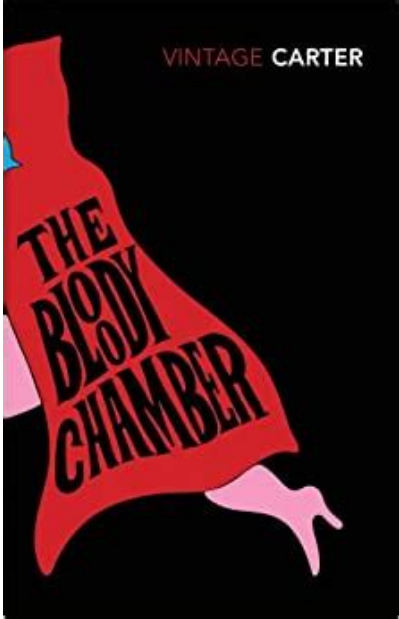
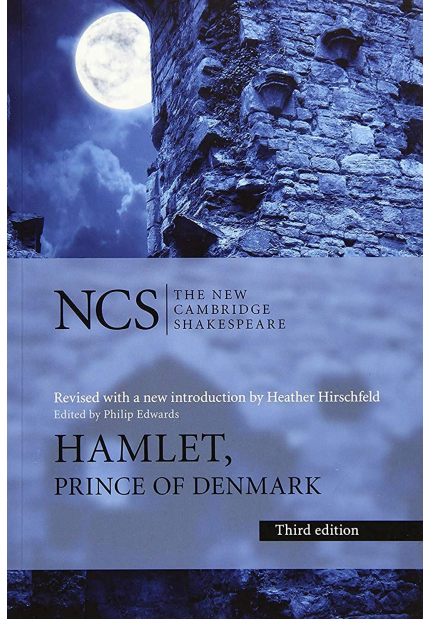


BFI British Option - ACL / Language & Literature - Terminale

Essential Reading for Summer 2025 – Preparation for Terminale

Please make sure that you have a copy of these two books. It's really important that you have the right edition of the Shakespeare play. You should have bought them last year along with your Première texts:

Angela Carter - <i>The Bloody Chamber</i> (Vintage Edition)	Shakespeare - <i>Hamlet</i> (New Cambridge Edition)
	

You must read the rest of *The Bloody Chamber* over the summer but we will read *Hamlet* together in class next year. Please also read at least **one other book of your own choice**; there are some suggestions below.

Other Reading Suggestions for Summer 2025

Reading for pleasure and to keep your English ticking over!

If you liked *Home Fire*

- You could read another novel by Kamila Shamsie: ***Best of Friends***, ***Burnt Shadows*** or ***Kartography***.
- You could try reading another reimagining of Greek mythology such as ***The Silence of the Girls*** by Pat Barker (*The Iliad*), ***Circe*** or ***The Song of Achilles*** by Madeline Miller, ***Clytemnestra*** by Costanza Cosati, ***The Penelopiad*** by Margaret Atwood or ***Ariadne*** by Jennifer Saint.

- You could try reading something by another Muslim writer such as ***A Thousand Splendid Suns*** by Khaled Hosseini, ***Does My Head Look Big In This?*** By Randa Abdel-Fattah, ***The Unquiet Dead*** by Ausma Zehanat Khan or ***Reading Lolita in Tehran*** by Azar Nafisi, ***Moth*** by Melody Razak
- If you liked the multiple perspectives then try one of these: ***Americanah*** by Chimamanda Ngozi Adiche, ***The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao*** by Junot Díaz, ***Atonement*** by Ian McEwan, ***Little Fires Everywhere*** by Celeste Ng or ***Gone Girl*** by Gillian Flynn.

If you liked ***Top Girls***

- You could read another play by Caryl Churchill such as ***Cloud Nine*** or ***Serious Money***.
- You could try something by another great British playwright of the same era such as ***A Taste of Honey*** by Shelagh Delaney, ***The History Boys*** by Alan Bennett, ***Betrayal*** by Harold Pinter or ***Professional Foul*** by Tom Stoppard.
- If you would like to read another book with a feminist message then try ***The Handmaid's Tale*** by Margaret Atwood, ***The Radium Girls*** by Kate Moore, ***The Yellow Wallpaper*** by Charlotte Perkins Gilman, ***The Bluest Eye*** by Toni Morrison, ***Little Women*** by Louisa May Alcott or ***The Bell Jar*** by Sylvia Plath.
- If you would like to read something else set in 1980s Thatcher's Britain then try ***Money*** by Martin Amis, ***Shuggie Bain*** by Douglas Stuart, ***My Name is Leon*** by Kit de Waal, ***My Beautiful Laundrette*** by Hanif Kureishi.

If you liked Gothic Literature.

- If you feel in the mood for more classic Gothic, then Oscar Wilde's ***The Portrait of Dorian Gray*** is really good. There's also ***Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*** by Robert Louis Stevenson; ***Dracula*** by Bram Stoker and Edgar Allan Poe's stories.
- Other, more modern Gothic novels are ***Rebecca*** by Daphne du Maurier, ***The Little Stranger*** by Sarah Waters, ***The Woman in Black*** by Susan Hill, ***The Shadow of the Wind*** by Carlos Ruiz Zafon; Donna Tartt's ***The Secret History*** or ***The Lovely Bones*** by Alice Sebold.

If you didn't like anything we studied!!!

- But you like football, then read ***Fever Pitch*** by Nick Hornby or ***The Secret Footballer***
- But you're interested in social media, then read ***You've Been Publicly Shamed*** by Jon Ronson.
- But you like politics and economics, then read ***Freakonomics*** by Steven D. Levitt and Stephen J. Dubner or ***Liar's Poker*** by Michael Lewis.
- But you like food, then try Anthony Bourdain's ***Kitchen Confidential***, ***The Man who ate Everything*** by Jeffrey Steingarten or ***Fast Food Nation*** by Eric Schlosser.
- But you like Maths, then try ***Seventeen Equations that Changed the World*** by Ian Stewart or ***Alan Turing: The Enigma*** by Andrew Hodges.
- But you're interested in the dark side of capitalism, then read ***No Logo*** by Naomi Klein
- But you like crime, then try ***In Cold Blood*** by Truman Capote, ***The Psychopath Test*** by Jon Ronson or Raymond Chandler ***The Big Sleep***

- But you like music, then try **High Fidelity** by Nick Hornby or **A Visit from the Goon Squad** by Jennifer Egan.
- But you like science, then try **The Double Helix** by James Watson, **Cosmos** by Carl Sagan, Bill Bryson **A Short History of Nearly Everything** or Stephen Hawking, **A Brief History of Time**.
- But you're interested in medicine, then read **Do No Harm: Stories of Life, Death and Brain Surgery** by Henry Marsh
- But you like Geography, then read **Prisoners of Geography** by Tim Marshall
- But you like Art, then read Tracy Chevalier **Girl with a Pearl Earring** or Pat Barker **Life Class**.
- But you want novels that deal with LGBTQ+ experiences, then try **Carol** by Patricia Highsmith, Jeanette Winterson's **Oranges are not the only fruit**, James Baldwin's **Giovanni's room**, E. M. Forster **Maurice**, **Trumpet** by Jackie Kay or **Orlando** by Virginia Woolf.
- But you like travel, then try Bill Bryson, **Neither Here, Nor There: Travels in Europe**.
- But you like adventure, then try **Touching the Void** by Joe Simpson.
- But you're interested in war, then read **Birdsong** by Sebastian Faulks, **Regeneration** by Pat Barker or **Testament of Youth** by Vera Brittain.
- But you like inspiring people, then read **Dreams from My Father** by Barack Obama or **Becoming** by Michelle Obama.
- But you like computers, then try **The Soul of a New Machine** by Tracy Kidder
- But you like fashion, then try **Coco Chanel: The Legend and the Life** by Justine Picardie.
- But you like comics and graphic novels, then **Persepolis** by Marjane Satrapi, **Watchmen** by Alan Moore or **Maus** by Art Spiegelman.
- But you like poetry, then read try an anthology such as **Best Poems on the Underground** ed. Gerard Benson, Judith Chernaik and Cicely Herbert or **Staying Alive: Real Poems for Unreal Times** ed. Neil Astley. If you fancy reading some young contemporary poets, look up **Kae Tempest** and/or **George The Poet**.
- But you are inspired by the Black Lives Matter movement, then try **Why I'm No Longer Talking To White People About Race** - Reni Eddo-Lodge, **The Good Immigrant** - ed. Nikesh Shukla, **Between The World and Me** - Ta-Nehisi Coates or **White Fragility** - Dr Robin DiAngelo
- But you would like to find out more about feminism, then try **Everyday Sexism** by Laura Bates, **Why We Should All Be Feminists** - Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, **Invisible Women** - Caroline Criado Perez or **Feminists Don't Wear Pink (and other lies)** - ed. Scarlett Curtis
- But you want to read about climate change activism, then try **The Future Earth** - Eric Holthaus, **The Story of More** - Hope Jahren, **No One Is Too Small to Make a Difference** - Greta Thunberg or **This Changes Everything: Capitalism vs. the Climate** by Naomi Klein
- But you want to read about mental health and wellbeing, then try **It's Not OK to Feel Blue (and other lies)** - ed. Scarlett Curtis, **Notes on a Nervous Planet** by Matt Haig, **How to Fail** - Elizabeth Day or **Mad Girl** by Bryony Gordon
- But you want to read non fiction about LGBTQ+ experiences, then try **All Boys Aren't Blue** by George M Johnson, **Fun Home** by Alison Bechdel or **Naturally Tan: A Memoir** by Tan France.