

VWO 6
instructie
schoolexamens
ENGELS



2015-2016

LET OP:

DIT BOEKJE GOED BEWAREN!!

SCHOOLEXAMENS ENGELS VWO 6

Het vak Engels kent 4 vaardigheidsgebieden waarin de leerling een schoolexamen aflegt, en wel, in chronologische volgorde:

Letterkunde, Schrijfvaardigheid, Luistervaardigheid en Gespreksvaardigheid

LEERLINGEN DIE HET EXAMENJAAR OVERDOEN, DRAAIEN HET VOLLEDIGE PROGRAMMA WEER MEE, INCLUSIEF DE SCHOOLEXAMENS.

CIJFERS UIT HET VOORGAANDE JAAR BLIJVEN DUS NIET STAAN!

ad **Letterkunde**

Deze toets test de kennis van de leerling van de Engelse literatuur geschiedenis en zijn inzicht in een literaire tekst.

In VWO 6 worden daarom, tijdens het 1^e trimester 5 literaire teksten uitputtend behandeld en wordt de leerling, aan het begin van het examenjaar, een Reader voor verdere **zelfstudie** uitgereikt; aan deze reader zal tijdens de lessen geen aandacht geschonken worden.

Tijdens de toets (schriftelijk; 60 minuten) worden de leerling één van de behandelde teksten (vergezeld van een aantal vragen) en een aantal vragen gebaseerd op de Reader voorgelegd.

Deze toets zal in de Engelse taal worden afgenomen.

Tijdens de toets mogen géén woordenboeken gebruikt worden!

Nog een paar opmerkingen over de bestudering van de reader:

-je hoeft geen jaartallen te leren

-je moet wel de periodes kunnen onderscheiden en desgevraagd op volgorde kunnen zetten

-ook de schrijvers, hun werken en bij welke periode ze horen is belangrijk om te leren

-je hoeft de bijgevoegde teksten niet tot in detail te kennen, maar je moet wel weten waar ze globaal over gaan en je moet kunnen uitleggen waarom de desbetreffende tekst bij een bepaalde literaire stroming / periode hoort.

ad **Schrijfvaardigheid**

Bij het schoolexamen schrijfvaardigheid wordt van de leerlingen verwacht dat ze de inhoud van een Nederlandse tekst naar een Engelse tekst kunnen overzetten met inachtneming van de Engelse grammatica en vocabulaire. Deze tekst zal bestaan uit 200-300 woorden.

Tijdens de toets, die 90 minuten duurt, staat het de leerling vrij om eigen, meegebrachte woordenboeken te gebruiken.

ad Luistervaardigheid

De luistervaardigheid wordt getoetst a.d. hand van de officiële Cito kijk- en luistertoets die wordt afgenomen op de door het Cito geadviseerde datum.

De toets wordt afgenomen tijdens de eerste twee lessen van een normale schooldag.

ad Gespreksvaardigheid

Het schoolexamen Engels “gespreksvaardigheid” bestaat uit twee onderdelen:

- a. Een gesprek naar aanleiding van een stelling¹
- b. Een gesprek naar aanleiding van de gelezen boeken²

Het SE kent een duur van 15-20 minuten en wordt beoordeeld door twee docenten. Het gesprek wordt zoveel mogelijk gelijkmatig verdeeld over onderdelen a en b. Beide onderdelen wegen even zwaar in de beoordeling.

Bij de beoordeling komen de volgende aspecten aan bod:

1. Algemene gespreksvaardigheid, c.q. de vaardigheid om een gesprek vloeiend te laten verlopen
2. Taaltechnische aspecten zoals grammaticale correctheid, toepassen van vocabulaire en uitspraak

Aanvullingen bij onderdelen a en b hierboven:

1. (a) De leerling krijgt aan het begin van het schooljaar een hand-out “Instructie schoolexamens Engels” uitgereikt door de docent, waarop precies wordt aangegeven hoe de leerling zich dient voor te bereiden op het gesprek naar aanleiding van de ingeleverde stelling. De stelling dient ingeleverd te worden bij de docent op een door de docent aangeleverd formulier op uiterlijk de **2^e dinsdag van november (HAVO) / laatste dinsdag van Januari (VWO)**. Een te laat, of een niet ingeleverde stelling resulteert in het cijfer 1 op dit schoolexamen.
2. (b) De leerling kiest 2 boeken van de “Selected Reading List”, te vinden in de bij punt 1 vermelde hand-out. De titels van deze 2 boeken worden uiterlijk ingeleverd op de **2^e dinsdag van november (HAVO) / laatste dinsdag van januari (VWO)** bij de docent op het bij punt 1 hierboven genoemde formulier. Te laat, of niet ingeleverde titels van boeken resulteren in het cijfer 1 voor dit schoolexamen.

Het schoolexamen spreekvaardigheid kan herkanst worden. Daarbij zul je één van beide titels moeten vervangen door een nieuwe titel én een nieuwe stelling moeten aandragen.

¹ De docent dient de stelling voor de hierboven aangegeven deadline goed te keuren.

² De docent behoudt zich het recht voor om tijdens het gesprek 1 of 2 boeken aan de orde te stellen.

WEGING

De vier toetsen wegen alle even zwaar.

DATA

schoolexamen:	periode:	tijdsduur:
Letterkunde	1e periode (oktober)	60 minuten
Schrijfvaardigheid	2e periode (januari)	90 minuten
Kijk- en Luistervaardigheid	eind jan / begin feb	1e en 2e lesuur
Gespreksvaardigheid	3e periode (maart)	20 minuten

HERKANSING

De leerling mag, binnen de door de school opgestelde regeling, op zijn verzoek herkansen in alle P.T.A. toetsen Engels.

Nadere informatie schoolexamen gespreksvaardigheid

PART A: - DISCUSSION OF A TOPIC

General rules:

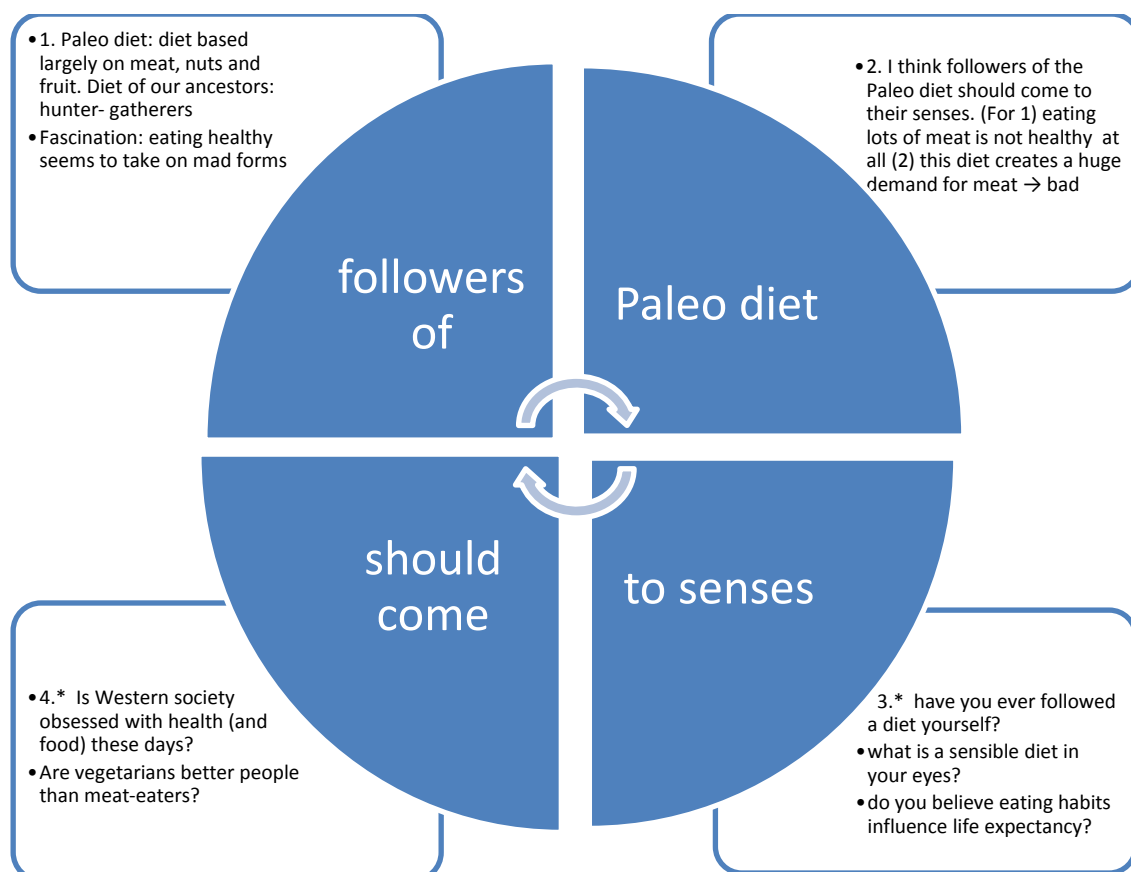
1. Select a topic you want to discuss:
 - You might think of a topic related to: health, politics, sports, economics, social life, culture, education
 - It's a good idea to use (newspaper) articles to get ideas/ arguments as far as your topic is concerned
2. Create a bold statement with which you introduce your topic during the exam (for instance: "The use of iPads at school leads to better education and school performance")
3. Hand in this statement on the form which will be provided by your teacher:
 - HAVO → deadline: 2nd Tuesday in November
 - VWO → deadline: last Tuesday in January

→ While preparing a topic and a statement, mind the following:

1. Give background information on your subject and tell your teacher why you are interested
2. Motivate your point of view/ to explain your statement
3. Anticipate on questions you might be asked by your teacher
4. You should be able to discuss more general questions related to your topic
5. Make sure you are able to **have a conversation** about your topic **for at least 7 minutes**.

→ Example (based on points 1 – 5 above):

Topic → health/ food. Statement: "Followers of the Paleo diet should come to their senses"



PART B: - BOOK DISCUSSION

Choose two titles from the "Selected Reading List"

You should be able to answer general questions about the books.

Besides, you should also be able to:

- *describe the (main) characters
- *describe the setting of the book (time and place)
- *determine the duration of the book (how much time does the book cover?)
- *describe the subject of the book
- *explain the title of the book
- *describe the book's perspective / composition

Appreciation:

- *which of the characters is the most important character and why?
- *what is the most important event and why?
- *which character did you really like or dislike?
- *what did you think of the book? Would you recommend it to others and why?

Het schoolexamen spreekvaardigheid kan herkanst worden. Daarbij zul je één van beide titels moeten vervangen door een nieuwe titel én een nieuwe stelling moeten aandragen.

Selected Reading List

De 2 boeken die in VWO 6 door de leerlingen zelfstandig gelezen dienen te worden, **moeten** worden gekozen uit de bijgevoegde lijst van in de schoolbibliotheek voorkomende titels.

N.B.

1. De titels van de 2 boeken waarop het SE Gespreksvaardigheid o.a. zal worden gebaseerd, moeten op de laatste dinsdag van januari worden ingeleverd m.b.v. het daarvoor bestemde formulier. Per klas mag elke titel maximaal 4 keer gekozen worden. Kijk dus goed op de intekenlijst in het lokaal van je docent of je het door jou geselecteerde boek nog mag lezen.

2. Voor leerlingen die het examenjaar overdoen geldt dat zij 2 nieuwe titels voor hun schoolexamen dienen te lezen.

3. Het is niet toegestaan voor het schoolexamen twee boeken van dezelfde schrijver op te voeren.

4. De leerling vult zelf de aan hem uitgereikte assessment- en questionsheets in.

5. De leerling is te allen tijde verantwoordelijk voor de juistheid van de door hem opgevoerde titels.

6. Opgevoerde titels kunnen na de aangekondigde uiterste inleverdatum niet meer worden gewijzigd.

7. Om voor de docent niet aanvaardbare redenen te laat ingeleverde assessment- en/of questionsheets worden niet geaccepteerd en zullen derhalve automatisch leiden tot het cijfer 1,0 op het schoolexamen gespreksvaardigheid.

8. Indien de ingeleverde formulieren één of twee niet in de Selected Reading Lijst opgenomen titel(s) vermelden of wanneer de stelling ontbreekt, zal de leerling worden uitgesloten van deelname aan het S.E. Gespreksvaardigheid en zal hem voor dit onderdeel het cijfer 1,0 worden toegekend.

Selected Reading List

TE VINDEN IN DE SCHOOLBIBLIOTHEEK:

1	Austen	Pride & Prejudice
2	Brontë	Wuthering heights
3	Coetzee	Waiting for the Barbarians
4	Donoghue	Room
5	Fitzgerald	The Great Gatsby
6	Foer	Extremely loud & Incredibly Close
7	Fowles	The Collector
8	Gaiman	American Gods
9	Garland	The Beach
10	Golding	Lord of the Flies
11	Guest	Ordinary People
12	Hill	I'm the King of the Castle
13	Hines	A Kestrel for a Knave
14	Huxley	Brave New World
15	Ishiguro	Never Let Me Go
16	Kesey	One Flew over the Cuckoo's Nest
17	Le Carré	The Spy Who Came in from the Cold
18	Levin	The Boys from Brazil
19	McCarthy	The Road
20	MacLaverty	Cal
21	Mitchell	Black Swan Green
22	Mohamed	Black Mamba Boy
23	Morgenstern	The Night Circus
24	Orwell	1984
25	Potok	The Chosen
26	Rendell	Lake of Darkness
27	Salinger	The Catcher in the Rye
28	Walker	The Color Purple

ALS JE HET BOEK UIT DE OPENBARE BIBLIOTHEEK HAALT, LET OP DAT JE HET ORIGINELE BOEK HEBT EN GEEN "SIMPLIFIED" OF "ABRIDGED" VERSION (STAAT WEL AANGEGEVEN VOORIN HET BOEK ALS HET BOEK BEWERKT IS)

ALLEEN VOOR DE CM-LEERLINGEN:

De, in overleg met de lesgevende docent, gelezen boeken voor het profielwerkstuk.

Selected Reading List V6 – More information

Austen - Pride and Prejudice

The main subject of this still widely read 19th century novel of manners is stated in the first sentence of the novel: 'It is a truth universally acknowledged, that a single man in possession of a good fortune, must be in want of a wife.' In this statement Austen has cleverly done three things: she has established the humorous tone of the novel by taking a simple subject to elaborate and to speak intelligently of, and she has prepared the reader for a chase in the novel of either a husband in search of a wife, or a woman in pursuit of a husband.

Brontë - Wuthering Heights

A great 19th century story set in Yorkshire, which tells the tale of the all-encompassing and passionate, yet frustrated, love between Heathcliff and Catherine Earnshaw, and how this unresolved passion eventually destroys them and many around them.

Coetzee - Waiting for the Barbarians

The story is set in small frontier town of a nameless empire. The town's magistrate is the story's main protagonist and narrator. His rather peaceful existence on the frontier comes to an end with the arrival of some special forces of the Empire., led by the sinister Colonel Joll. There are rumours that the barbarians are preparing an attack on the Empire and so Colonel Joll and his men conduct an expedition into the land beyond the frontier. They capture a number of 'barbarians', bring them back to town, torture them, kill some of them, and leave for the capital in order to prepare a larger campaign against the barbarians. In the meantime, the Magistrate becomes involved with a 'barbarian girl' who was left behind crippled and blinded by her tortures. Eventually, he decides to take her back to her people. After a life-threatening trip through the barren land he succeeds in his objective and returns to his town. Shortly thereafter, the Empire's force returns and the Magistrate's own plight begins.

Donoghue - Room

To five-year-old Jack Room is home, but to his mother it is the prison where Old Nick has held her captive for years. Through determination and motherly love, she has created a life for Jack. But she knows it's not enough...not for her or for him. She plans an escape, one that relies on Jack's bravery and a lot of luck.

Fitzgerald - The Great Gatsby

This novel chronicles an era that the writer himself dubbed the 'Jazz Age.' Following the shock and chaos of World War I, American society enjoyed unprecedented levels of prosperity during the 'roaring' 120s as the economy soared. At the same time, Prohibition, the ban on the sale and manufacture of alcohol, made millionaires out of bootleggers and led to an increase in organized crime.

Nick Carraway, the narrator, is a young bachelor from a patrician Midwestern family, who moves to New York City to 'learn the bond business' in 1922. He finds that his next-door neighbour, who throws lavish parties hosting hundreds of people, is the mysterious Jay Gatsby. One weekend Nick himself receives an invitation and discovers the guests know little about Gatsby and that rumours about the man are contradictory. But what's more, Gatsby makes friends with Nick and thus Nick gets involved with the rather immoral way of life of quite a few characters, which eventually results in the deaths of a few of them.

Foer - Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close

Oskar Schell is an inventor, Francophile, tambourine player, Shakespearean actor, jeweler, pacifist. He is nine years old. And he is on an urgent, secret search through the five boroughs of New York to find the lock that fits a mysterious key belonging to his father, who died in the attacks on the World Trade Center.

An inspired creation, Oskar is endearing, exasperating, and unforgettable. His search for the lock careens from Central Park to Coney Island to the Bronx and beyond. But it also travels into history, to Dresden and Hiroshima, where horrific bombings once shattered other lives. Along the way, Oskar encounters a motley assortment of humanity ' a 103-year-old war reporter, a tour guide who never leaves the Empire State Building, lovers enraptured or scorned ' all survivors in their own ways. Ultimately, Oskar ends his journey where it began, at his father's grave. But now he is accompanied by the silent stranger who has been renting the spare room of his grandmother's apartment. They are there to dig up his father's empty coffin.

Fowles - The Collector

The title character of this chilling psychological novel is Frederick, a butterfly collector, who decides to 'collect' the long-admired- from-a-distance object of his fantasy, an art student named Miranda.

Frederick keeps Miranda prisoner in a room in a secluded basement. All he wants is for Miranda to love him and, other than keeping her prisoner, he treats her like a queen, fulfilling her every need or want.

Whereas chapter One gives us Frederick's viewpoint, chapter Two makes us privy to Miranda's diary, kept secretly during her captivity.

Near the end an unexpected tragedy occurs and the reader is thrust into the true terror of the situation, discovering in the process what Frederick is really made of through his response to the situation.

Gaiman – American Gods

Released from prison, Shadow finds his world turned upside down. His wife has been killed; a mysterious stranger offers him a job. But Mr. Wednesday, who knows more about Shadow than is possible, warns that a storm is coming -- a battle for the very soul of America . . . and they are in its direct path.

Garland - The Beach

This novel about backpackers set in Thailand, describes the adventures of a young Englishman in search of a legendary, idyllic beach untouched by tourism.

Golding - Lord of the Flies

This allegorical novel discusses how culture created by man fails, using as an example a group of British schoolboys stuck on a deserted island who try to govern themselves with disastrous results. It deals with the controversial subjects of human nature and individual welfare versus the common good, and the story reveals what, according to Golding, would happen if children (or generally, people) are left to form a society in isolation. His answer is crystal clear : chaos, bloodshed and mayhem.

Guest - Ordinary People

This book tells the story of a year in the life of the Jarretts, a well-to-do suburban family trying to cope with the aftermath of two traumatic events, viz. their son Buck's death by drowning and their other son Conrad's subsequent attempted suicide.

Hill - I'm the King of the Castle

This novel of suspense confronts its reader with 'a juvenile ghoul and his natural prey.' 'I didn't want you to come here.' So says the note that the boy Edmund Hooper passes to Charles Kingshaw upon his arrival at Warings. But, young Kingshaw and his mother have come to live with Hooper and his father in the ugly, isolated Victorian house for good. To Hooper, Kingshaw is an intruder, a boy to be subtly persecuted, and Kingshaw finds that even the most ordinary object can be turned by Hooper into a source of terror. In Hang Wood their roles are briefly reversed, but Kingshaw knows Hooper will never let him be. Kingshaw cannot win, not in the last resort. He knows it, and so does Hooper. And the worst is still to come... This extraordinary, evocative novel boils over with the terrors of childhood

Hines - A Kestrel for a Knave

This novel, set in Barnsley, Yorkshire, tells of Billy Casper, a young working class boy troubled at home by his elder brutal brother and selfish mother, and at school by nearly all his teachers. Billy's life is not exactly a bed of roses and the boy only finds solace when he finds and trains a kestrel, a small hawk, whom he names 'Kes'. Of course his happiness is not meant to last. The book is unusual in that much of the plot takes place in flashback sequences; it is set over a period of just one day.

Huxley - Brave New World

This dystopian science fiction novel is set in the London of AD 2540 (632 After Ford in the book) and anticipates developments in reproductive technology and sleep-learning that combine to change society. The main character of this novel is Bernard Marx, inhabitant of a peaceful society with no purpose other than to consume goods.; a world where the concepts of family, love and romance are considered obscene and a danger to the peaceful social order. Bernard is from a lower caste and is considered a social outcast – his deviant conduct is probably due to the fact that something went wrong at the London Hatchery. Bernard becomes infatuated with Lenina, a woman from a higher level caste and this infatuation and his desire to rise above his station cause a multitude of complications.

Ishiguro - Never Let Me Go

The novel describes the life of Kathy K, a young woman of 31, focusing at first on her childhood at an unusual boarding school and eventually her adult life. The story takes place in a dystopian Britain, in which human beings are cloned to provide donor organs for transplants. Kathy and her classmates have been created to be donors, though the adult Kathy is temporarily working as a 'carer', someone who supports and comforts donors as they are made to give up their organs and, eventually, submit to death. As in Ishiguro's other works, the truth of the matter is made clear only gradually, via veiled but suggestive language and situations. The novel is divided in three parts, chronicling the three phases of the lives of its main characters.

Kesey - One Flew over the Cuckoo's Nest

Set in a mental hospital in the 1960s, the novel is the story of Randle Patrick McMurphy, and his attempts to thwart the head of the ward into which he is transferred. The head of the ward is Nurse Ratched, referred to by the patients as the Big Nurse. After a lengthy series of conflicts and capers, quite a few of which are won by McMurphy and which make life hell for the Big Nurse and heaven for the inmates, McMurphy is eventually bites the dust, when his suffering is ended by his best friend Chief Bromden, who suffocates him with a pillow. Institutions are hard to change and even harder to beat.

Le Carré - The Spy Who Came in from the Cold

The main character of this Cold War spy novel, famous for its intricate plot and its portrait of the West's espionage methods as inconsistent with Western values, is Alex Leamas, a British secret agent. Having no agents left in East Germany in any network, Leamas is recalled to England in disgrace by Control (his boss), who asks Leamas to stay 'out in the cold' for one last mission, viz. to 'turn' (defect) and provide false information to the Communists which would implicate Mundt (the East German spymaster who has destroyed every agent of Leamas) as a British double agent and would result in Mundt being executed by his own service. Eager to help destroy Mundt, Leamas accepts and thus gets engaged in a devilish and breath-taking series of acts of double-crossing and being double-crossed, not realizing he's only used and betrayed by a ruthless Control, until it's too late.

Levin - The Boys from Brazil

A thrilling and fascinating story that starts in 1974, when Dr Mengele and his group of Nazis appear to have developed a terrible plan to conquer the world in order to establish a Third Reich. The first step towards fulfilling their plan is a series of seemingly unconnected, but fabricated, deaths of 94 men across the world. It is at this stage that Yakov Liebermann, a well-known nazi-hunter, gets the feeling there is something fishy going on, which results in a fascinating contest between Mengele and Liebermann.

McCarthy - The Road

This is the story about a father and his son who travel by foot through burned America. They are headed towards the coast even though they don't know what they expect to find there. The atmosphere is grim, no food remains which makes people dangerous and untrustworthy. All they have is each other, but for how long?

MacLaverty - Cal

The main character of this psychological novel, set in Northern Ireland during 'The troubles' is Cal McCluskey, a 19-year-old Roman Catholic boy, who lives with his father Shamie. They are the only two Catholics left in a Protestant working class neighbourhood. Although they are friendly with the neighbours, they are pressured to leave the neighbourhood by its other inhabitants. Cal and Shamie choose not to give in to the pressure.

The novel starts when a year has passed since Cal, as a getaway driver for the IRA, was made accomplice in the murder of Robert Morton, a Protestant Reserve Policeman. The incident still has its influence on Cal. He can't forget and the incident has made him loathe himself. He wants to give up his connections with the terrorist IRA, but cannot refuse his old comrades Crilly and Skeffington without risking reprisals. Then, working for the Mortons as a farmhand, Cal is given a splendid chance to 'disappear from the scene' and he does so by moving into a derelict cottage on the Morton farm. Marcella, the dead Robert Morton's wife, and Cal see more and more of each other and Cal wants to be open and honest but he's afraid to lose her.

On Christmas Eve Cal, grateful he can do penance for his crimes, is arrested.

Mitchell - Black Swan Green

January, 1982. Thirteen-year-old Jason Taylor - covert stammerer and reluctant poet - anticipates a stultifying year in his backwater English village. But he hasn't reckoned with bullies, simmering family discord, the Falklands War, a threatened gypsy invasion and those mysterious entities known as girls. Charting thirteen months in the black hole between childhood and adolescence, this is a captivating novel, wry, painful and vibrant with the stuff of life.

Mohamed - Black Mamba Boy

Longlisted for the Orange Prize and winner of the Betty Trask Award. For fans of *Half of a Yellow Sun*, a stunning novel set in 1930s Somalia spanning a decade of war and upheaval, all seen through the eyes of a small boy alone in the world. Aden, Yemen, 1935; a city vibrant, alive, and full of hidden dangers. And home to Jama, a ten year-old boy. But then his mother dies unexpectedly and he finds himself alone in the world. Jama is forced home to his native Somalia, the land of his nomadic ancestors. War is on the horizon and the fascist Italian forces who control parts of East Africa are preparing for battle. Yet Jama cannot rest until he discovers whether his father, who has been absent from his life since he was a baby, is alive somewhere. And so begins an epic journey which will take Jama north through Djibouti, war-torn Eritrea and Sudan, to Egypt. And from there, aboard a ship transporting Jewish refugees just released from German concentration camps, across the seas to Britain and freedom. This story of one boy's long walk to freedom is also the story of how the Second World War affected Africa and its people; a story of displacement and family.

Morgenstern – The Night Circus

The circus arrives without warning, it is simply there, when yesterday it was not. Within the tents is an utterly unique experience full of breathtaking amazements. It is called *Le Cirque des Rêves*, and it is only open at night.

But behind the scenes, a fierce competition is underway: a duel between two young magicians. Unbeknownst to them, this is a game in which only one can be left standing.

Orwell - 1984

This classic dystopian political and science fiction novel is set in the eponymous year and focuses on a repressive, totalitarian regime. Orwell elaborates on how a massive oligarchial collectivist society such as the one described in '1984' would be able to repress any long-lived dissent. The story follows the life of one seemingly insignificant man, Winston Smith, a civil servant assigned the task of perpetuating the regime's propaganda by falsifying records and political literature. Smith grows disillusioned with his meager existence and so begins a rebellion against the system that leads to his arrest and torture. The novel has become famous for its portrayal of pervasive government surveillance and control, and government's increasing encroachment on the rights of the individual.

Potok - The Chosen

'The Chosen', a first-person narrative from the point of view of Reuven Malter, is a story of the unlikely three-year friendship between two Jewish boys growing up in 1940s Brooklyn. Reuven is the son of a writer and scholar who follows modern methods of studying Judaism and he is Orthodox. Danny is the genius son of a Hasidic rabbi, whose people live completely within the bounds of traditional Jewish law.

Rendell - Lake of Darkness

Martin Urban, the main character of this mystery crime novel, is a young accountant leading the comfortable though somewhat dull life of a bachelor. Unexpectedly he wins a very large sum of money in a football pool (£ 40.000), but he decides to give the money away to the poor. Then Francesca enters into his life, a mysterious young woman who captures his heart. And when he meets Finn, the twisted son of his mother's cleaning lady, the good intentions of Martin become fatally entangled with the macabre madness of Finn, with deadly results.

Salinger - The Catcher in the Rye

The novel's 16-year-old hero, Holden Caulfield, runs away from school during his Christmas break to New York to find himself and lose his virginity. He spends an evening going to nightclubs, has an unsuccessful encounter with a prostitute, and the next day meets an old girlfriend. After getting drunk he sneaks home. Holden's former schoolteacher makes homosexual advances to him. He meets his sister to tell her he is leaving home and has a nervous breakdown. Holden, seeing himself as a 'catcher in the rye' who must keep the world's children from falling off 'some crazy cliff', describes everything as 'phoney' and is constantly in search of sincerity. Holden represents the early hero of adolescent angst, but simultaneously is a person full of life.

Alice Walker - The Color Purple

This book tells the story of Celie, a Black woman in the South. Celie writes letters to God in which she tells about her tragic life – her roles as a daughter, wife, sister, and mother. In the course of the story, Celie meets a series of other Black women who shape her life: Nettie, Celie's sister, who becomes a missionary teacher in Africa; Shug Avery, the blues singer her husband Mr ____ is in love with, and who becomes Celie's salvation; Sofia, the strong-willed daughter-in-law whose strength and courage inspire Celie; and Squeak, who goes through awakenings of her own. Throughout the story, though, Celie is the centre of this community of women, the one who knows how to survive.