1949/2000

Shapiro, L, *The correspondence between Princess Elisabeth of Bohemia and René Descartes*, 2007

Smart, J J C, *The philosophical review: sensations and brain processes*, 1959

General resources

[British Philosophical Association \(BPA\)](#)

[EpistemeLinks](#)

[Internet encyclopedia of philosophy](#)

[Stanford encyclopedia of philosophy](#)

Baggini, J, Fosl, PS, *The philosopher's toolkit: a compendium of philosophical concepts and methods*, 2nd Edition, Wiley-Blackwell,

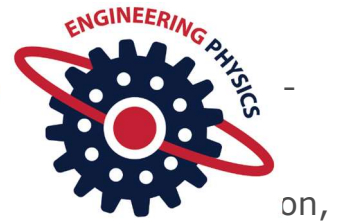
ISBN: 978-1-4051-9018-3, 2010.

Bruce, M, Barbone, S, *Just the arguments: 100 of the most important arguments in western philosophy*, Wiley-Blackwell, ISBN-10: 144433638X/ ISBN-13:978-1444336382, 2002.

Hospers, J, *An Introduction to Philosophical Analysis*, 4th edition
10: 0415157935/ ISBN-13: 978-0415157933, 1997.

Morton, A, *Philosophy in practice: an introduction to the main questions*,
Wiley-Blackwell, ISBN-10: 1405116188/ ISBN-13: 978-1405116183, 2003.

Warburton, N, *Philosophy: the essential study guide*, Routledge, ISBN-10:
0415341809/ ISBN-13:978-0415341806, 2004.



Physics

1. Make yourself stand out by completing an online course:

<https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/categories/science-engineering-and-maths-courses>

2. Teach yourself how to code:

<https://www.codecademy.com/>

3. Problem Solving

This is the most important skill to develop if you are applying for the top universities, particularly if you will be sitting an entrance exam or attending an interview.

<https://isaacphysics.org/> <https://brilliant.org/> <http://i-want-to-study-engineering.org/>

4. Summer Schools

Attending a summer school will allow you to develop the skills that admissions tutors are looking for and make you stand out from other applicants.

Insight into University – summer schools at universities around the country in many subjects, including Physics, Computer Science and Engineering.

<https://www.etrust.org.uk/insight-into-university>

Smallpeice Trust - summer schools covering subjects like motorsports engineering, astrophysics, design, programming and robotics and many more:

<https://www.smallpeicetrust.org.uk/momentum-events>

Birmingham University Physics Summer School:

<https://www.birmingham.ac.uk/schools/physics/outreach/secondary-schools/summer-schools.aspx>

5. Suggested Reading

Universities will not expect you to have read any particular book, but they will expect you to have read beyond the A Level syllabus. These are just a selection – there are far more than I can list; choose any popular science book that interests you.

Engineering

- *Sustainable Energy – Without the Hot Air* by David J.C. MacKay
- *How Do Wings Work?* by Holger Babinsky (a paper published in the Institute of Physics journal *Physics Education* that is available as a free download from the iop <http://iopscience.iop.org/article/10.1088/0031-9120/38/6/001/meta>)
- *Engineering in Society* edited by Rob Lawlor (An e-book published by the Royal Academy of Engineering that is available as a free (pdf) download from

<https://www.raeng.org.uk/publications/reports/engineering-in-society>)

- *Engineering: A Beginner's Guide* by Natasha McCarthy
- *Structures – or Why Things Don't Fall Down* by J.E. Gordon
- *Cats' Paws and Catapults: Mechanical Worlds of Nature and People* by Steven Vogel
- *The Gecko's Foot: How Scientists are Taking a Leaf from Nature's Book* by Peter Forbes
- *Small Things Considered: Why There is No Perfect Design* by Henry Petroski
- *Understanding Flight* by David W. Anderson and Scott Eberhart
- *Think Like An Engineer* by Guru Madhavan

Physics

- *Stuff Matters* by M. Miodownik
- *Six Brief Lessons on Physics* by Carlo Rovelli
- *The World According to Physics* by Jim Al-Khalili
- *Quantum Theory Cannot Hurt You* by Marcus Chown
- *Quantum* - Manjit Kumar
- *Big Bang* by Simon Singh
- *Six Easy Pieces* by Richard Feynman
- *A Brief History of Time* by Stephen Hawking
- *The Universe in a Nutshell* by Stephen Hawking
- *The Elegant Universe* by Brian Greene
- *Physics of the Impossible* by Michio Kaku
- *Why does $E=mc^2$* by Brian Cox and Jeff Forshaw
- *Human Universe* by Brian Cox
- *A Short History of Nearly Everything* - Bill Bryson
- *Great Physicists* - William H. Cropper

Physics and Philosophy

An invitation to Philosophy by M Hollis

Think by S. Blackburn

6. Other

Cheltenham Science Festival – lots of very interesting speakers and topics, and go along to the free exhibitions in the Town Hall

Podcasts – BBC Radio 4 – The Infinite Monkey Cage: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b00snr0w>

TED Talks – Ideas about Physics: <https://www.ted.com/topics/physics>

Engineering Careers and Information: <http://www.tomorrowengineers.org.uk/>

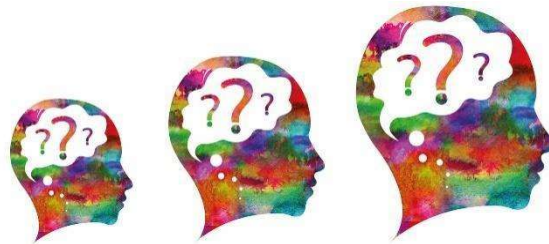
Astronomy. http://hubblesite.org/explore_astronomy/

The Institute of Physics. <http://www.iop.org/>

Physics careers and information: <http://www.physics.org/>

Psychology

Super-Curriculum



WATCHING

TED Talks <https://www.ted.com/search?q=psychology>

BPS (British Psychological Society) <http://beta.bps.org.uk/>

BBC documentaries <http://www.bbc.co.uk/search?q=psychology>

Channel 4 documentaries

http://www.channel4.com/search?q=psychology&intcmp=header_predictive_search_seall

FILMS

Beautiful Mind

Memento

Girl Interrupted

One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest

Fight Club

12 Angry Men

Rain Man

Coach Carter

Juror

LISTENING

All in the Mind BBC Radio 4 podcasts

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b006qxx9/episodes/downloads>

VISITS

Science museum <http://www.sciencemuseum.org.uk/> Look out for exhibitions on Psychology topics.

Freud Museum <https://www.freud.org.uk/> 20 Maresfield Gardens, London NW3 5SX

Cheltenham Science Festival - Early June each year

READING

JOURNALS

Weekly Psychological Research News <https://digest.bps.org.uk/>

Psychology Review is an excellent journal that is published for A-level Psychology Students
www.hoddereducation.co.uk/psychologyreview

BOOKS

'The Shock of the Fall' – Nathan Filer

'Henry's Demons: Living with Schizophrenia' – Patrick and Henry Cockburn

'An Unquiet Mind' – Kay Jamison

'Sectioned: a life interrupted' – John O'Donahue

'The Rosie Project' – Graeme Simsion

'The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time' – Mark Haddon

'I'm Eve' – Chris Sizemore

'Electroboy: A Memoir of Mania' – Andy Berhman

'Brain on Fire' – Sussanah Cahalan

'Go Ask Alice' – Anonymous

'Jigsaw man' – Paul Britton

'Picking up the pieces' – Paul Britton

'Genie' – Russ Rymer

'How to Develop a Perfect Memory' - Dominic O'Brien

'The Art of Memory' - Frances Yates

'Your Memory' - Kenneth Higbee

'The Lucifer Effect' – Phillip Zimbardo

'Schindler's List' - Thomas Keneally

'1984' - George Orwell

'The Individual in a Social World: Essays and Experiments' - Stanley Milgram

'We Need to Talk About Kevin' – Lionel Shriver

'The Man who Mistook his Wife for a Hat ' – Dr Oliver Sacks

'Elephants on Acid and other Bizarre Experiments' - Alex Boese

'Bad Science' - Ben Goldacre

'Opening Skinner's Box: Great Psychological Experiments of the Twentieth Century' - Laura Slater

'Psychology in Football' - Mark Nesti

'The Black Swan: The Impact of the Highly Improbable' - Nassim Nicholas Taleb

'The Blank Slate' - Stephen Pinker

'Without Conscience: The Disturbing World of the Psychopaths Among Us' - Robert.D Hare

'Working Memory, Thought and Action' - Alan Baddeley

'Obedience to Authority' - Stanley Milgram

Physical Education

Bounce – Matt Syed (GB table tennis – nature vs nurture)

The Score Takes Care of itself – Bill Walsh (lead coach of SF 49ers in 80s when Joe Montana was Q – Back – they won 4 super bowls) all about processes

Winning – Frank Dick (very old publication, but fantastic) athletics coach – what makes an elite athlete

Slaying the Dragon – Michael Johnson – achieving goals.



SOCIOLOGY

Watching (Films/Programmes)

A regular watcher of the news will be up to date with current affairs and social issues and will be able to apply many of the theories and concepts covered in class to the real world.

Below are some handpicked films and documentaries, with the sociological themes/topics in brackets.

Jesus Camp (religion, alienation, oppression, childhood)

The UP Series of documentaries, 7UP, 14UP...49UP etc. (longitudinal research, childhood, families, poverty)

My Scientology Movie (religion, globalisation, class, crime)

Louie Theroux Documentaries (media, celebrity, culture, Western society)

Inside Death Row with Trevor MacDonald (punishment, prisons, class, ethnicity, crime reduction)

Unequal Opportunities BBC Documentary (Education, marketization, selection policies, deprivation)

Enron: The Smartest Guys in the Room (Marxism, Corruption, Globalisation, Corporate Crime)

Black Like Me (ethnicity, USA, covert observations, ethical issues)

Quiet Rage: The Stanford Prison Experiment (lab experiments, ethical issues)

East is East (extended family, Asian families, Gay/Lesbian culture)

Ken Loach films such as Kes and I Daniel Blake (poverty, underclass, subcultures, benefits)

OJ Simpson: Made in America (ethnicity, criminal justice, celebrity, murder, gender and crime)

TED talks on sociology:

<https://www.ted.com/talks?sort=relevance&q=social+equality>

Reading

The BBC news website is worth a daily visit, or set up your phone to receive regular alerts, particularly the Economy tab.

Reading the Times, Guardian, Telegraph, and Independent (either online or broadsheet) will provide you with good coverage of social issues. The Guardian has dedicated sections online of our main topics that are easy to access (Family, Education, Religion and Crime)

Sociology Review – This monthly magazine is specifically targeted at A Level students. It covers topics that are in the A-level specification and provides interesting examples of areas that have been covered in class. It also offers extension material, model examination answers and methods of improving exam performance. The articles are mostly written by experienced teachers and examiners. It can be ordered online, borrowed from the Head of Department or read in the School library.

Reading continued:

Sociology texts

The Sociological Imagination by C. Wright Mills

Economy and Society: an Outline of Interpretive Sociology by Max Weber

The Presentation of Self in Everyday Life by Erving Goffman

'Sociology related' books:

Pride and Prejudice by Jane Austen

The Mandarins by Simone de Beauvoir

A Streetcar Named Desire by Tennessee Williams

American Psycho by Brett Easton Ellis

Rivers of London by Ben Aaronovitch

Catcher in the Rye by JD Salinger

Stoner by John Williams

Bright Lights, Big City by Jay McInerney

Listening / Podcasts

University of Oxford: Department of Sociology Podcasts

<https://podcasts.ox.ac.uk/series/department-sociology-podcasts>

AQA: Podcasts for AS and A-level Sociology

<http://www.aqa.org.uk/resources/sociology/as-and-a-level/sociology/teach/podcasts-for-asand-a-level-sociology>

Thinking Allowed: Radio 4

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b006qy05/episodes/downloads>

Also, tuning into Radio 4's Today programme between 6.00 am and 9.00 am any weekday would help you to have updated news and current affairs

Give Methods a Chance: <https://thesocietypages.org/methods/>

'Give Methods a Chance' explores the research methods used by sociologists, focusing on techniques both qualitative and quantitative. This podcast is produced by sociology site 'The Society Pages'.

'The Society Pages' is an open-access social science project presenting articles, blogs, and podcasts with sociology news. Divided into various areas of sociological concern, such as race and politics, it keeps readers abreast of new and engaging research and work.

Independent Thought & Freedom - Kirk Meighoo

<https://podcasts.apple.com/tt/podcast/independent-thought-freedom/id1446388269>

Visits

The V&A Museum of Childhood, Tate Modern and The Science Museum are interesting places to visit for students looking to have an understanding of key themes and topics within Sociology (such as Childhood, Modernism and Technological change in society)

www.vam.ac.uk/moc

www.tate.org.uk/visit/tate-modern

www.sciencemuseum.org.uk