



Fiction, Film and other Texts

**A support document for the
English Years 7–10 Syllabus**

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Published by
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Sydney NSW 2001
Australia

Tel: (02) 9367 8111
Fax: (02) 9367 8484
Internet: <http://www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au>

June 2003

ISBN 1 74099 502 3

2002578

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Foreword

The *Fiction, Film and Other Texts* list is a compilation of quality reading and viewing for students in Years 7 to 10. It combines classics and successful teaching texts with innovative recent works. To reflect the rich diversity of the school population in NSW a range of difficulty, themes and cultural orientations is reflected through the lists. This diversity is also evident in the broad scope of the *Fiction, Film and Other Texts* list. It includes fiction as well as nonfiction, poetry, drama, film, media and multimedia texts.

I would like to acknowledge the support given to the development of the *Fiction, Film and Other Texts* list by Dr Wayne Sawyer, Chair of the NSW Board of Studies' English Board Curriculum Committee. The list also benefited from the expertise of English teachers on the Board Curriculum Committee: Matt Brown from Wagga Wagga High, Jae Croshaw from Meriden School, Catherine Doherty from Monte Sant Angelo, Sue Gazis from St George Girls High, Gordon Shrubbs from Bradfield College and Suzi Williams from Nowra Technology High School. The Board of Studies gratefully acknowledges the assistance of Ernie Tucker, President of the Children's Book Council of Australia (NSW Branch) for his contribution to the Working Party and for permission to use Council annotations of notable Australian Children's books. The Board also gratefully acknowledges the assistance of the Department of Education and Training for the use of reviews from the Professional Support and Curriculum Directorate quarterly journal, *Scan*, and the Premier's Reading List.

I commend the *Fiction, Film and Other Texts* list to you as a lasting resource for English teachers, parents and students.

(Professor) Gordon Stanley
President
Board of Studies

General Preface

Background

The texts listed here are suitable for study in Years 7 to 10. The texts listed are not prescribed for study. A predecessor of this publication was *Works and Plays* (Board of Studies, 1992), a collection of recommended quality texts for Years 9 and 10. The present recommended text list owes much to *Works and Plays* in content, format and function while providing a broader support document for the new *English Years 7–10 Syllabus* (2002).

Texts in this document are listed for Stages 4 and 5 in the following categories:

- fiction
- poetry
- film
- nonfiction
- drama
- media and multimedia (including websites and CD-ROMs).

The syllabus provides that students **must** study examples of spoken, print and visual texts with the further requirement that the selection of texts **must** give students experience of:

- a widely-defined Australian literature and other Australian texts, including those which give insight into Aboriginal experiences and multicultural experiences in Australia
- literature from other countries and times
- cultural heritages, popular cultures and youth cultures
- picture books
- Shakespearean drama in Stage 5
- everyday and workplace texts
- a range of social, gender and cultural perspectives.

An additional section, *Texts for students in Years 7 to 10 who have not yet achieved Stage 3 outcomes*, has been included to parallel that section in the syllabus. There are two appendices:

- winners of major Australian and international book awards for children and young adults
- texts mapped against the syllabus requirements.

Purposes of the Lists

The lists highlight quality texts as support material for the new *English Years 7–10 Syllabus*. They will inform parents, schools, teachers and students of recent developments in literature, film, media and multimedia in order to augment those texts traditionally studied in schools from Year 7 to Year 10.

The Choice of Texts

Texts were selected for this list on the basis of their ability to challenge the reader, texts that have layered and multiple meanings, and that provoke thought. The classroom use of texts from these lists should help students gain pleasure and power from the exploration of real and imaginary (including virtual) worlds.

Many of the texts on the list are already widely recognised as successful teaching texts in these terms and those not already widely in use have been judged to be potentially successful in the classroom in the same way.

None of the lists is exhaustive in any sense and each should be regarded as representative of the range and variety of texts to be studied in Stages 4 and 5. The lists should be regarded as representing not only a range of texts but also of teaching possibilities. There has been no attempt to label texts as being more suitable for whole-class, small-group or individual study, or for depth study or wide reading.

Students whose first language is not English need access to good literature in English as well as in their own language. The lists attempt to reflect the cultural diversity of contemporary Australia and to give access to translated literature.

The syllabus also provides for differentiation between the stages as students engage with texts. Students in Stages 4 and 5 will read and view a wide range of texts, through both wide and close study, for understanding, critical analysis, interpretation and pleasure.

Text selection balances notions of merit with the sensitivities, needs, interests and abilities of readers.

Classic Texts

The specific historical and social circumstances that make any particular generation value a text as a classic have meant that, in the school setting, classic texts have traditionally fallen into three groups:

- adult texts such as many of those taught in the NSW Higher School Certificate English courses
- children's texts such as *The Wind in the Willows* which are generally and appropriately taught in the earlier years of schooling
- those texts which have become appropriated for the middle adolescent years such as *Lord of the Flies* or *To Kill a Mockingbird*.

Schools will want to continue choosing classic texts for study in Years 7 to 10. The text lists in this document represent a body of quality material that is appropriate for students in Years 7 to 10. Specific suggestions for classic texts are included in each section. Some of the books on these lists are already regarded as classics of their genre and many others may well become so.

Everyday and Workplace Texts

Students who are studying English in Stages 4 and 5 are required to have experience of everyday and workplace texts. These are texts they will encounter in school, home and society and include: diaries and journals, instructions, labels, captions, notices, brochures, catalogues, posters, leaflets, invitations, apologies, complaints, messages, questionnaires, forms, personal letters, telephone conversations, postcards, greeting cards, school and class rules, advertising, public addresses, art works, chat rooms, and arguments (written, spoken and multimodal) which communicate a point of view, including speeches and pamphlets.

Schools will provide encounters with texts as diverse as assemblies checklists, procedures, class/subject contracts, daily bulletins/notices, discussions and debates, informational texts (spoken, written, visual), newsletters, notes, summaries, essays, recounts and descriptions, observations, comments, explanations, reports, school magazines, school proformas and surveys.

Students will encounter many workplace texts including formal letters, reports, job applications (curricula vitae and resumé), formal meeting procedures, interviews, questions, public addresses, memoranda, faxes, emails, work experience reports, contracts, agreements, goal outlines, meeting minutes, agendas, instructions, policies and instruction manuals.

Engagement with these types of everyday texts will assist students in both school and workplace settings. Teachers should take every opportunity to have students apply the skills, knowledge and understanding acquired in English to the widest possible variety of texts encountered formally and informally.

Fiction

Preface

The aim of English in Years 7 to 10 is to enable students to use, understand, appreciate, reflect on and enjoy the English language in a variety of texts and to shape meaning in ways that are imaginative, interpretive, critical and powerful. These lists provide teachers with a starting point from which to explore further appropriate literature for students in Years 7 to 10.

Books on the lists represent a variety of styles, perspectives and themes. They range across a number of different types of narrative. There is a broad range of place and time settings on the list and the genres represented include fantasy, humour, adventure, historical and social realism. Social and ethical issues such as individual and community morality are raised. Survival in extreme or unusual circumstances is seen from a variety of perspectives in these novels and short stories as well as the theme of growing up. A range of protagonists is represented.

The fiction lists reflect contemporary texts but this is not to suggest that students will not continue to benefit from exposure to such classics as:

Richard Adams	Watership Down
Louisa May Alcott	Little Women
Jane Austen	Pride and Prejudice
Charlotte Bronte	Jane Eyre
Lewis Carroll	Alice in Wonderland
Marcus Clarke	For the Term of His Natural Life
Charles Dickens	Great Expectations
Kenneth Grahame	The Wind in the Willows
Daphne du Maurier	Rebecca
George Eliot	Silas Marner
Miles Franklin	My Brilliant Career
William Golding	Lord of the Flies
Ernest Hemingway	The Old Man and the Sea
Frances Hodgson Burnett	The Secret Garden
Rudyard Kipling	The Jungle Book
George Johnston	My Brother Jack
Harper Lee	To Kill a Mockingbird
C S Lewis	The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe
George Orwell	Animal Farm
Henry Handel Richardson	The Getting of Wisdom
John Steinbeck	Of Mice and Men
J R R Tolkein	The Hobbit
Oscar Wilde	The Picture of Dorian Gray

Many of these texts can be made relevant to contemporary concerns. For instance the aspects of racism raised in *To Kill a Mockingbird* are still as urgent as when the book was written. Modern classics such as Robert C O'Brien's *Z for Zachariah* and *Mrs Frisby and the Rats of Nimh*, Michelle Magorian's *Goodnight Mr Tom*, Katherine Paterson's *Bridge to Terabithia*, Scott O'Dell's *Island of the Blue Dolphins*, Theodore Taylor's *The Cay*, Colin Thiele's *Storm Boy* and Ruth Park's *Playing Beatie Bow* have found willing audiences in many classrooms.

Some of these classics enable students to experience the literature of other countries and times, a requirement of the syllabus. Students also need to experience a widely defined Australian literature and other Australian texts, including those that give insight into Aboriginal experiences and multicultural experiences in Australia. They need to engage with texts drawn from cultural heritages, popular cultures and youth cultures. These lists reflect this aspect of the syllabus, in keeping with the other criteria for choice as outlined in the General Preface. Some of the books on these fiction lists have already become classics in their own right.

Short stories and picture books provide an enjoyable and valuable range of imaginative fiction well within the grasp of all students. Classic picture books such as Maurice Sendak's *Where the Wild Things Are* and *Outside Over There* provide an opportunity for students to consider the effect of combining visual and printed texts to tell a story that might have a moral or allegorical level of significance. Many of the picture books listed here are aimed at an older audience and should have a special place in our secondary classrooms.

The brevity of short stories makes them accessible to those who are still acquiring the skills of concentration required for extended works of fiction, while the subtlety and sophistication of some stories provide challenges of interpretation and response for more experienced readers. Such students may be encouraged to read the stories of some of the great writers in the genre including Anton Chekhov, Guy de Maupassant, W Somerset Maugham, O Henry, Edgar Allan Poe, Katherine Mansfield and Henry Lawson together with more modern writers such as Olga Masters, Tim Winton or Alice Munro. Stage 5 students may also be led to the long short story or novella form, as practised by John Steinbeck, Elizabeth Jolley and A S Byatt, by considering some of the stories listed here.

Students might use their study of short stories to consider how subject matter shapes the form of the story into romance, thriller, adventure, sci-fi, social realism, humour or fantasy. They could consider how their study of picture books expands their awareness of visual texts and they might explore how the short story and the picture book structure a variety of narratives and represent character.

The range of styles and subject matter represented in this list should encourage active student response in reading, writing, speaking, representing or perhaps shaping a text for performance.

Fiction Stage 4

Skellig

David Almond

Hodder Children's Books – ISBN: 0340716002

Skellig is a delightful story that captures the reader's attention from the intriguing opening line. The story centres on the character of Michael, a young boy who has just moved house. Michael is coping with a baby sister who is ill and a 'thing' he discovers in the garage that has lost the will to live. Michael calls on his unusual neighbour Mina to help him to save Skellig and through this experience opens himself up to the magic and mystery of nature and of life. *Skellig* is a story of love and faith, simply told, that imparts a message of optimism to young readers. *Skellig* won the 1998 Carnegie Medal and the 1998 Whitbread Book Award for best children's book.

Tuck Everlasting

Natalie Babbitt

Bloomsbury Children's Books – ISBN: 0747560919

This powerful and poignant novel asks profound questions about the meaning of life and the possibility of living forever. The Tuck family have found the fountain of youth in spring water and for them eternal life is a reality. Whether this gift is a blessing or a curse is explored in this novel. When ten-year-old Winnie Foster stumbles into the family and a stranger seems close to exploiting the secret the Tucks must take action to protect Winnie and the secret. This text can be read at different levels and provides excellent opportunities for classroom discussion and composing.

The Cry of the Wolf

Melvin Burgess

Puffin Teenage Books – ISBN: 0140373187

The Cry of the Wolf, a cautionary tale about extinction and survival, is set in Britain where a hunter is determined to shoot the last wolves left alive in the wild. Ben unwittingly assists the stranger before he realises the danger the hunter presents. Ben and his family then do all they can to save the wolves, Silver and Conna and their cubs. The final confrontation between Grey Cub, the sole survivor, and his parents' killer, turns the hunter into the hunted. With its clear descriptions and compelling narrative this novel will have strong appeal in the classroom.

Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes

Eleanor Coerr

Hodder Headline – ISBN: 0340266074

Set in Hiroshima in the 1950s, this is the story of eleven-year-old Sadako who develops leukaemia as a result of radiation from the atomic bomb. The 'thousand paper cranes' of the title refers to a belief that a sick person will be made healthy again by the gods if she can make a thousand paper cranes. The story tells of Sadako's determination to put the story to the test. This simple tale of love and hope is a powerful text to use in the classroom.

King of Shadows

Susan Cooper

Penguin – ISBN: 0141307994

This time-shift novel takes young Nat Field back to Shakespeare's time. Nat is rehearsing *A Midsummer Night's Dream* at the rebuilt Globe Theatre, when he is stricken with bubonic plague. He wakes to find himself in a play with Will Shakespeare – Cooper provides authentic detail from the Elizabethan Age as a backdrop to Nat's growth as an actor and a person. This is an excellent novel to study in companionship with *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. (See also *The Dark is Rising* sequence.)

Walk Two Moons

Sharon Creech

Macmillan – ISBN: 0330330004

This story uses the technique of embedded storytelling to explore the mysteries that surround the young heroine's past. Sal's life has been completely disrupted by an event in the past involving her mother. With her grandparents, she embarks on a journey across the USA to 'discover' the truth. The story of the car journey is at times humorous, at times poignant. Implanted in it are a multitude of other stories about school, friends, other mothers, fathers and children. As the stories weave their way towards a conclusion and the mysteries are unravelled, we are carried with them to an overwhelming affirmation of the importance of the family. 1995 Newbery Medal Winner. (See also *The Wanderer*.)

Catherine, Called Birdy

Karen Cushman

Macmillan – ISBN: 0330397796

Set in the Middle Ages, this is a story of Birdy, the teenage daughter of a minor lord and lady in Lincolnshire. Birdy keeps a diary and as her father tries to marry her off to different suitors she records not only her reactions and evasions but also presents a clear portrait of life in the Middle Ages. In this funny and engrossing novel, Catherine may sound like a medieval Adrian Mole but the Author's Note provides background information that helps to position the reader in the historical reality.

The First Book of Samuel

Ursula Dubosarsky

Penguin Books Australia (Viking) – ISBN: 0140369953

Twelve-year-old Samuel Cass finds himself in familiar Dubosarsky territory – an urban, professional-class family whose fabric is taut with tension as all members struggle to find their individuality in the complexity of relationships and cultural diversity. The past poignantly echoes in the actions of Samuel's grandfather, a Holocaust survivor, to hold the family together. The author's prose sparkles with absolute clarity.

Parvana

Deborah Ellis

Allen & Unwin – ISBN: 1865086940

Deborah Ellis' story of a twelve-year-old living in Afghanistan under the Taliban regime conveys, with disturbing immediacy, the plight of a people living in a society where basic freedoms are denied. After her brother's death, her mother and sister as adult women are confined to the family home and her father is imprisoned by the authorities. It is up to Parvana to provide for the family. In doing so she meets others who are suffering as she is and learns strategies of survival in a world where women become prisoners in the home from adolescence onwards.

Life Bytes

Edited by Alwyn Evans

Fremantle Arts Centre Press – ISBN: 1863683828

School students in Western Australian schools have written this collection of short stories, all winners of the *Tim Winton Young Writers Award*. While these stories are from upper and middle primary students in the Perth metropolitan area their focus is on real-life experiences. The brief biographies that follow the students through to their high schools will provide a useful transition text for Year 7 teachers and students.

Ariel, Zed and the Secret of Life

Anna Fienberg

Allen & Unwin – ISBN: 1865082635

Ariel and Zed are misfits and wary of holidays together, but the mysterious island Ariel's mother talks about sounds interesting even if she seems a little vague about it. This wonderfully funny novel of fantasy and adventure, with its badly behaving characters from well-known stories and fairy tales, is an excellent introduction to intertextuality. *Ariel, Zed and the Secret of Life* was the winner of the Alan Marshall Award in the 1993 Victorian Premier's Literary Awards.

Hitler's Daughter

Jackie French

HarperCollins – ISBN: 0207198012

Four country children waiting for the school bus in the rain occupy themselves with taking turns telling stories. It is Anna's turn and the story she begins takes the children to Nazi Germany and the world of Hitler's daughter, Heidi. Anna, usually a great storyteller, find this one difficult! It is clear that, for her, Heidi is more than a character in a make-believe story. As the children become more and more involved in Heidi's story, they explore the moral and ethical issues it raises in their own conversations and with their parents. The book offers many opportunities for exploring methods of narration and the interconnectedness of fact and fiction.

Refuge

Libby Gleeson

Puffin – ISBN: 0140389857

Libby Gleeson highlights the plight of refugees, as Andrew becomes involved in his sister's plan to shelter an illegal East Timorese immigrant in the family home. The author paints a convincing portrait of a strong family unit, able to withstand vigorous debate and disagreement on a range of personal and political issues. It is pleasing to see an adolescent male portrayed as sensitive to the feelings of family and friends. Humorous interludes and present-tense narrative alleviate the intensity of the theme. (See also *Love Me Love Me Not*, *Eleanor Elizabeth*, *I Am Susannah*.)

Two Weeks with the Queen

Morris Gleitzman

Pan Macmillian Australia – ISBN: 0330271830

Colin is sent to England by his parents when his little brother is dying of leukaemia. He sets out to find the 'best doctor in the world' and is thrown out of both Buckingham Palace and a major London hospital. He helps a man whose friend is dying of AIDS in hospital and learns the importance of being *with* loved ones in a crisis. Then, for this reason, he returns home. Funny as well as sad, the book is accessible on a wide range of reading levels. (See also *Bumface* and *The Other Facts of Life*.)

Thunderfish

Simon Higgins

Random House Australia – ISBN: 009183953X

This action-packed sea rescue adventure is set in the future. Kira is a rich, female protagonist whose aim is to save refugees attacked by pirates on the high seas. The book deals with a number of moral dilemmas, decisions relating to piracy, individual responsibility and the dubious power of the press, highlighted in sensationalised gossip columns and headlines. The thriller is compelling and easy reading with an interesting twist to complete the story. The characters are believable and the twenty-first century technology is fascinating.

Pagan's Vows

Catherine Jinks

Omnibus Books – ISBN: 1862912750

Medieval hero, Pagan Kidrouk, of *Pagan*, *Pagan's Crusade* and *Pagan In Exile*, returns once again to triumph in *Pagan's Vows*. Set in France in 1188, Pagan and his knight, Lord Roland Roucy de Bram, enter the Abbey of Saint Martin to devote their lives to God. The Abbey with its many corridors and dark rooms presents the perfect setting for intrigue and deceit. Roland's character becomes more subdued and the monks become the target for Pagan's laconic narration. Although set in medieval times, this is a mystery-thriller aimed to entertain teenage readers. (See also *The Future Trap*.)

Onion Tears

Diana Kidd

Collins/Angus & Robertson – ISBN: 0207170282

This is the story of young Nam-Huong who escaped from Vietnam but lost her grandfather on the long terrible voyage to Australia. She has many reasons to cry but finds it hard to release her pent-up grief as she struggles to understand a different culture. This simple tale of refugees and the trauma they face is a valuable text for classroom discussion.

The Giver

Lois Lowry

HarperCollins – ISBN: 0006748287

Imagine a world without conflict, poverty or inequality where conformity and happiness are a way of life. Jonas lives in this world but for him things are different. Twelve-year-old Jonas is chosen to be the community's Receiver of Memories and he gradually discovers the disturbing truth about his perfect world. He tries to expose those who have ordered it and escape as he learns about the cost of a perfect society. 1994 Newbery Medal winner. (See also *Number the Stars*.)

Secrets in the Fire

Henning Mankell

Allen & Unwin – ISBN: 1865081817

Sofia and her sister stray from the village path in war-torn Mozambique and a landmine kills her sister and shatters Sofia's legs. *Secrets in the Fire* is based on the true story of a young girl in Mozambique and how she struggles to recover from the devastation the war has left. This is a moving and sobering story that allows students to share the experiences of adolescents in desperate circumstances.

The Keeper of the Isis Light

Monica Hughes

Aladdin Publishing Company – ISBN: 0689833903

This is a science fiction story that explores issues of prejudice and growing up. Olwen Pendennis is the Keeper of the Isis Light and with her robot, Guardian, she has lived alone on the highlands of planet Isis since the death of her parents. Isis is a harsh planet with only the valleys providing an atmosphere that is breathable. When a group of colonists arrives on Isis from Earth, Olwen is hopeful that she can make new friends but the modifications necessary for her survival repel those she would like to befriend.

The Binna Binna Man

Meme McDonald and Boori Monty Pryor

Allen & Unwin – ISBN: 1865080713

This novel introduces young people coming to terms with their identity and heritage. The story covers a trip to a relative's funeral and the response of different generations to the grief of untimely death. The Binna Binna man of the title is a presence who encourages appropriate behaviour and respect for traditional ways. While true to the oral tradition of storytelling, the language is accessible.

Cairo Jim and the Lagoon of Tidal Magnificence

Geoffrey McSkimming

Hodder Children's – ISBN: 0733602959

The kidnapping of the entire Turkish Women's Olympic Championship Tent Erection Team by villainous Neptune F Bone kicks off this latest Cairo Jim adventure, with the usual smirks, masterful wordplay (and frequent use of parentheses). This time, Jim, Jocelyn, Doris and Brenda investigate old archaeological secrets of Dr Schnitger. Naturally, they are plunged into numerous cliffhanger chapter endings (perfect for serialisation with a class). For example, Jim is literally up to his neck in trouble when trapped by a giant jungle plant. This is an often hilarious and challenging novel, rich with Indonesian vocabulary that should have its readers reaching for dictionaries, atlases and history books.

Changing Stories

Bronwyn Mellor, Judith Hemming and Jane Leggett

Chalkface Press – ISBN: 1875136010

This collection of folk stories and fairytales encourages students to reflect on stories and how they read them. For example students can consider several versions of *Little Red Riding Hood*, and discuss the conventions of fairytales and the ways stories can change over time. The collection allows students to reflect on how gender can influence perspective. (See also *Making Stories*.)

The Colour of Sunshine

David Metzenthien

Puffin – ISBN: 0141310510

This is a depiction of grief and confusion in a family's life seen through the eyes of nine-year-old Davey. His sixteen-year-old sister has been killed in a road accident, and the loss has sunk his parents into a depression. Colour comes back into Davey's life in the form of an irrepressible family that runs a pet shop in the neighbourhood. The difference between the families is almost too polarised yet the complexity of emotions, especially in the older characters, is intelligently drawn. The ways friends and family deal with grief are explored with depth and feeling.

Hatchet

Gary Paulsen

Macmillan Children's Books – ISBN: 0330310453

This is a survival story a reader will never forget. Brian Robeson is a thirteen-year-old city boy who is left alone in the Canadian wilderness after his plane crashes. He faces the problems of finding food, shelter and clothing. With imagination and courage, he experiences despair and perseverance and it is the character development as well as the survival skills that grip the reader. (See also *The Return*, *Hatchet in Winter*, *The Voyage of the Frog*, and *Hatchet: The Truth* in the nonfiction section.)

Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone

J K Rowling

Bloomsbury – ISBN: 0747532745

Harry Potter is no ordinary boy but comes of wizard stock and when he finds himself at Hogwart's School for Wizards he begins to recover from the cruelty and ignorance of his upbringing by his uncle and aunt. This best-selling fantasy of wizards and wonder makes for enchanting reading as Harry battles evil with good friends and humour. The novel calls on a wide variety of traditional children's literary genres that students can explore. Winner of Whitbread Children's Book of the Year Award for 1999.

Haroun and the Sea of Stories

Salman Rushdie

Penguin – ISBN: 0140140352

Haroun and the Sea of Stories is a delightful tale about a storyteller who loses his ability to tell tales. His son struggles to recover his father's special gift by doing battle against mysterious forces attempting to destroy the seas of inspiration from which all stories are derived. Funny, allusive and fast-paced, this story will provide many opportunities for student responding and composing.

Galax-Arena

Gillian Rubinstein

Puffin – ISBN: 0141310243

Three Australian children are kidnapped and propelled into a vicious game in the Galax-Arena, where rivalry and death mingle. Believing themselves to have been transported from earth to become the pets of an alien species, the children must struggle to understand themselves as well as their predicament. The special language developed by the kidnapped children can make for a fascinating classroom study. (See also *Space Demons*, *Skymaze* and *Shinkei*.)

Holes

Louis Sachar

Bloomsbury – ISBN: 0747548471

In a Texas wasteland at Camp Green Lake, in a juvenile detention facility where there is no lake, boys are forced to dig countless holes to improve their character. Stanley Yelnats finds himself at Camp Green Lake, the innocent victim of mistaken identity. He discovers that the character building is a cover for the warden (who paints her fingernails with rattlesnake venom) and her search for something hidden in the desert. The novel moves between time with humour and craft. It has a wonderfully twisted ending and its deep understanding of friendship and compassion make it an outstanding classroom text. Winner of the Newbery Award in 1999.

The Bad Beginning

Lemony Snicket

HarperCollins – ISBN: 0064407667

Poor Violet, Klaus, and Sunny Baudelaire! They have the misfortune to lose their parents and despite their intelligence, charm and resourcefulness they are exceptionally unlucky. This leads to many difficult and dangerous experiences, which inevitably amuse and entertain. This irreverent and twisted tale should prove popular in the classroom and there are several sequels.

Wringer

Jerry Spinelli

HarperCollins – ISBN: 0006754171

In Waymer, USA, a boy's tenth birthday is the biggest event of his life but Palmer La Rue doesn't want to turn ten and become a wringer because that will mean he will have to kill pigeons. Bullying, peer pressure and family relationships are central to this novel in which a young boy must learn how to stop being afraid and stand up for what he believes in. *Wringer* is a powerful and effective novel that confronts issues that all teenagers face. (See also *Maniac Magee*.)

Nips XI

Ruth Starke

Lothian Books – ISBN: 0734401132

If white boys can't jump, can Asian boys play cricket? Vietnamese-born Lan is sick of multicultural food festivals at school and wants to do something different. He decides with his friend, Izram, to form a school cricket team with a difference. This funny and entertaining novel explores multiculturalism and school with a sharp eye and, while set in a primary school, is still relevant for high school study.

Lockie Leonard, Legend

Tim Winton

Macmillan – ISBN: 0330360027

This is an engaging story of second love as Lockie continues learning about relationships when his ex-girlfriend comes back into his life. Lockie is growing up and family responsibilities take over when his mother suffers a breakdown and is admitted to the local hospital. Winton's skilful use of language and his creation of a contemporary vernacular are very appealing. (See also *Blueback*, *Lockie Leonard*, *Human Torpedo* and *Lockie Leonard, Scumbuster*.)

Picture Books Stage 4

The Mysteries of Harris Burdick

Chris Van Allsburg

Houghton Mifflin – ISBN: 0395353939

The Mysteries of Harris Burdick is a mystifying and wonderful collection of pictures, each with accompanying one-line text, that can inspire and enthuse students. This American classic won the *New York Times* Best Illustrated Book Award for 1984. Van Allsburg has won the Caldecott Award three times. (See also *The Wreck of the Zephyr* and *Jumanji*.)

The Tunnel

Anthony Browne

Walker Books – ISBN: 0744552397

A sister forgets the quarrels she has had with her brother and attempts a rescue that demonstrates the power of her affection. The picture book with its allusions to other folk tales would make a good introduction to the use of intertextuality; it is a fascinating exploration of a sibling relationship. (See also *Voices in the Park*, *Piggybook*.)

Way Home

Libby Hathorn and Gregory Rogers

Random House Australia (Mark Macleod Books) – ISBN: 0091829186

This is the story of Shane, a young street kid, his finding of a lost kitten and their journey home to Shane's 'house'. The illustrator portrays a city at night (Sydney), contrasting the busy streets ablaze with lights and the dark back alleys. Both are hazardous for Shane and the tiny kitten. *Way Home* is a poignant tale of two vulnerable young survivors for older readers.

Sadako

Eleanor Coerr and Ed Young

Margaret Hamilton Books – ISBN: 1876289481

This picture book rendering of the famous Sadako story is illuminated by Ed Young's delicate pastels. Students can benefit from a comparison of the visual text with the longer prose version annotated earlier in this list. (See *Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes*.)

The Singing Hat

Tohby Riddle

Penguin Books (Viking) – ISBN: 014131320X

This picture book parable explores the possible impact of serendipitous events and celebrates difference and the courage to remain resolute in the face of widespread disapproval.

Something unexpected and improbable happens to Colin Jenkins, and the world around him seems a different place because of it. The illustrations combine collaged photos and fabrics, revealing and witty speech bubbles, bold blocks of colour and featureless, white urban silhouette against which the plot is played out.

The Great Escape from City Zoo

Tohby Riddle

HarperCollins (Angus & Robertson) – ISBN: 0207196087

This brilliantly original concept is executed with imagination and craft in a monochrome suggestive of historic photographs. The sophisticated style and wit enchant both adults, who will appreciate the satire on city life, and children, who will enjoy the escaping animals' inventiveness and deception of adults. The illustrations make subtle, clever reference to various icons of 20th century visual art and film.

The Book that Jack Wrote

Jon Scieska and Daniel Adel

Puffin – ISBN: 0140553851

This delightful picture book illustrates the chaos that occurs when nursery rhymes go awry. As the reader/viewer moves through the book, the rat, a cat, the cow over the moon are all there but they are getting caught up in a different narrative. *The Book that Jack Wrote* provides a good introduction to narrative structure and allusion.

The Lost Thing

Shaun Tan

Lothian Books – ISBN: 0734403887

This innovative book presents a deceptively simple tale. The naïve, conversational yet reflective text with its familiar 'lost pet' plot elements is juxtaposed with a surreal, melancholic, industrial setting. It makes a haunting statement about what is significant and to be valued in crowded lives. While the plot will appeal to younger readers, older students and adults will enjoy the varied intertextual references and the richly layered allegorical illustrations. This totally integrated visual and literary experience repays repeated close viewing and supports multiple interpretations.

My Place

Nadia Wheatley and Donna Rawlins

Collins Dove – ISBN: 0859245756

This journey through families is a powerful and evocative account of the way our country and our landscape have changed. Wheatley and Rawlins take us back in time with a big Moreton Bay fig tree as our lighthouse. The book begins and ends with Aboriginal people and celebrates the diversity and difference that make up Australia.

Fiction Stage 5

Finding Grace

Alyssa Brugman

Allen & Unwin – ISBN: 1865084530

Eighteen-year-old Rachel tells this poignant, reflective story of her life caring for Grace, a victim of acquired brain injury. Rachel is feisty with an irrepressible, astringent humour that takes no prisoners and yet is compassionately sensitive to Grace's position. The meaning of the title is gradually revealed as Rachel explores Grace's life before her accident and more importantly discovers the individual that is still there in Grace's apparently unresponsive body. In so doing it is a journey of personal growth and self-knowledge for Rachel. Other characters are vividly drawn and there is a realistic approach to the outcome for people with acquired brain injury. This is an impressive first novel. Children's Book Council of Australia, short-listed for Book of the Year: Older Readers, 2002.

The Blue Faraway

Janine Burke

Addison Wesley Longman – ISBN: 0582810116

Two Year 9 students, Casey Buchanan and Zep de Marco, are thrown together to do an English assignment on Joan Lindsay's *Picnic at Hanging Rock*. Both have problems at home and Zep has been devastated by the death of a close friend. On an excursion to Hanging Rock something happens to them which ties them to the rock and each other. With its exploration of friendship and gender and a well-wrought sense of mystery, the novel lends itself to a comparative study with the Peter Weir film, *Picnic at Hanging Rock*.

Green Monkey Dreams

Isobelle Carmody

Penguin Books (Viking) – ISBN: 0140380337

A powerful and haunting collection of short stories – not all of them new – which shows glimpses of life on the borderland of myth, this book is full of mystery. The characters are so vividly portrayed that they will keep returning to your thoughts. The cover has a stunning, subtle, soft fantasy feel about it. The writing is even and beautifully crafted. A thoughtful, provocative reading is required. (See also *The Farseekers*, *The Gathering*.)

Journey through Horror

Edited by Richard Baines

Oxford University Press – ISBN: 0195514874

This selection of horror and ghost stories provides a valuable introduction to genre and presents an opportunity to undertake aspects of the Stage 5 section of the syllabus and to prepare students for genre study in the Stage 6 English syllabus. The selection is suitably chilling, owing much to the influence of Edgar Allen Poe. Ray Bradbury, Truman Capote and Andrew Horowitz are among the authors represented. Students can consider a range of different perspectives and contexts for horror as the anthology contains some real life horror stories. The *Journey through...* series includes other genres such as crime and fantasy. In this particular anthology, the human desire to be frightened is fulfilled. As the introduction warns us, 'be afraid'.

Merryll of the Stones

Brian Caswell

University of Queensland Press – ISBN: 070222250X

Brian Caswell's first novel, *Merryll of the Stones*, is evocative of time and place. The shift in location from suburban Sydney to rural Wales, as well as movement backwards and forwards through time allow Caswell to convey his powerful sense of atmosphere and history. Megan Ellison, the central character, learns that she has the power to initiate time shifts and it is through her experiences that the novel explores the importance of finding the balance. A novel that combines adventure, romance, science fiction and history, that is rich in linguistic complexity and builds to a dramatic climax. (See also *A Cage of Butterflies*.)

Wolf on the Fold

Judith Clarke

Silverfish (Allen & Unwin) – ISBN: 186508557X

In literature the wolf is used as a powerful symbol, and in this title the wolf represents real or imagined danger and how the characters, who are linked by family, deal with it. There are six stories that travel through time from Kenny in 1935 to James in 2002. They describe the dangers faced by the family members ranging from violence, privilege, war trauma, racism and exile to the powerlessness of a fear of everything. This beautifully crafted book, celebrating ordinary life, is deceptively simple and gentle but it provides powerful, thought-provoking and rewarding reading. *Wolf on the Fold* won the Children's Book Council Book of the Year Award for Older Readers in 2001.

Rough with the Smooth: Stories of Australian Men

Edited by B R Coffey

Fremantle Arts Centre Press – ISBN: 1863683062

Well-known Australian writers and personalities, including A B Facey, Bruce Beresford, Glyn Parry and Elizabeth Jolley, explore the complexities of masculinity in Australian culture in this collection of short stories and extracts. The men in these tales include larrikin farming fathers, real estate salesmen and migrant workers. The strength of these stories of friendship, compassion, leadership, love and weaknesses, rely equally on the women and children in the men's lives, making this collection a true snapshot of Australian social relationships. Teachers may find the book a useful stimulus for exploring issues of social and cultural awareness with students, and all interested teachers will gain personal insights into the complexities of Australian masculinity.

The Divine Wind

Garry Disher

Hodder Headline – ISBN: 0733605265

Hart, son of a pearling master, falls in love with Mitsy, daughter of a Japanese diver. Their story is set in Broome and the outbreak of war is about to affect everyone in the town. There is much tension and, as racial intolerance builds, old friendships cannot always survive the strains. Disher's economic literary style convincingly portrays the effects of the war on this remote multiracial town, and in particular on Hart and his world as a near-fatal accident abruptly changes his expectations.

Eva

Peter Dickinson

Macmillan Children's Books – ISBN: 0330483846

A thirteen-year-old girl called Eva is involved in a horrifying car accident. When Eva wakes up in hospital after an eight-month coma she discovers that she has been given a totally new kind of life. Her brain has been transferred unchanged into the body of a chimpanzee. This novel delves into the ethics of such experiments, the wider issue of what it is to be human and the future of the human race. The conclusion to the powerful novel is a challenging one for students to explore. (See also *AK*.)

48 Shades of Brown

Nick Earls

Penguin – ISBN: 0140287698

Love, lust and pesto! This is an extremely witty account of the transition from living at home to living in a shared household. Dan learns, through a comedy of errors that pretending to be who you're not in the hope of impressing someone rarely works. Dialogue and interior monologue, combined with clever imagery, make this a thought-provoking but hilarious novel. *48 Shades of Brown* won the Children's Book Council Book of the Year Award: Older Readers in 2000. (See also the adaptation of this novel in the drama section.)

Borrowed Light

Anna Fienberg

Allen & Unwin – ISBN: 1864489316

Callisto wryly classifies herself as a moon, destined to palely reflect the light of others. The poignant sense of dread and alienation in the novel is subtly offset by Cal's self-deprecating humour and the warm, loving relationship she has with her young brother. This is an outstanding work that examines the complex nature of responsibility, including to oneself, in a very positive manner. Feinberg's lyrical language and sustained celestial analogies, reminiscent of the work of Margaret Mahy, contribute to the inspiring nature of the book. *Borrowed Light* was an Honour Book in the Children's Book Council Awards in 2000.

The Eyre Affair

Jasper Fforde

Hodder and Stoughton – ISBN: 034073356X

Imagine a Great Britain where time travel is routine, where the Crimean War still rages and where literature is taken so very seriously that thieves target great works of fiction instead of cash or jewels. Acheron Hades, the third most wanted man in the world, steals the original manuscript of *Jane Eyre* and takes Jane from its pages, aiming by her death to make her disappear from every volume of the novel ever printed! But Thursday Next, renowned literary detective, is on his trail! Jasper Fforde's alternative universe is full of jokes and humour, allusions and wordplay and is fast and furiously paced. It is a marvellous mockery of genre fiction, a literary feast for the reader and an engaging text with which to explore intertextuality.

Making the Most of It

Lisa Forrest

Hodder Headline – ISBN: 0733607942

Lisa Forrest is a former Olympic swimmer and her first novel has autobiographical overtones. Fourteen-year-old Nina Hallet is an unknown schoolgirl who becomes a national sporting hero. But there is little to prepare her for her role as an international celebrity. Her success becomes a nightmare of difficulties and despair. This realistic and ultimately optimistic novel provides opportunities for students to consider advantages and costs of fame and fortune. (See also *Dj Max*.)

The Dons

Archimede Fusillo

Puffin – ISBN: 014131334X

This engrossing story of an Italian migrant family explores the frustrations and anxieties of living with an elderly relative. Paul, fourteen and missing his father, finds his ageing Nonno increasingly embarrassing and exasperating. How can he concentrate on his homework, girls and fast cars when he constantly has to deal with this forgetful, annoying old man? The relationship between Paul and Nonno gradually grows stronger as Paul listens to his grandfather's stories of his past and begins to appreciate both him and his Italian heritage. Moving scenes of family life combine with a wry, adolescent humour to make this a memorable story of one teenager's steps along the path to maturity.

Deadly, Unna?

Phillip Gwynne

Puffin – ISBN: 0141300493

A powerful, thought-provoking novel about Blacky, a white teenage boy growing up in a small country town who befriends Dumby Red, an Aboriginal boy on his football team. Told in the very realistic, humorous and laconic voice of Blacky, this is a story about growing up and coming of age as well as an insightful and non-sentimental look at race relations. This book explores the issue of personal moral courage against a backdrop of family conflicts, warm friendships and a firmly established setting. Winner of the Children's Book Council of Australia 1999 Book of the Year: Older Readers.

The Blue Dress

Libby Hathorn (editor)

Hodder Headline – ISBN: 0733611516

This collection of short stories is unified by the blue dress on the cover. Authors were asked to compose a story around the painting placed on the postage stamp. Stories range from the chilling horror of *First Dance* to the joys and disappointments of first love.

Stripes of the Sidestep Wolf

Sonya Hartnett

Penguin Books (Viking) – ISBN: 067088507X

This novel ultimately is one of purpose, hope and overcoming adversity. The story is centred on a young man dealing with his life as a member of a troubled family. The language is evocative and, at times, poetic. Readers' emotions are stirred by Hartnett's compassionate depiction of people living on the edge. By using the image of the supposedly extinct thylacine (Tasmanian tiger) Hartnett cleverly draws parallels with a dying community and characters in need of sanctuary.

Taronga

Victor Kelleher

Penguin (Puffin) – ISBN: 0140326316

This is a post-nuclear war adventure story set in Sydney. Ben is a teenage survivor with a special power: a voice in his mind speaks in such a way that it can be heard by animals and this is referred to as the Calling. At Taronga Zoo Ben meets an Aboriginal girl, Ellie, a member of a gang run by the powerful leader, Molly. The rule of the jungle that preceded and produced the nuclear catastrophe has once again determined human behaviour. It is the mission of Ben and Ellie to quell this violence, both inside and outside the group, and to build Taronga into an oasis that could herald a new beginning. The book poses many questions about the struggle between coercion and cooperation in the human psyche. (See also *The Red Heart*, *The Ivory Trail*.)

Came Back to Show You I Could Fly

Robin Klein

Penguin (Puffin) – ISBN: 0140342540

Robin Klein has written a warm and compassionate book about the power of friendship to comfort and heal, and to widen personal experience. Seymour and Angie are an unlikely pair of friends, but their accidental meeting leads to escape from loneliness and despair. Seymour faces a summer holiday confined in the house of his mother's friend in an unfamiliar neighbourhood, while Angie has exhausted the patience of her family with her drug addiction. A narrative feature of the novel is the inclusion of Angie's notes and diary entries. Outside their respective families, Seymour and Angie develop their inner resources and eventually find confidence in themselves.

Tehanu

Ursula Le Guin

Penguin (Puffin) – ISBN: 0140348026

Tehanu is Ursula Le Guin's sequel to her popular 'Wizard of Earthsea' trilogy, often studied in Stage 4. Le Guin overturns many assumptions about good, evil and power in the fantasy genre. In this novel a female is sought to secure the future of Earthsea. Tenar and Ged are guardians of the girl Therru, a victim of extraordinary violence. Her vulnerability allows Le Guin to explore the question of how to confront evil – threats to security must be met at a personal and domestic level. Yet, at the end of the novel, Therru is identified as the new protector of Earthsea, the new link with the old powers.

The Changeover

Margaret Mahy

Puffin – ISBN: 0140372954

This is a fantasy working at several levels. The story directly concerns the rescue of Laura Chant's younger brother, Jacko, from a possessive spell cast on him by a knick-knack shop owner called Carmody Braque. Laura has to call on the help of Sorenson Carlisle, who is just a few years older than she is. In the process she discovers the mysterious world of love. This is a thrilling story that will appeal to the mid-teens. *The Changeover* is a Carnegie Medal winner.

Looking for Alibrandi

Melina Marchetta

Penguin – ISBN: 0140236139

Looking for Alibrandi has become a modern classic. It is the story of Josephine's last year at school in which she discovers a great deal about her family, herself and life. This honest and insightful novel will provide many opportunities for classroom discussion and composing. *Looking for Alibrandi* won the Children's Book Council Book of the Year Award: Older Readers in 1993. The film of *Looking for Alibrandi* has gained critical acclaim.

Tomorrow When the War Began

John Marsden

Macmillan – ISBN: 0330274864

This suspenseful adventure story is the first of a seven-novel series about the response of a group of adolescents to the invasion of their country. Ellie and her friends return from a camping trip in the bush to find their families taken prisoner and their country overrun. From evading their enemies they turn to attacking them and in the process undergo significant changes. The descriptions of place and incident are compelling. This novel and its sequels provide an excellent opportunity for an author study. (See also *Winter, So Much to Tell You*.)

Touch Me

James Moloney

University of Queensland Press – ISBN: 0702231517

This is a groundbreaking novel, which explores issues of identity, friendship and the roles society assigns to gender. In his final year at school Xavier McLachlan discovers that relationships are of equal or greater importance than his coveted place in the school's first XV rugby team. The game of rugby becomes something of a metaphor for life as his friendship with the unconventional and confronting Nuala develops. In the search for an identity uniquely theirs, both characters question the expectation of their peers and the society in which they belong. Characterisation is skilful and the exploration of relationships is particularly thought-provoking. (See also *A Bridge to Wiseman's Cove*.)

Beast

Donna Jo Napoli

Simon & Schuster – ISBN: 0689835906

Donna Jo Napoli expands the tale of Beauty and the Beast in this glittering novel set in ancient Persia. Prince Orasmyn is cursed to lion shape until the love of a woman releases him. He travels across Asia to France in his lion shape until he finds refuge in an abandoned chateau where he plants a rose garden. The story then follows its traditional path embellished with references to rose horticulture, Persian literature and the beliefs of Islam. The novel invites comparisons with the original tale and other retellings such as Robin McKinley's *Beauty*. A glossary of Persian and Arabic words is provided.

Sabriel

Garth Nix

HarperCollins (Moonstone) – ISBN: 1865080403

Sabriel is a very dark and at times quite disturbing fantasy. The heroine is a young girl who inherits magical powers from her necromancer father. Her father's sudden disappearance thrusts her into a world of danger in which she learns to use her talents effectively through bitter and often painful experience. A battle between good and evil rages throughout the book and is described with intensity quite unlike most children's fantasies of this genre. Not for the faint-hearted, *Sabriel* is a complex and often violent book which rewards the reader with the creation of a vivid and challenging fantasy world.

The Wind Singer

William Nicholson

Reed – ISBN: 1740517571

In the city of Aramant people are divided according to their occupation. If they work hard they can move through the system. However the Hath family cherish ideas and dreams and their daughter Kestel finds it difficult to fit the order and regulation and conformity of the city. Guided by an old map she sets out with her brother Bowman and their friend Mumpo on an adventure that takes them through the city sewers into the desert beyond. They know that if they can find the voice of the Wind Singer, an ancient and mysterious instrument that stands in the centre of Aramant, they can save their people from a deadening lethargy. Tolerance and the importance of individuality are explored in the wonderful fantasy, the first book of a planned trilogy. (See also *Slaves of the Mastery* and *Firesong*.)

The Sterkarm Handshake

Susan Price

Scholastic Point – ISBN: 0439014085

Not just another time travel fantasy, *The Sterkarm Handshake* offers an insight into modern society and its values. When a 21st century scientific corporation invests in a time travel machine which makes the 16th century available as a holiday destination, the attitudes of the time travellers (scientists, entrepreneurs, anthropologists) to the society of the past deliver a revealing commentary on the society of the present. Parallels are drawn between the exploitation of the past society for tourist dollars and the imperialist exploitation of indigenous peoples in countries such as USA. An unusual love story holds the plot together

and adds depth to the author's exploration of human motivation. *The Sterkarm Handshake* won the Guardian Award for Children's Fiction in 1999.

Northern Lights

Philip Pullman

Scholastic – ISBN: 0590660543

Northern Lights is the first book in Philip Pullman's *His Dark Materials* trilogy. Pullman has created a parallel universe in which science, theology, and magic are closely linked. Lyra Belacqua is an orphan growing up in a parallel Oxford where people have a personal daemon, the manifestation of their souls in animal form. When Lyra's friend Roger disappears, she and her daemon, Pantalaimon, are determined to find him. Their quest leads them to the north of the country where horrible experiments are taking place on children. This complex and compelling fantasy with its links to the poetry of John Milton and its depiction of multiple worlds will reward close study. *The Amber Spyglass*, the third book in the trilogy, won the Guardian Award for Children's Fiction in 2001.

Falling

Anne Provoost (translated by John Nieuwenhuizen)

Allen & Unwin – ISBN: 1864484446

For Lucas, a young man on holidays, the long, hot summer proves to hold menace and temptation. After his grandfather's death Lucas' return to the old house places him next door to the enigmatic Caitlin and brings him into contact with some extreme nationalists. This deep and disturbing novel about racism and complex moral choices will prove very relevant to Australians. *Falling* was first published in Belgium; it has been translated into several languages and won five major literary awards.

Blackout

Michael Pryor

Hodder Headline – ISBN: 0733611818

Civilisation as we know it ends with a blackout. Through the first person narration of two well-developed characters, Holly and Tony, Pryor has created an effective scenario of the ensuing chaos and social breakdown. The lunatic New Order rises rapidly to power, blaming the old regime for the failure. Meanwhile, the scientists and supporters of the old regime are struggling to rebuild their world. The book climaxes with the inevitable clash between new and old.

The Fifth Quest

Debra Oswald

Puffin – ISBN: 0143300016

Rose is a young girl who gains a role in a well-known television series, *The Quest of Ashtari*. Her role brings her close to the star of the series and creates problems with her best friend. This entertaining novel explores rivalry and fame and would be a useful companion text to the study of film and television because of its insight into the techniques of production.

The Baboon King

Anton Quintana (translated by John Nieuwenhuizen)
Allen & Unwin – ISBN: 1864483849

Morengaru, a young African hunter, is alone in the wilderness. He has been exiled by his father's people, the Masai and by his mother's people, the Kikuyu. Faced with surviving without the support of a community he finds himself living among the baboons. His attempts to cling to his humanity are honestly and realistically portrayed by Quintana. This confronting novel compels readers to consider what it means to be human.

Willow Tree And Olive

Irini Savvides
Hodder Headline – ISBN: 0733613063

This is a moving story of Olive's journey of self-discovery as she struggles with her Greek heritage and the shadow over her childhood. As the narrator's voice shifts from first to third person, another picture of Olive emerges and we see her change from outgoing, fun-loving extrovert to a more introspective, serious persona. A wonderfully evoked visit to Greece eventually leads to Olive's personal and cultural renewal as she sheds the trauma of the past and looks forward to the future.

Poison under their lips

Mark Svendsen
Lothian Books – ISBN: 0734401833

In this harrowing, uncomfortable journey into some of the more shameful and shocking realities of colonial history, readers meet the eighteen-year-old Native Police cadet, Arthur Wilbraham. His story, revealed through a disjointed chronology of journal entries, transcripts, reports and quotes, is grim and unrelenting, a powerful mix of fact and fiction. Attention to detail in creation of setting and both language and voice add to the veracity of this powerful, disconcerting read.

Stone Cold

Robert Swindells
Puffin – ISBN: 0140362517

In this novel homeless adolescents are vanishing and no-one notices or cares about their disappearance. Luke has become a derelict in London and only survives because of the friendship of Ginger, another street kid. When Ginger disappears Gail provides Luke with hope but Shelter, a soldier out of work, who is killing the homeless kids, is targeting more victims. The role of the media and the plight of the homeless are both explored in this chilling novel. *Stone Cold* won the 1993 Carnegie Medal.

Montana 1948

Larry Watson
Pan Macmillan – ISBN: 0330336797

In 1948 in Bantock, Montana, a twelve-year-old boy must confront complex moral and family issues. David Hayden narrates this story forty years after the events that shook his town and his family. As a boy David sees his sheriff father arrest his own war hero brother for

the rape of the Hayden's housekeeper, Marie Little Soldier. This beautifully written tale explores family relationships with honesty and integrity.

The House that was Eureka

Nadia Wheatley

Penguin – ISBN: 0141004126

Newtown is the setting for this story of the Depression and unemployment. It is a story of love, separation and reconciliation. The experiences of the 1931 depression are relevant to the concerns of contemporary adolescents. The lives of Nobby Weston, Lizzie Cruise, Evie and Noel intersect across generations of resistance. Wheatley reveals the seam of violence often running beneath the surface of ordinary lives that becomes apparent when insecurity threatens. This novel makes history accessible and contemporary; it is also a mystery and the plot keeps the reader engaged until the last page. The historical detail and use of the vernacular will provide good teaching opportunities.

Water Colours

Sarah Walker

Hodder Headline – ISBN: 0733612792

This is a book about friendship and families, fitting in and finding out. Bea, orphaned since a baby, begins a journey of discovery concerning her mother's death and the meaning of friendship. Narrated in the first person her emergence from ignorance to understanding is both sympathetic and humorous. The use of metaphors to describe the colour of water, diverse characters, and the wonderful evocation of a beachside in summer makes this a commendable book.

My Cousin Clarette and Other Stories

Budge Wilson

University of Queensland Press – ISBN: 0702225037

This collection of short stories offers insight into those moments when children move into the adult world. The opening story, *The Metaphor* provides an excellent introduction to creative writing. It concerns an English teacher's lessons on imagery that expose a sterile mother-and-daughter relationship. The title story revolves around adolescent masks and rivalry. Budge Wilson's stories reveal love and loss and often have a twist in the tale.

Fighting Ruben Wolfe

Markus Zusak

Omnibus Books – ISBN: 1862914311

Faced with their father's unemployment, the two brothers Cam and Ruben take up illicit boxing. This powerful thought-provoking exploration of family life is enlivened by black humour and examines important contemporary themes. The characters are attractive and their dilemmas make this compelling reading. Zusak's use of language ranges from authentic teenage vernacular through stream-of-consciousness passages to lyrical and poetic phrasing. Although this is a sequel to *The Underdog*, it can stand alone and is an accessible read for a range of teenagers.

Picture Books Stage 5

Dreamwalker

Isobelle Carmody, illustrated by Steven Woolman
Lothian Books – ISBN: 0734403909

Text and illustration complement each other well, aptly and consistently reflecting the haunting dreamscape of the story-line in this picture book for older readers. The fine, dense text, while attractive and well suited to the genre and overall tone of the book, could be difficult for some students to read, and could challenge those who need additional literacy support. The plot and its telling are typical of Carmody's best multi-layered fantasies, strengthened by Woolman's intricate, varied illustrations. Themes skilfully explored through strong characterisation include individuality, conformity, being a loner, difference, and bravery in the face of challenging odds.

The Watertower

Gary Crew, illustrated by Steven Woolman
Martin International in assoc. with Era Publications – ISBN: 1863743200

Dark and mysterious; black endpapers effectively open to a disturbing scenario that will be different for each reader according to his/her unique imaginative response to the textual and pictorial ambiguities of this picture book. Two boys in a small rural town climb inside the old town reservoir for an illicit swim. Simultaneously, the watertower is at the centre of some unseen, momentous happening to which the mesmerised townsfolk are eerily drawn. Text, illustration and book design unify to create a tantalising reading experience.

Memorial

Gary Crew, illustrated by Shaun Tan
Lothian Books – ISBN: 0850919835

The evocative illustrations and sensitive text explore a century of war involving four generations of one family. The book has stunning visual as well as tactile appeal, using photorealism to convey factual authenticity. The colour is muted, although varied, enabling the past and the present to merge effortlessly. Tan's illustrations reflect Crew's implied and literal meaning without embarking on a detailed description of war.

The Rabbits

John Marsden, illustrated by Shaun Tan
Lothian Books – ISBN: 0850918782

The boldly original text sets up an allegory and ends with the question 'Who will save us from the rabbits?' An historical metaphor for an invasion or domination in its many guises, the story is extended by the illustrations to allow wide reader interpretation. Imaginative visual images suggest references to Olsen in the delicate wading birds and Bosch or Heath Robertson in the hellish dark red machines. Even the blank white page before the endpaper suggests further questions in this brilliant integration of design and text.

The Red Tree

Shaun Tan

Lothian – ISBN: 0734401728

This picture book celebrates the visual imagination. It is a young person's emotional journey from forlornness to exhilaration. Each double page contains a single sentence, and an illustration that matches the words in utterly unpredictable and witty ways. The drawings are so flamboyantly wonderful they enrich and excite the human spirit. This book confirms that it is imagination that makes sense of our journey through this world. Short-listed, Picture Book of the Year 2002.

The Staircase Cat

Colin Thompson, illustrated by Anna Pignataro

Hodder Headline – ISBN: 0733610056

This is a haunting and thought-provoking picture book aimed at a slightly older audience. Thompson's gentle story of a cat left alone to fend for itself during the war years is beautifully supported by Anna Pignataro's watercolour drawings which use colour to reflect mood and suggest emotion. Muted, colourless ghost figures are contrasted with the warm tones of family life before and after the war. This story is told with great depth yet elegant simplicity.

Fox

Margaret Wild and Ron Brooks

Allen & Unwin – ISBN: 1864484659

Fox is an accomplished picture book concerning complex and familiar moral dilemmas rendered translucent through narrative and image. Fox sinuously and maliciously disturbs the supportive relationship between the one-eyed Dog and the burnt and maimed Magpie, threatening their very existence. Established literary and environmental connotations about foxes come together in this archetypal tale of 'less than perfect' characters. This story of friendship, freedom and loyalty is a multilayered parable in which the hand-lettered text and visually stunning pictures are fully integrated. This is a rich book masterfully composed from spare, elegant language and a vibrant earthy palette built up and inscribed across each page.

Poetry

Preface

The *English Syllabus Years 7–10* requires students to read and closely study a wide range of types of poems. In Stage 5 students are required to read and closely study a variety of poems drawn from different anthologies and/or study one or two poets. An important purpose of this list is to reaffirm the creative power of poetry in the lives of young people. In addition to reading individual poems, students are encouraged to write their own, to make anthologies and collections of favourite poems, to read widely in poetry and to use it to illuminate and complement other textual experiences. This list should help teachers, parents and students in these activities.

The list consists primarily of anthologies. Some contain an unembellished collection of poems, or feature a complementary blend of poems, pictures and illustrations; others intermingle poems with questions, exercises and teaching suggestions. Many of the anthologies contain poems that are translations as well as a number from Australian writers of different cultural and language backgrounds.

In addition, some anthologies are entirely contemporary in content while others also contain traditional poetic forms and historically important poems that students will still enjoy. Classic poems could be selected from the annotated anthologies. Teachers could use as staffroom references:

- *The Norton Anthology of Poetry*, 4th edition, Norton, 1996.
- *The Penguin Book of Modern Australian Poetry*, John Tranter and Phillip Mead (eds), Penguin, 1991.
- *The Oxford Book of Modern Australian Verse*, Peter Porter (ed), OUP, 1996.

Some classic poems that would be accessible to students are:

Arnold	Dover Beach
Auden	Unknown Citizen
Blake	The Tyger
Blight	Death of a Whale
Brontë, Emily	Remembrance
Browning	The Pied Piper of Hamelin
Byron	She Walks in Beauty
Dickinson	Because I Could Not Stop for Death
Frost	Out, Out
Gray	Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard
Hopkins	Pied Beauty
Keats	La Belle Dame sans Merci
Lawrence	Last Lesson of the Afternoon
Lawson	Faces in the Street

Milton	On his Blindness
Paterson	The Man from Snowy River
Poe	The Raven
Sassoon	Does it Matter?
Shakespeare	Shall I Compare Thee to a Summer's Day?
Shelley	Ozymandias
Slessor	Beach Burial
Tennyson	The Lady of Shalott
Thomas	Do not go Gentle into that Good Night
Whitman	On the Beach at Night
Wordsworth	I Wandered Lonely as a Cloud (<i>Daffodils</i>)
Wright	The Surfer

In addition, the list contains a small number of books by individual poets who would be particularly accessible to students. Either individually or in class sets, each of the texts on this list can be used as an encouragement to wide reading, as the basis for small personal anthologies or simply as a source of specific poems for sharing or analysis. The variety of poems represented in most of the books here will also give student writers the confidence to experiment with language, to create new sounds, overturn sense and take risks.

Poetry can also inspire many other aspects of English. Poems are short enough to allow students to see how much difference changing a word or a line here or there can really make to the poem. And any one of these poetry books will show students the enormous range of subject matter for any poem.

Poetry Stage 4

Australian Imaginings

Jill Bryant

Cambridge University Press – ISBN: 0733606938

This is the Stage 4 companion text to *Australian Visions*. It is an integrated large format text of Australian poems and paintings, arranged according to themes, such as *Mother Nature, Up and Away, Fire and Fear, Heroism and Causes*, and *Lasting Laughter*. There has been a deliberate attempt to avoid themes, poems and paintings that characterise primary school English courses. Each section ends with a range of activities and tasks traversing many learning styles. The design and layout of the book is imaginatively enriching.

Rhyme Stew

Roald Dahl, illustrated by Quentin Blake

Penguin – ISBN: 0140343652

Roald Dahl retells a range of traditional stories, legends and fables in simple verse. From *The Emperor's New Clothes* to *Hansel and Gretel*, Dahl transforms old tales into jaunty modern poems. Apparently simple language and contemporary settings will draw readers into Dahl's topical satire and social comment. The collection is rather narrowly focused on English social behaviour and values. However, this is balanced by the range of themes that cover such things as the pretensions of the upper class and moral pomposity.

The Power of Poetry

J Eshuys and V Guest

Nelson – ISBN: 0170102173

This broad collection of poetry and ideas about responding to and composing poems will appeal to teachers and students. It has a wide coverage of poetic themes including *Childhood and Youth, School, Friendships and Family*, and includes sections on why write poetry, the poet's toolbox and different types and shapes of poems. It is a well-structured text with poems that reflect humour, sadness, real life and fantasy.

A Book to Write Poems By

Rory Harris and Peter McFarlane (eds)

Australian Association of Teachers of English – ISBN 0909955425

Poems here are arranged by a combination of poetic forms (eg recipe poems) and theme (eg environment poems). Page layouts are interesting and there are offbeat black-and-white drawings as illustrations. The book is intended as a recipe book for student poets and includes student poems. It includes insert blocks by the poets explaining the origins of some works.

Take a Chance: An Anthology of Performance Poetry

Rory Harris (ed), illustrated by M Rashleigh

Australian Association of Teachers of English – ISBN 0909955360

The title suggests the intention here as these poems are ideal for individual or group performance. Many are written by students. Interesting, offbeat black-and-white illustrations are included and interspersed with quotes devoted to succinct observations on the nature of poetry.

The Oxford Treasury of Classic Poems

Michael Harrison and Christopher Stuart-Clark

Oxford University Press – ISBN: 0192761870

This selection of classic poems features poems from W B Yeats and John Milton, to Charles Causley, Christina Rossetti and Alfred Lord Tennyson. The poems are skilfully illustrated with colourful and black-and-white drawings. The anthology gives teachers and students access to a wide and valued collection of poems.

The Oxford Book of Animal Poems

Michael Harrison and Christopher Stuart-Clark

Oxford University Press – ISBN: 0192762133

This anthology of poems celebrates the world's creatures and their environment. Many of the poems are written by local people about the animals living in their own countries. The colourful and creative illustrations enhance the poems and the collection provides a good model for students' own anthologies.

The Spangled Drongo: A Verse Novel

Steven Herrick

University of Queensland Press – ISBN: 0702230952

Older primary school readers as well as younger secondary readers will enjoy this verse novel. It conveys a real passion for soccer but also deals with the development of a friendship between a boy and a girl, along with the trauma of loss. Both characters give their point of view that provides humour and adds depth to the story. The use of photographs enhances this collection of thought-provoking free verse poetry.

By Heart: 101 Poems and How to Remember Them

Ted Hughes (ed)

Faber and Faber – ISBN: 0571192637

This selection emphasises the joy of memorising poetry for recitation and ranges from Shakespeare and Keats through to Auden and Heaney. In his introduction Ted Hughes argues for more students to come to poetry through learning it off by heart.

The Highwayman

Alfred Noyes, illustrated by Charles Keeping
Oxford University Press – ISBN: 0192723707

Charles Keeping stunningly illustrates Alfred Noyes' famous poem of the highwayman and Bess, his lover who gives her life to try and save him. The way the images at the end of the poem are reversed in negative tones is very much in keeping with the poem's themes.

100 Great Poems

Selected by Victoria Parker
Miles Kelly – ISBN: 1902947541

An anthology to delight the senses and stir the intellect, this collection features one hundred poems old and new. Writings from ancient times to the latter part of the twentieth century are published under thematic headings. Brief notes on individual poets and poems are included along with colourful illustrations that convey the mood and cultural origins of each selected work. Ranging from simple ballads to complex pieces, the poems in this volume have appeal for a wide age range. This is the kind of treasury a student would enjoy returning to over many years.

The Walker Book of Classic Poetry and Poets

Selected by Michael Rosen, illustrated by Paul Howard
Walker Books – ISBN: 0744582644

The poets represented in this anthology range from William Shakespeare to Carl Sandburg, Edward Lear to Emily Dickinson, and Banjo Paterson to W B Yeats. The book is elevated by the variety of full colour illustrations, sketches and paintings that intelligently extend the reader's enjoyment of the poems. This is a poetry book of windows, both visual and literary, to new worlds.

The Lady of Shalott

Alfred Lord Tennyson, illustrated by Charles Keeping
Oxford University Press – ISBN: 0192723715

Charles Keeping beautifully illustrates Tennyson's famous poem of the Lady of Shalott. The words come vividly to life in Keeping's black-and-white sketches. The dramatic arrival of Lancelot, the sudden movement of the lady to the window and the doomed journey down the river are all poignantly captured in this beautiful book.

Poetry Stage 5

Double Vision

Michael Benton and Peter Benton (eds)
Hodder and Stoughton – ISBN: 0340518529

This is a teaching text with interpretation questions and imaginative writing suggestions, published in association with the Tate Gallery. It contains a collection of paintings in full colour paired with poems written in response to them. There is a section on Vincent van Gogh with poems about his paintings; another section features Constable landscapes and the poems they have inspired; there is a Pieter Brueghel (the Elder) Section which features four of his paintings – *Children's Games*, *Peasant Dance*, *The Triumph of Death*, and *Landscape with the Fall of Icarus*. Thirty-three poets are featured, mostly British and American, modern and traditional, including Auden, Coleridge, Ferlinghetti, McGough, Plath, Sexton, Heaney, Causley, Fanthorpe, and William Carlos Williams.

A Phantom Script

Brian Keyte and Richard A Baines (eds)
Nelson – ISBN: 0170067742

This international anthology moves from *reading* and *writing* poetry to *understanding* poetry and has several units on specific poets. The emphasis is on modern selection and there are effective and appropriate activities throughout the text.

Australian Visions

Jill Bryant
Cambridge University Press – ISBN: 0733606571

This is the Stage 5 companion text to *Australian Imaginings*. It is an integrated large-format text of poems and paintings arranged according to themes such as *Cityscape*, *Growth and passion*, *Wild imagination*, and *Unravelling individuality*. Intelligent discussion issues and writing tasks are offered at the end of each section. The entire content is exhilaratingly Australian, contemporary and classic, Dawe and Hope, Kefala and Slessor. The design and layout of the book matches its own artistic subject matter.

Among Ants Between Bees

Peter McFarlane
Macmillan Education Australia – ISBN: 073294841X

Australian poets introduce each theme section of this poetry anthology. Their discussion of the themes' significance and their insights into the nature of poetry makes a wonderful bridge for students to the poems that follow. Sections such as *Lifespan*, *Poets on Poetry*, *Landscape* and *The Human Species* lead students through a wide-ranging and eye-catching series of poems.

Love, Ghosts and Nose Hair: A Verse Novel for Young Adults

Stephen Herrick

University of Queensland Press – ISBN: 0702228788

This verse-form novel is a tour de force of writing, empathy and gentle irony illuminating the family life of Jack, his widowed father, sister Desiree and girlfriend Annabel. In its unpretentious, pared-down style it says more than many longer novels. The rhythm and swing of the verse carries the reader along in its flow. This is some of the most moving writing about loss and death from cancer, as well as some of the warmest and funniest on perennial teenage and family issues. It reads aloud so well that it's sure to turn some teenagers on to poetry.

Oxford Treasury of Time Poems

Michael Harrison and Christopher Stuart-Clark (eds)

Oxford University Press – ISBN: 0192762362

This collection of poems represents many different aspects of time. Poets including Shakespeare, Milton, Wordsworth, Heaney, Rossetti, Hughes, Frost and Dickinson explore the past, present and the future; eternity; being born and growing old. Ten illustrators provide colour and form to nearly every page making this a visually appealing anthology.

Spirit Song: A Collection of Aboriginal Poetry

Compiled by Lorraine Mafi-Williams

Omnibus Books – ISBN: 1862911193

Thirty-five Aboriginal poets write about what it means to be Aboriginal today. The poems reflect anger, hope and determination as well as the spirituality and culture of the ancestors. This anthology is a welcome addition to the poetry of indigenous people.

Two Centuries of Australian Poetry

Mark O'Connor (ed)

Oxford University Press – ISBN: 0195537505

These poems, predominantly modern, are arranged in sections which focus on themes including the Aboriginal world, European contact, migrant experience, war, urban life and workplaces, women's experiences and the future. Notes, activities and suggested titles for further study are supplied at the end of each section.

My People

Oodgeroo

Jacaranda – ISBN: 0701634030

This is the third edition of Oodgeroo's best-selling poetry book. The poems tell of the sufferings and struggles of Aboriginal people in Australia. They are both accessible and intellectually and emotionally challenging. The volume also has some of Oodgeroo's (formerly Kath Walker's) speeches and recollections. This book shows teenagers that poetry can be political and social and still involve feeling.

Jinx

Margaret Wild

Allen & Unwin – ISBN:1865082643

Jinx is a multi-layered verse novel in which many voices entwine and overlap. At the centre is Jen, or Jinx as she becomes during her dark days. Her story is interwoven with those around her – her mother, her estranged father, her sister Gracie, her friend Hal, her English teacher – as she agonises over her past and works through her guilt over Charlie's death. Despite the number of issues raised and the serious problems encountered, there is humour in the telling and Jen's story is ultimately one of hope and forgiveness.

Film

Preface

The *English Years 7–10 Syllabus* requires the study of film in both Stages 4 and 5. When studying film we need to consider how the contexts in which a film is produced and the processes of production, distribution and exhibition are all used to create meaning.

Film is a powerful medium: being primarily visual, it therefore caters to a wide audience. Films can also reflect our society and values, or question them. Films, like all texts that are meant to deliberately communicate with us, are constructed within a particular context and time.

Cinema is a form of popular culture in that it reflects the dominant ideologies (ideas, attitudes, beliefs and values) of our society: films can inculcate ideas and influence thinking. Their power lies in their ability to shape public opinion, create public debate and give rise to fashions and fads. Film is a social communicator so what films say to their audience matters.

But films also entertain us! They are a 20th century phenomenon. They elicit responses – whether it is to laugh, cry, question or protest. When studying a film we consider not only what is being presented but how it is portrayed. Just as with any study of literature we must ascertain the film’s purpose, its message, its plot and story, its characters, and the elements that produce these and create its meaning.

In addition to films that have been included in the annotated list, teachers may want to introduce students to some classic films from particular genres. **Metropolis**, the Marx Brothers’ **A Night at the Opera**, **Casablanca** and **The Maltese Falcon** are classic films that have a place in a film study unit. Students’ understanding of the Gothic thriller could be enhanced by a study of Hitchcock’s film **Rebecca**, or of the contemporary Western by such classics as **Shane**. A classic film musical such as **West Side Story** may provide a link with Shakespeare’s **Romeo and Juliet** and with the Baz Luhrmann adaptation, **Romeo + Juliet** (M). An examination of such Australian classics as Charles Chauvel’s **Jedda** and Phil Noyces’ **Newsfront** could illustrate the significant contribution of Australian films to the medium. The relationship between literature and film is illuminated by David Lean’s film version of Charles Dickens’ classic novel **Great Expectations**, or Robert Mulligan’s film of **To Kill a Mockingbird** by Harper Lee.

Most of these films are classified for General exhibition (G) or as films requiring Parental Guidance (PG). They are available on video or DVD. Film scripts could be used in conjunction with the films. Department of Education and Training schools are directed to the Director-General’s Memorandum to Principals 98/018 Use of Videos in Schools.

Film Stage 4

Babe (G)

Directed by Chris Noonan
Universal Pictures

This ‘tale about an unprejudiced heart’ is based on *The Sheep-Pig*, written by Dick King-Smith. Babe is a pig whose skill and intelligence leads him to become an outstanding sheepdog. A film study could draw attention to the film’s echoes of silent films, with iris closes and inter-title cards delineating individual segments. Real and artificial creatures are smoothly portrayed together and the film succeeds on many levels and its allusions will appeal to adolescents and adults as well as children.

Baraka (PG)

Directed and filmed by Ron Fricke
Samuel Goldwyn Company

This brilliant documentary, with no conventional plot, is a collection of expertly photographed scenes edited together to show aspects of human daily life in different cultures. Without words, cameras show us the world, with an emphasis not on ‘where,’ but on ‘what’s there’. It begins with morning, natural landscapes and people at prayer before moving to images of the destruction of nature via logging, blasting, and strip mining. Images of poverty, rapid urban life, and factories are followed by those of concentration camps and mass graves. But the cycle is completed with images of prayer and nature returning as a monk rings a huge bell and stars wheel across the sky. Fricke’s use of slow-motion pans and time-lapse photography make *Baraka* a visual odyssey – a sort of 70 mm moving postcard tour of planet Earth done with artistry in sight and sound. The music adds to the powerful effect of the film, allowing the viewer to just enjoy it as simply something beautiful, or allowing them to delve into the messages that the film portrays regarding religion, nature and technology.

Chariots of Fire (PG)

Directed by Hugh Hudson
20th Century Fox

This film has become a modern classic, winning four Oscars including Best Picture, Best Screenplay and Best Musical Score. It tells the story of two British track athletes, Harold Abrahams, a determined Jew, and Eric Liddell, a devout Christian, who eventually compete in the 1924 Olympics. From the memorable opening shots of the runners on the beach, which introduce the theme music, the developing narrative explores each man’s goal and his motivation and determination to achieve it. As different as they are, it is drive that these men have in common. The film invites discussion of many issues and reflection on how values have changed over time such as the role of sport and the Olympics in society, the notion of ‘amateurism’ in sport, friendship and loyalty, faith and belief, racism and nationalism. The richness of Vangelis’ musical score lifts the film to another level, evoking emotional responses in the viewer while enhancing the visual images and cinematography.

Chicken Run (G)

Directed by Peter Lord and Nick Park
DreamWorks

Chicken Run is a funny and visually inventive comedy. It is set on a chicken farm in 1950s England. When the owner decides to turn all her chickens into chicken pies the chickens have an urgent need to escape. There are many adventures before an escape is successful, with the action sequence in the chicken pie machine making a film allusion to *Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom*. There are tests of daring and skill and character, and the film reveals much about the human condition through its chicken characters. The film is the work of Peter Lord and Nick Park who use a technique called Claymation, in which plasticine is changed from shot to shot to give the illusion of 3-D movement. In *Chicken Run*, their technique ensures a smooth and authentic movement to their characters.

The Dark Crystal (G)

Directed by Jim Henson and Frank Oz
Columbia TriStar

This visually arresting film has been made entirely with human-sized models and puppets. On another world two races exist, the gentle Mystics who teach about peace and love, and the Skeksis, a violent and powerful tribe. Two Gelfings, Jen and Kira, survivors of a race wiped out by the Skeksis, go on a quest to find a shard to heal the Dark Crystal and bring unity back to their world. *The Dark Crystal* took five years to make and the directors have created a fascinating world with a diversity of creatures and ingenious flora and fauna as well as providing a cathartic and satisfying conclusion.

E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial (G)

Directed by Steven Spielberg
Universal Pictures

When a small alien is accidentally left behind on earth he finds help from three human children: Elliott, Michael and four-year-old Gertie. Initially Elliot hides ET and then reveals his new friend to his brother and sister. The children keep the secret but ET wants to return home. The intervention of the government nearly kills ET but with the children's help he is able to escape and a spaceship arrives to take him home. This humorous and poignant film has much to say about human behaviour and expectations. The film's visual imagery and symbolism are worthy of study. The film was re-released in 2002 and the additional scenes added for this twentieth anniversary edition are well integrated into the original. The visual effects have been enhanced and the film has a re-mastered soundtrack.

Ever After (PG)

Directed by Andy Tennant
20th Century Fox

This film is an appropriation of the fairytale *Cinderella*. It challenges the belief that the legend of Cinderella was derived from the original fairytale and suggests that in fact the fairytale came from a real-life story. Focusing on retelling the actual events, the film dismisses the fairytale's magical and fantasy elements such as fairy godmothers and pumpkin coaches. Set in medieval France, it tells the story of Danielle, her treatment by her ambitious stepmother and her developing relationship with Prince Henry. A gender reading of the film is

a clear base for study. Danielle challenges the viewers' preconceptions of Cinderella. She is independent and strong, and can fight with a sword, saving Prince Henry and later herself from attack. She is well-read and intellectual, and challenges the prince's patriarchal and aristocratic thinking. Intertextuality is used in the film to reinforce its sense of being a retelling of a true story: Leonardo da Vinci replaces the fairy godmother as being instrumental in bringing Danielle and the prince together to live 'happily ever after'.

Fly Away Home (PG)

Directed by Carroll Ballard
Columbia TriStar

The real life experiences of scientist Bill Lishman who has spent his life saving endangered species of birds provided the impetus for this film. The film opens with a silent car crash in New Zealand that kills Amy's mother and sends the thirteen-year-old to her father, Thomas, in Ontario, Canada. The relationship between Amy and her father is difficult but improves with his plan to help Amy teach the sixteen geese she has raised how to fly and migrate. Issues of love and trust and concerns about the environment provide much to discuss and the cinematography of the aerial scenes is exhilarating.

Galaxy Quest (PG)

Directed by Dean Parisot
DreamWorks

A complete spoof of the *Star Trek* television series and films, this is an excellent text for teaching parody and caricature. It presents the ageing actors of a successful television series, *Galaxy Quest*, still dressed in their costumes doing the talk show and advertising circuit years after their show has been cancelled. The fun begins when real aliens, believing transmissions of the show they received were factual, arrive on earth to get the *Galaxy Quest* crew to help them against their enemies. As their ship is a direct copy of the show's stage set, the actors find they are more than capable of taking command, with hilarious results. The film's humour works best when the illogic of the TV show gets in the way. There is on board, for example, a passageway blocked by alternating vertical and horizontal clappers that smash back and forth across the passageway. Negotiating it could be fatal. Why are they there? No reason. Just because they look good on TV.

Kundun (PG)

Directed by Martin Scorsese
Buena Vista Pictures

In telling the story of the Dalai Lama, or Kundun ('The Presence') as the Tibetans refer to him, Scorsese portrays a man of peace bound in a tight brotherhood of monks, whose life is devoted to the Buddhist ideal of compassion. With a nearly all-Tibetan cast, the story introduces the 14th Dalai Lama as a toddler and follows him into adulthood when he is forced to escape from Tibet after communist China invades and takes control of the country. Although the film is not a definitive biography, Scorsese has adapted parts of the Dalai Lama's 1990 autobiography *Freedom in Exile* for the film. The cinematography is filled with unexpected movement and odd angles, dazzling costumes and realistic settings. Composed by Philip Glass, the musical score uses traditional Tibetan vocal and instrumental forms to give the film much of its authenticity and appeal.

Ladyhawke (PG)

Directed by Richard Donner
Warner Bros/20th Century Fox

This film tells the story of a medieval knight, Navarre, and his true love, Lady Isabeau. Navarre and Isabeau escaped two years ago from the clutches of the evil Bishop who lusted after Isabeau, but they have been cursed by him. Navarre is destined to be a wolf during the night while Isabeau transforms into a hawk by day. They can never be together in human form. After rescuing an escaped thief, Gaston (the Mouse), Navarre gets him to help them in their quest to kill the Bishop and break the spell. The film follows their journey and hardships en route to the Bishop while poignantly presenting their feelings of love and suffering. With the help of the recluse, Father Imperious (the Monk) they find the way to truly be together. Shots of the landscape, castles and cathedrals capture the expanse of their journey as well as the intensity of their feelings.

Lousy Little Sixpence (G)

Directed by Alec Morgan and Gerry Bostock
Ronin Films

This important documentary tells the story of the history behind Australian government policy of separation of Aboriginal children from their parents. It combines stills, archival photographs and film with contemporary footage and studio interviews. This is an excellent film for studying the techniques of the political documentary.

The Never-ending Story (G)

Directed by Wolfgang Petersen
Warner Bros

This is a fantastical adventure story. Attacked by schoolboy bullies, twelve-year-old Bastian seeks refuge in an old bookstore. A lover of reading, he 'borrows' a special book and takes it to the school attic to read. Thrust into the world of imagination he discovers the magical world of Fantasia, with all its interesting creatures, landscapes and quirky characters. He becomes engrossed in the tale and ends up entering the story and battling to save Fantasia from the terrible force, the Nothing. As the film progresses it becomes clear that this is also a story about storytelling and reading. The Nothing symbolises the loss of children's imagination and reading, and threatens to destroy all the magical, fictional stories, places and characters.

The Princess Bride (PG)

Directed by Rob Reiner
20th Century Fox

This is a classic fairytale full of fun, frolic, adventure and quirky characters. The film begins with a grandfather reading his grandson a bedtime fairy story. As he reads, the action comes alive and we are introduced to Buttercup, the beautiful Princess, who is kidnapped by the evil Prince Humperdinck. With occasional interpolations by the grandson as the story progresses, we watch as Westley, Buttercup's childhood sweetheart in the guise of our hero Dread Pirate Roberts, attempts to rescue her. Along the way he meets up with an accomplished swordsman and a giant who join him on his quest and help him overcome such obstacles as scaling the Cliffs of Insanity. The film is fast-paced and humorous with none-too-subtle touches of parody.

Shrek (PG)

Directed by Andrew Adamson, Vicky Jenson and Scott Marshall
DreamWorks

Shrek is a big green ogre who lives alone in the woods, feared by all the people in the land of Duloc. When Lord Farquaad, the ruler of Duloc, exiles all the fairytale beings to the woods, Shrek loses his peaceful life. Lord Farquaad agrees to take the fairytale beings back under one condition: Shrek must find the beautiful young Princess Fiona, who will become Farquaad's bride. Shrek begins his quest, accompanied by his new-found friend Donkey, and viewers watch as this irreverently funny parody of fairytale clichés unfolds and leads to the inevitable happy ending. The film's computer animation and effective visual imagery and graphics are highlights and gained the film an Oscar for Best Animated Feature in 2002. This film would link well to others that parody and explore the telling of fairytales such as *The Princess Bride* and *The Never-ending Story*.

Who Framed Roger Rabbit? (PG)

Directed by Robert Zemeckis
Buena Vista Pictures

This film is a clever parody of the hard-boiled detective story with its stereotypical detective, villains, victims, red herrings and *femmes fatales*. Roger, a Toon (ie a cartoon character), is framed for murder and the only person that can help him is Eddy, a detective who hates Toons. The film uses groundbreaking interaction between live actors and animated characters to create a funny tale of crime and investigation. It is also a spoof on cartoons as it contains lots of witty references to classic animation and there are cameos by some of the best-known cartoon characters in cinema history. The filming techniques that allowed this integration of live and animated characters is worthy of study as well as the humorous, parodic elements.

Film Stage 5

Apollo 13 (PG)

Directed by Ron Howard
Universal Pictures

The film is based on the true story of Apollo 13. This 1970 moon-bound NASA mission developed severe technical trouble and had most of the world watching to see if astronauts Lovell, Haise and Swigert would survive. The film also focuses on the people on the ground who are determined to bring the men home safely. Even though most viewers know the film's happy ending the pace and editing generate suspense and tension. The slower-paced shots of the stricken space ship are dramatically intercut with shots of the frantic ground crew. The special effects and shots from space are also striking. Like the film *13 Days*, *Apollo 13* is a clever adaptation of a true story that is interesting and remains topical more than 30 years later.

Breaker Morant (PG)

Directed by Bruce Beresford
New World Pictures

Breaker Morant is a well-crafted classic Australian film set against the backdrop of the Boer War in South Africa. The structure of the film, which utilises flashbacks to the war scenes, effectively presents events clearly and concisely. The tight direction contrasts the measured response of the courtroom with the difficulty of acting honourably in battle. The stresses put upon the soldiers in the field are perceptively conveyed when contrasted with the sterility of the court scenes. This well-crafted film invites discussion of the injustice meted out to the defendants and the portrayal of different moral and ethical systems and situations.

Careful He Might Hear You (PG)

Directed by Carl Schultz
20th Century Fox

This film, set in 1930s Sydney and based on a novel by Sumner Locke Elliot, tells the story of a young boy named PS who is caught up in a conflict between two aunts who live on either side of Sydney Harbour. The story is told from the boy's point of view; this narrative technique allows viewers to identify fully with PS as his aunts wage a bitter custody war over his happiness. This film about childhood and family relationships is complex and compelling and provides many opportunities for classroom discussion.

Cry Freedom (PG)

Directed by Richard Attenborough
CIC

This historical epic, set in South Africa, concentrates on Stephen Biko, his stand against apartheid and his friendship with journalist Donald Woods. This is a sweeping film in visual and emotional terms, and an interesting instance of the capacity of film to deal with the large issues of the modern world with force and intensity.

Dead Poets Society (PG)

Directed by Peter Weir
Roadshow

Set in the 1950s in an exclusive and very traditional private school in America (with serious English overtones), the film depicts the story of a group of boys in their final year of high school. With the arrival of a new English teacher, Mr Keating, the boys are encouraged to 'seize the day' (*carpe diem*) and 'suck the marrow out of life'. His inspirational lessons give the boys insights into the world beyond Welton, with its rigid thinking and codes of behaviour. Keating encourages the boys to pursue their individual dreams and aspirations in order to discover who they truly are. But it is not without a cost. This film's poignancy and dramatic impact are enhanced by Weir's tight direction. The effective use of symbolism, wide outdoor nature shots contrasted with close, restricted interior shots, innovative camera work and a musical score that enhances meaning, all combine to emphasise the difference between the world of Welton and that of the boys' hopes and dreams.

Edward Scissorhands (PG)

Directed by Tim Burton
20th Century Fox

This is a modern-day fairytale that tells, in a long flashback, the story of Edward, the man created by an inventor who died before finishing him, leaving Edward with scissors where he should have had hands. The film takes place in an artificial world where a haunting gothic castle crouches on a mountaintop high above a storybook suburb, a 'sitcom' neighbourhood where all of the houses are shades of pastels. The film is another inventive effort by the director Tim Burton in which the hero is strangely remote. Edward is intended as an everyman, a universal figure who exists on a somewhat different plane from the people he meets. His character is a commentary on humanity and our contemporary world and values. In the film Burton produces elements of humanity's darkness as well as its beauty. The film also reflects Burton's reputation for pictorial flair as he uses special effects and visual tricks to engage his audience. Students could benefit from a comparison study with Shelley's *Frankenstein* or the dramatisation of her novel.

Gallipoli (PG)

Directed by Peter Weir
Roadshow

A period film rather than an historical one, *Gallipoli* is notable for both its script by playwright David Williamson and its portrayal of Australian-British relations as the product of British arrogance rather than Australian compliance. It follows the adventures and experiences of two young men, Archy and Frank, during World War I. The boys are successful sprinters and have a friendly rivalry in competition but their friendship is truly formed once they enlist in the army. Archy is a fervent young man who believes in the cause and his duty to fight but Frank provides an alternative view. Weir's directorial style together with the cinematography emphasise the wide, open spaces of a free Australia in sharp contrast to the dugouts and cliffs of Gallipoli. The poignant ending of the film, presented in a classic freeze-frame of Archy being shot, evokes a strong emotional response in the audience as it is left to ponder the futility of war.

Greystoke: The Legend of Tarzan, Lord of the Apes (PG)

Directed by Hugh Hudson
Warner Bros

This film is an appropriation of the classic Tarzan tale. A man who thinks he is an ape rescues Captain Phillippe D'Arnot in the African jungle. From evidence in an abandoned treehouse, D'Arnot suspects that Tarzan is the direct descendant of the Earl of Greystoke and eventually convinces him to return with him to England, and civilization. The film is a realistic attempt to examine the parallels and contrasts between Victorian society and life in the jungle. The politics and hierarchy of the ape world are presented convincingly in the early scenes as is the world of the English aristocracy and its imperialistic views. The film is also noted for the director's careful consideration of the quality of the look and the sound in the film. Students would benefit from a comparison study of the different visual representations of Tarzan such as in Disney's animated film, *Tarzan*, and the classic Tarzan films starring Johnny Weismuller.

Il Postino (G)

Directed by Michael Radford
Miramax

Il Postino (The Postman) is a subtitled film that explores the friendship between the famous Chilean poet, Pablo Neruda, and a simple and shy fisherman. Mario lives on a remote Mediterranean island where Neruda spends some time, exiled because of his political beliefs. Mario delivers the mail and the two develop an unlikely friendship. Pablo provides help for Mario in his attempt to woo Beatrice, the beautiful waitress at the village inn, by showing him the beauty and power of poetry. Mario encounters the poet within himself as he tries to express his love. The film provides a visual approach to poetry writing as well as opportunities to explore its themes of friendship and love.

The Importance of Being Earnest (PG)

Directed by Oliver Parker
Miramax Films

This adaptation of Oscar Wilde's play has a scintillating cast to deliver the witty lines that have made the play so famous. Colin Firth, Rupert Everett, Dame Judi Dench, Reese Witherspoon, Frances O'Connor and Edward Fox combine creditably to bring the play's somewhat farcical plot to life on the screen. Set in the 19th century world of English aristocracy, the film effectively captures Wilde's satire, wit and humour. Highlighting Victorian society's hypocrisy and social dictates, Parker's adaptation takes full advantage of the film medium. Parker is able to add characterisation elements, some minor plot developments and visual jokes while retaining the wit and charm of Wilde's original text. The inclusion of a song whose lyrics were written by Oscar Wilde also adds further interest to the film. The cutaways to music halls, tattoo parlour and restaurants, the anachronistic musical score and the inclusion of visually appealing fantasy sequences and tableaux that suggest pastoral scenes, all serve to capture the mood, fun and spirit of Wilde's text.

A League of Their Own (PG)

Directed by Penny Marshall
Columbia Pictures

Set during World War II, this film is based on the true story of the All-American Girls Professional Baseball League in the USA. The men's national league was on the brink of folding as so many of its players were being drafted to fight in the war. To counter the void left by their departure and save the sport a national women's league was established. The story begins in the present and is then told in one long flashback. It follows the experiences of two sisters involved in the competition, the promoters' efforts to gain the public's and professionals' acceptance of a women's league, and how their participation in it impacted on the women's lives. This film invites discussion on gender stereotypes and women's role in sport.

A Midsummer Night's Dream (PG)

Directed and adapted by Michael Hoffman
Buena Vista Home Video

This appropriation of Shakespeare's play, starring Michelle Pfeiffer and Kevin Kline, is set in 19th century Italy and furnished with bicycles and operatic interludes. But it is founded on Shakespeare's language and, while edited, is reasonably faithful to the original play. Shot in Italy, the opening sequences set a rich romantic tone. From its setting in the Tuscan countryside to the grand dream sequence in a magical forest of deep shadows and strange happenings, this film is a visual tour de force, with just the right touch of zaniness.

Much Ado About Nothing (PG)

Directed by Ken Branagh
Samuel Goldwyn Company

This fast-paced film version of *Much Ado About Nothing* is filled with laughter and sunshine as well as misunderstandings, deceptions and conspiracies. The film's opening sets the tone and mood for the action to come. Strong visual images of picnics, banquets, laughter, fun and frolic in the open fields abound. Benedick and Beatrice begin the film as enemies and end it as passionate lovers while Claudio and Hero are almost torn apart by the treachery of the Duke's brother. Branagh's direction, the spirited performances of the cast and their fluent rendering of the language provide students with a wonderful introduction to Shakespearean comedy.

The Navigator: A Mediaeval Odyssey (PG)

Directed by Vincent Ward
Trylon Video

A fourteenth-century rural village in England is threatened by the plague. A nine-year-old boy called Griffin has a dream that may help to save the village from infection. His dream is of a journey in which he sees a city with a thousand fires, a great cathedral, and a figure with a gloved hand roped to the steeple and about to fall. Five of the village men decide to go on this journey. Through a fantasy experience in which the film transforms from black-and-white to colour, this medieval group enters the twentieth century near a motorway. The film makes haunting connections between the values and beliefs of ancient and modern people, and ends up challenging modern certainties. The film was highly commended at the 1988 Cannes Film Festival.

Picnic at Hanging Rock (PG)

Directed by Peter Weir
Vestron Video

An intriguing and groundbreaking Australian film, Peter Weir's *Picnic at Hanging Rock* heralded the renaissance of Australian cinema. It is a muted introduction to the Australian Gothic genre in cinema, as well as to an important tradition in landscape cinematography. The disturbing story, based on Joan Lindsay's novel of the same name, follows the familiar 'lost in the bush' narrative. With no plot resolution, the film is evocative and exists as an emotional experience. The power of the film comes from its hypnotic and mesmerising rhythm established through such things as a haunting musical refrain and intercuts of close-up shots of the rock. The rock dominates the landscape and the narrative. The camera examines the rock in intimate detail from many and varied angles, capturing in close-up its wildlife and flora in a way that suggests it has a life of its own. Other shots suggest faces in the rock, adding to the film's mystery and our sense of 'being watched'. The ancient quality of the land is visually contrasted with the young, innocent girls who are dressed in white, lace and frills, and speak of Botticelli and angels. The film would provide a good comparison study with the novel, *The Blue Faraway* (Burke, 1996).

Pleasantville (M)

Directed by Gary Ross
New Line Cinema

David and his sister Jennifer fight over the remote control and inexplicably end up being sucked into the television. They find themselves trapped in *Pleasantville*, a 'Father Knows Best' style 1950s black-and-white television show, complete with loving parents, old-fashioned values, and an overwhelming amount of innocence and predictability. As they interact with their television family and the town's inhabitants, they start to change attitudes and behaviour and bring 'colour' and life to the world of Pleasantville and its inhabitants. On screen the changes are dramatically signalled by the gradual introduction of colour and coloured images. Initially we see the symbolic red rose; then, as people experience real emotions for the first time, they begin to show colour, as does the world around them. While they have a definite impact on this town, David and Jennifer are left, however, to compare and question the values of their own times and the film turns from parody and the comic, to being somewhat didactic, ending on social commentary. This film could be studied effectively with the novel *The Giver* (Lowry, 1993) and the picture book *Luke's Way of Looking* (Wheatley & Ottley, 1999).

Sense and Sensibility (G)

Directed by Ang Lee
Columbia Pictures

Ang Lee's capable direction brings to life an age of extreme politeness and ritualised conversation in considerable contrast to present social conventions. The Dashwood sisters' styles, Elinor's sense and Marianne's sensibility, are finely distinguished in this adaptation of Jane Austen's novel. The film is a salute to the period itself through its representation and description of Austen's English society, its rules and requisite behaviours. The close, restricted social world the characters inhabit is visually contrasted by the shots of the open country landscape and Ang Lee's use of space and subtle images of doorways. Emma Thompson's screenplay, which won an Oscar for Best Writing, highlights the political nature

of the courtships while grounding them in deep feeling. The humorous witticisms of Austen are cleverly drawn out as Thompson's script and Ang Lee's direction achieve a balance of irony and warmth.

Shine (PG)

Directed by Scott Hicks

Roadshow

The life of Australian pianist David Helfgott provides the basis for this exploration of troubled genius. David grows up amid passionate music and parental abuse, he travels overseas to study but suffers a breakdown. After being institutionalised for many years he is released and finally performs again. Noah Taylor and Geoffrey Rush provide striking portrayals of Helfgott before and after his breakdown. The story is told in flashbacks and the film offers insight into the creative process. The film's appeal is enhanced by Hicks' innovative direction and camera work, such as the close-up, side shot when Helfgott suffers his dramatic breakdown while performing.

Stand and Deliver (PG)

Directed by Ramón Menéndez

Warner Home Video

Jaime Escalante is an unconventional mathematics teacher in a school in a Hispanic neighbourhood. To build up the self-esteem of his students he starts to teach them calculus and many of his students gain the highest grade results in the USA for algebra and calculus. The film offers a challenging viewing for all students as a perspective on education and as a tight realist docu-drama.

Raiders of the Lost Ark (M)

Directed by Steven Spielberg

Paramount Pictures

This is the first film in a trilogy that explores the adventures of archaeologist, Professor Indiana Jones. In this film, Indiana is in a race against Hitler's agents to find the lost Ark of the Covenant and prevent the Nazis from using it as a weapon in their quest to become the supreme race and global power. The film is action-packed and fast-paced, employing a diverse range of film techniques to show Indiana's frantic journey to different countries in his quest to find the Ark and his encounters with his enemies. The film is renowned for its cinematography and special effects and won Oscars for Best Art Direction and Best Visual Effects as well as numerous other awards.

What's Eating Gilbert Grape? (PG)

Directed by Lasse Hallstrom

Paramount Pictures

Gilbert Grape lives in the small town of Endora, Iowa, where nothing much happens and Gilbert looks after his overweight mother and mentally handicapped brother, Arnie. While Arnie doesn't think his family is going anywhere Gilbert seems to feel the need to move away from the pattern of life in Endora. Sensitive performances engender a warmth and compassion in this film about people who don't fit in but don't worry unduly about their differences. The 'road' metaphor is clearly established in the opening shots but these are juxtaposed with a

series of still frames of Endora that depict its lack of life and vitality. The visual images are reinforced by Gilbert's voice-over as he speaks of his hometown and introduces the individual members of his family, building to the climactic shot of his obese mother. Visual symbols, such as the map on the wall of the caravan and the tower Arnie always climbs, are used throughout the film to depict Gilbert's frustration with his life and his yearning to leave. The final shots, once again of the road, complete the cyclic structure of the film but provide a sense of hopefulness as Gilbert and Arnie finally escape Endora. (See also *My Life as a Dog*.)

Yolngu Boy (M)

Directed by Stephen Johnson

Australian Children's Television Foundation

Set on the Gove Peninsula in the Northern Territory, *Yolngu Boy* depicts the struggle experienced by three teenage Aboriginal boys. The film explores the pressures of living under two laws in one country and of the boys' attempts to deal with the dual pressure of following a cultural background while being part of a materialistic society. In their trek through the bush the three boys come to different conclusions about how to live their lives. As they continue their trek across country they become more at one with the land and their traditional way of life. This transformation is visually mapped by their changing appearance and activities and the dream-like sequences. Honest and sometimes confronting *Yolngu Boy* provides remarkable insight into contemporary Australian life.

10 Things I Hate About You (PG)

Directed by Gil Junger

Buena Vista Pictures

This film works on two levels: as a teenage romantic comedy and as an appropriation of Shakespeare's *The Taming of the Shrew*. Bianca Stratford wishes to have a boyfriend but her father's house rule is that she can't date until her elder sister, Kat, does. Kat, of course, is an extremely independent female, who is not at all interested in boys or romance. Patrick Verona, from Australia and a newcomer to Padua High School, is not part of the normal social scene. He has the reputation of being a rebel and dangerous, with a mysterious past. He is paid to woo Kat and take her out, leaving the way for Cameron, who is in love with Bianca, to try and win her. From the characters' names alone, it is clear that the film includes touches of parody and light-hearted jokes about Shakespeare and his work.

Nonfiction

Preface

The often-adult world encompassed by nonfiction can be made more accessible for the secondary school student. Very often students can use nonfiction writing as a door to a world of larger experiences and as another way of understanding both themselves and others. Through such texts they can explore the experiences of disparate people through their letters and memoirs, travel to different lands, examine ideas on medicine, science and technology and a host of subjects, and can laugh and learn with others.

The diversity and range of this genre have much to offer school students.

Classics such as:

Albert Facey	A Fortunate Life
John Hersey	Hiroshima
Alan Marshall	I Can Jump Puddles
Gavin Maxwell	Ring of Bright Water
Gerald Durrell	My Family and Other Animals
Thor Heyerdahl	The Kon-Tiki Expedition
Esther Hautzig	The Endless Steppe
Anne Frank	The Diary of a Young Girl

have proved to be popular books in our schools. Nonfiction is not restricted to literature and does not necessarily equate with the truth. Writers can take liberties with the truth, time can distort the accuracy of memories; opinions are not to be confused with facts. The line between fact and fiction is often blurred. It is necessary to remember that we often find fact in our fiction and fiction in our facts. Despite the categories into which our lists fall for convenience of identification, virtually all genres are to some degree mixed genres.

Diaries, letters, biographies, travel books, newspapers, magazines and advertisements are all nonfiction. While much of this material is transient it can still offer many opportunities in the classroom for responding and composing. Newspapers, magazines, advertisements and such things as pamphlets and leaflets have an important place in English classrooms as texts for analysis. This material will complement the titles in this list.

Nonfiction Stage 4

Heroes

Allan Baillie

Phoenix Education – ISBN: 1876580135

The lives of thirty-six exceptional Australian men, women and children are presented in this very accessible anthology. From Albert Jacka VC to Fred Hollows and Cathy Freeman, this anthology allows us to experience Australians at their best.

Crash! The Search for the Stinson

Jennifer Beck, Dyan Blacklock and Katrina Allen

Omnibus Books – ISBN: 1862913781

Using refreshing innovative design features this book retells the story of a modern Australian hero and Australian mateship in a format that should appeal to young readers. Using original sources to research and illustrate a large part of this true story of a 1937 plane crash, the authors have created a collage of facts, personal anecdotes, technical details and images which merge to produce a sense of mystery, anticipation and drama. The collage style is challenging to the reader.

Boy: Tales of Childhood

Roald Dahl

Penguin – ISBN: 0141311401

Roald Dahl's memoir of his childhood contains some hilariously true stories. Students will enjoy the revenge on the disgusting sweetshop owner, Mrs Pratchett, and the unanaesthetised removal of tonsils. Dahl's ability to capture the life and humour in an incident can provide a model for the telling of students' own tales in the classroom. (See also *Going Solo*.)

Tolkien Bestiary

David Day

Crescent Books – ISBN: 0920080472

This companion volume to Tolkien's fantasy world of Middle Earth provides textual descriptions accompanied by striking illustrations of places, peoples and events found in his fiction.

Zlata's Diary

Zlata Filipovic (translated by Christina Pribichevich-Zoric)

Penguin – ISBN: 0140374639

Zlata began keeping her diary at the age of eleven, nearly eight months before the shelling of Sarajevo began. In 1991 she recorded the normal and everyday events of a schoolgirl but by March 1993 her diary was recording the devastation of her city. This wartime diary of a Sarajevo girl is a moving account of a sudden descent into war.

Faeries

Brian Froud and Alan Lee
Pavilion Books – ISBN: 1862050147

This luminous collection of myths and legends about the worlds of Faerie with its elves, pixies, dryads and other mythical creatures will provide visual and textual inspiration for students. It could be used with *The Hobbit* and the *SurLaLune Fairy Tale Pages* (www.surlalunefairytales.com).

Soldier Boy

Anthony Hill
Penguin – ISBN: 0141003308

Insightful, perceptive yet unsentimental, the life story of fourteen-year-old Jim Martin, the youngest known ANZAC, is skilfully woven together from letters, family recollections and imagined conversations supported by thorough and documented research. Powerful descriptions of life at the Front are coupled with equally telling accounts of the war's impact upon Australia and its people, particularly on families like the Martins. Appendices of primary source material and the inclusion of selected black-and-white photographs of ANZAC soldiers and the Martin family add a further dimension to this stirring biography. Winner of The Ethel Turner Prize for Books for Young Adults, NSW Premier's Award 2002.

The Faber Book of Greek Legends

Edited by Kathleen Lines
Faber and Faber – ISBN: 0571206727

Eleven authors, including Charles Lamb, Andrew Lang, Roger Lancelyn Green and Rosemary Sutcliff, provide twenty-five stories about ancient Greece including the story of the Golden Fleece and the death of Hector. This anthology is an excellent introduction to myths and legends for students.

One Thousand and One Arabian Nights

Geraldine McCaughrean
Oxford University Press – ISBN: 0192750135

Queen Shaharazad's exciting stories told every night to her husband, King Shahryar, captivate him and prevent her own murder. These wonderful stories, freshly retold by award-winning author Geraldine McCaughrean, give students insight into the fantasy tales of the Middle East. Other Oxford Story Collections are *Fairy Tales from England*, *Fairy Tales from Scotland*, *Fairy Tales from Grimm* and *Fairy Tales from Hans Andersen*.

Bog Bodies: Mummies and Curious Corpses

Natalie Jane Prior
Allen & Unwin – ISBN: 1863735836

This small paperback draws a wide range of readers into its fascinating survey of corpses that have remained preserved over millennia through ritual or chance natural circumstances: embalmed mummies and mediaeval knights, peat-entombed murder victims and ice-bound travellers. It even peeks into future cryonics. *Bog Bodies* has all the reference features

expected of information books but is firstly an engaging, lucidly written factual anthology generously illustrated with sketches and photographs.

Mysterious Ruins: Lost Cities and Buried Treasure

Natalie Jane Prior, illustrated by John Nicholson
Allen & Unwin – ISBN: 1863737677

This book provides information on lost cities, sunken treasure, pyramids, caves and stone monuments. All are presented as tantalising mysteries with sufficient information on each to encourage the reader to make use of the extensive ‘Further Reading’ list to seek out more details. In addition there are line drawings, maps, eight pages of coloured photographs, a glossary and an index.

Tough Stuff

Kirsty Murray, illustrated by Harry Harrison
Allen & Unwin – ISBN: 1864489294

The courage of children is portrayed in this sensitive compilation of true stories. Each story gives a short account of a young person’s experience, encompassing stories of rebellion, oppression, survival and fortune made or lost. As the stories are set in varying countries and times over the past couple of centuries, they provide a good insight into lives in times past. This book is interesting and enlightening, though sometimes confronting. It encourages readers to develop a greater understanding of the strength and courage that children can and do have when faced with adverse situations. The inclusion of the character Milo, who highlights important messages, adds to the book’s appeal for students. This book could be used to examine the idea of personal identity in relation to young people.

Stoked! Real Life, Real Surf

Glyn Parry, illustrated by Jeff Raglus
Allen & Unwin – ISBN: 1863737111

This small handbook on surfing stretches from the origins of boardriding to predictions that surfing contests will take place in constructed wave pools. History, techniques, safety, the big names – it is all here. Parry talks surfer language. He writes with humour and his topic is well researched. The text presentation is varied using subheadings, blocked summaries and interspersed with Jeff Raglus’s delightful drawings. Coloured centre photographs are attractive and give good female representation. There are references to fiction and nonfiction books, surfing biographies and magazines.

Hatchet: The Truth

Gary Paulsen
Macmillan – ISBN: 0330483625

Gary Paulsen’s ‘Hatchet’ novels of disaster and survival are widely read in schools. In this book, Paulsen describes the true-life experiences that underpin his books. This account of the inspiration and craft of writing will be of great interest to students.

The Great Deeds of Heroic Women

Retold by Maurice Saxby, illustrated by Robert Ingpen

Millennium Books – ISBN: 0855749830

and

The Great Deeds of Superheroes

Millennium Books – ISBN: 0855748842

These companion collections provide a wonderful introduction into the worlds of myth and legend. Women and men, gods and heroes jostle on these pages with stories of high daring and fantasy. These beautifully illustrated accounts of tales from many lands and cultures provide an excellent introduction into the world of myths and legends.

The Wanderings of Odysseus

Rosemary Sutcliff, illustrated by Alan Lee

Frances Lincoln – ISBN: 0711218463

This book (a sequel to Sutcliff's story of the Trojan War, *Black Ships Before Troy*) is a retelling of Homer's epic poem, *The Odyssey*. Sutcliff's account of the many adventures of Odysseus on his ten-year journey home to Ithaca is richly rewarding. Illustrated by Alan Lee, this book won the United Kingdom Reading Association Award for 1995–6. (See also *The High Deeds of Finn MacCool* by the same author.)

Chinese Cinderella

Adeline Yen Mah

Puffin – ISBN: 0141304871

This true story tells of a Chinese girl who grew up in China and Hong Kong and suffered terrible emotional deprivation and rejection by her family. Adeline Yen Mah recalls the horror of those early years in this autobiography. This text will provide students with opportunities to compare the original tale with cultural aspects of the text.

Picture Books Stage 4

Papunya School Book of Country and History

Papunya School Publishing Committee; text by Nadia Wheatley; book design by Ken Searle
Allen & Unwin – ISBN: 186508526X

This story offers a viewpoint about Australia, not often told. It is an account of specific events that have impacted upon the Anangu people, from five different language groups, who came to live together at Papunya. From first contact, through to the arrival of missionaries, to Land Rights, this story has many facets and layers that unravel as the true story is told. Other topics include: Stolen Generations; health; resistance; massacres; and the Assimilation Policy. It is about two-way learning: the Anangu way and the Western way. Aboriginal language (Anangu) is used throughout the text and explained in the glossary. A useful and precise timeline is captured on each double page with the inclusion of an overall timeline that extends into three pages. A powerful, varied collection of children's illustrations and historical photographs have been used to highlight the reality of events that took place. Individual recollections by community members have been used to combine real life experiences with facts about specific events. This is an inspirational attempt to tell it as it was, with passion and dignity.

Pilawuk: When I was Young

Janeen Brian

Era Publications – ISBN: 1863742573

This beautifully produced book is a moving oral history from an Aboriginal woman. Its understated but uncompromising statements about the Stolen Generation and the White Australia Policy are balanced by some happy childhood memories and Pilawuk's positive outlook on life. The book uses thematic borders and photographs to enhance the text. Maps are included, but do not always adequately support the text.

Nonfiction Stage 5

This Accursed Land

Lennard Bickel

Pan Macmillan – ISBN: 0725103027

Douglas Mawson's epic journey in 1912 across 1000 kilometres of the Antarctic continent is convincingly portrayed in this book. The tragic loss of his companions, and his own struggle back to base against the awful cold and the poison he unwittingly consumed in the dog meat he was eating, make this a remarkable story of courage and survival.

From Inside Sport

Edited by Jill Collier

Phoenix Education – ISBN: 1875695923

This collection of articles and photographs from the magazine *Inside Sport* represents a range of sports and addresses a number of issues. Students can read profiles of sportspeople, gain factual information about a variety of sports and consider the survey of young Australians' attitudes to the major issues in sport. Students could investigate the characteristics of sports writing by examining several articles from this collection and then compose their own articles.

From the Ground Up

John P Coutis

Macmillan Australia – ISBN: 0732910684

John Coutis' severe disability threatened his life on several occasions. Without his lifeless legs (which he had surgically removed) Coutis has gone on to live a full life and to tell others about it as a motivational speaker. This courageous tale told with humour and matter-of-factness will inspire many students.

Tales from a Suitcase –the Afghan Experience

Will Davies and Andrea Dal Bosco

Lothian Books – ISBN: 0734404484

Since the Soviets invaded Afghanistan in 1979, millions of Afghan people have died and millions have fled. A small number of Afghans came to Australia and these are some of their stories. These different accounts of life in Afghanistan, the journey to Australia and life here provide a new migrant experience for students to consider.

A Boy's Life

Jack Davis, new edition edited by Peter Bibby

Magabala Books – ISBN: 187564167X

Republished in this commemorative edition, Davis's autobiographical book reveals his early life as a leading Aboriginal poet and playwright. His compelling anecdotes recall both ordinary and exciting boyhood experiences in country Western Australia, and exude the warmth, support and love he experienced from his family and friends. His often humorous tales display a strong admiration for his parents, and a great fondness of his siblings. He depicts sensitively a family that straddled two disparate cultures, managing to blend

Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australian lifestyles. Presented as a string of yarns, this book makes for compulsive reading. The new foreword is by Wesley Enoch; Sally Morgan's 1991 foreword has been retained.

Red Dog

Louis de Bernières

Secker & Warburg – ISBN: 0436256177

In 1998, Louis de Bernières (the author of *Captain Corelli's Mandolin*) went to Western Australia to attend a literature festival. As he explored the state he was fascinated to discover a statue commemorating a dog. With a writer's curiosity he wanted to find out why people remembered this animal so fondly. People talked to de Bernières about the personality and antics of Red Dog and their affection for the animal. Their memories and tales form the basis of this engaging book as we follow Red Dog on his travels around the state of Western Australia.

Eli's Wings

Elizabeth Best

Viking – ISBN: 0670710597

Elizabeth suffered from anorexia nervosa, an eating disorder which is characterised by a distorted perception of body image and an intense fear of becoming obese through losing control of eating. This account shows how important family, friends and professional help are in overcoming a life-threatening condition.

Katie.com

Katherine Tarbox

Hodder Headline – ISBN: 0733613322

Katie.com is a true story involving a 16-year-old girl and an internet stalker in the United States. Katie is a loner at school and she seeks friends through an Internet chatroom. Katie's account of her meeting with the stalker she believes to be a friend and the subsequent court case against him makes for chilling reading. This story highlights the personal, moral and ethical dilemmas that can arise from the misuse of technology.

Letters from our Heart: The Lives of Australians through Correspondence

Edited by Jennifer Cambell

Hardie Grant Books – ISBN: 1740640535

A Franklin protester writes home, a young boy sends a letter to his missing mother, Alfred Deakin writes passionately to his wife – these are just some of the letters in this excellent collection of Australian correspondence. This anthology has an historical focus and students will benefit from looking at the letters drawn from many periods of our national life. Each letter is introduced and put into context; some have examples of the original handwriting and photographs of the correspondents. Sections include *From the Heart, Our Past, The Front, The Family, Home and Far Away*. This vibrant and rich collection of the art of letter writing will provide many opportunities for students' responding and composing.

Phoenix: A Brother's Life

J D Dolan

Picador – ISBN: 0330480332

When J D Dolan's brother is horribly burned in an industrial accident J D sits by his bedside as he dies despite the fact that the brothers have not spoken for five years. Dolan's reflection on growing up in a family that had a tradition of punishing through silence is an elegant and powerful elegy for his brother.

Shakespeare Stories

Leon Garfield, illustrated by Michael Foreman

Puffin – ISBN: 0140389385

Accompanied by the haunting illustrations of Michael Foreman, these powerful retellings are a wonderful introduction to the drama and passion of Shakespeare's plays.

A Child of Hitler: Germany in the Days when God wore a Swastika

Alfons Heck

Renaissance House – ISBN: 0939650444

The Hitler Youth was a highly popular and powerful movement in Nazi Germany. This book offers an insider's perspective about the methods of youth indoctrination employed by the directors of that movement. The author, a former high-ranking Hitler Youth leader, writes about his adolescent fascination with Adolf Hitler and gives us an insight into the power and control achieved over young and impressionable minds. It's quite easy to incite hatred, especially in the young, and Heck has said his book is primarily a warning.

Red Scarf Girl: A Memoir of the Cultural Revolution

Ji-li Jiang

HarperCollins – ISBN: 0064462080

In 1966 when China's leader, Mao Ze-dong, started the Cultural Revolution, life changed dramatically for Ji-li Jiang and her family. Once admired as a future leader, Ji-li Jiang was abused and insulted by those who used to respect her. Her family suffered a similar fate. This text provides students with insight about life for an ordinary family under a cultural tyranny.

Into Thin Air: A Personal Account of the Everest Disaster

Jon Krakauer

Pan Macmillian – ISBN: 0330353977

Jon Krakauer, a well-known climber and writer recounts the terrible events on Mt Everest that led to the worst single-season death toll in the peak's history. Three expeditions are all caught in a ferocious storm. Krakauer, a member of one of the expeditions, describes the effects of altitude and exposure on the people caught on the mountain. Other expeditioners saw the tragedy differently and students can investigate other accounts of this tragedy.

Endurance: Shackleton's Voyage

Alfred Lansing

Phoenix – ISBN: 0753809877

In 1914, Sir Ernest Shackleton and a crew of 27 set sail for Antarctica, aiming to cross the continent overland. It was two years before they returned. After their ship became trapped and then crushed in the ice they spent months on an icefloe before finally taking to boats as the floe broke up. Shackleton made the hazardous voyage back to the island of South Georgia to get help for the remainder of his team. This account relies on interviews with members of the Shackleton expedition and conveys the leadership and comradeship that enabled them all to survive in such inhospitable conditions.

My Forbidden Face: Growing Up Under the Taliban – A Young Woman's Story

Latifa

Virago – ISBN: 1860499562

This clear account of growing up under the Taliban reveals with painful honesty the devastating effects of the sudden loss of basic human rights for women and girls in Afghanistan. Latifa, a sixteen-year-old girl, and her mother and sister become virtual prisoners in their own homes as schools are closed and women are banned from working. Students may find this first-hand account a disturbing read.

The Head Book

John Marsden

Pan Macmillan – ISBN: 0330363212

John Marsden is a well-known and popular writer of adolescent fiction. This nonfiction collection of facts and information will assist adolescent readers to fill in some gaps in their reading. Greek and Roman legends, religious backgrounds, important historical events, useful words, summaries of great books and an account of the way the Australian constitution works are all provided among other useful sections. This reference book is accessible and highly informative.

Fatal Storm

Rob Mundle

HarperCollins – ISBN: 0732269237

Ocean racing has always been risky but few sailors were prepared for the fatal storm that engulfed the 1999 Sydney to Hobart yacht race. Rob Mundle, an experienced journalist and commentator, conveys the danger of the huge seas and gale-force winds, and the heroism of the sailors and their rescuers. This dramatic and authoritative text will provide many opportunities for discussion and debate in the classroom.

Louise Sauvage: My Story

Louise Sauvage with Ian Heads

HarperCollins (Australia) – ISBN: 0732272637

Louise Sauvage's autobiography celebrates her successes as Australia's foremost wheelchair athlete. A three-time paralympian, Sauvage has won titles in everything from the marathon to short sprints. She has gained an extraordinary number of medals and awards, including the

1999 Australian Female Athlete of the Year Award and an Order of Australia Medal. This account of her life and travels emphasises the dedication and determination necessary to achieve at the elite level in her sport.

Land's Edge

Tim Winton

Picador Australia – ISBN: 0330361104

Tim Winton's fiction is firmly based around the coastline and this nonfiction text records and celebrates Winton's obsession with that margin between the sea and the desert. Winton takes us to childhood places and beach shacks where reading was an afternoon occupation while the morning was for the beach. The linking of landscape and literature, of the active and the contemplative, is a message that many students will respond to as they read Winton's lyrical prose.

Behind Media [series]

Heinemann Library

A useful background resource for units on media, this series provides extensive information on the history and development of the broadcast and print media. Similarly formatted, each book has clearly defined terminology and well organised chapters. Although references are British and American, they are accessible to Australian readers. Each volume provides a media-specific insight into how the medium works, and the creative and technical processes involved in delivering the final product. Areas covered include: uses; advantages and disadvantages; media control; sponsorship; premises and equipment; jobs; legal and ethical practices; responsibilities; cross media implications; and future trends.

Titles in this series include: **Internet** - ISBN: 0431114633

Radio – ISBN: 0431114625

Television - ISBN: 043111451X

Drama

Preface

At Stages 4 and 5 the *English Years 7–10 Syllabus* requires students to read, listen to and view drama. At Stage 5 the selection of texts must give students an experience of Shakespearean drama.

The task of identifying suitable plays and performances for Years 7 to 10 immediately draws attention to the problem of accessibility for the diversity of students within the age groups. There is a gulf between excessively simple scripts and a student audience already highly attuned to the sophisticated performance techniques of television and film. In some ways this gulf is addressed by material produced by Theatre-in-Education Companies. Many plays performed by Theatre-in-Education troupes focus on the lives and preoccupations of adolescents and provide relevant texts for study and performance in schools.

The works of William Shakespeare also enable teachers to provide students with a range of enriching dramatic experiences. Students will be expected to see Shakespearean plays in performance, and films based on Shakespeare's plays, as well as to engage in workshop activities in the classroom with Shakespearean texts such as **Macbeth**, **Julius Caesar**, **Romeo and Juliet**, **The Merchant of Venice**, **Much Ado About Nothing** or **A Midsummer Night's Dream**. As with novels and short stories, there are many plays originally written for adults, such as Oscar Wilde's **The Importance of Being Earnest**, Bernard Shaw's **Pygmalion**, Tennessee Williams' **The Glass Menagerie** and Arthur Miller's **The Crucible** that have been appropriated for adolescents and used traditionally in English classrooms.

Australian drama has an important role in the drama section of the *English Years 7–10 Syllabus*. While some Australian plays from the fifties and sixties such as Ray Lawler's **Summer of the Seventeenth Doll** and **Kid Stakes**, Richard Beynon's **The Shifting Heart** and Alan Seymour's **The One Day of the Year** enable teachers to use drama to introduce teenagers to expositions of major themes in Australian postwar society, teachers should be aware of the wide range of Australian plays available. These include plays written by Aboriginal playwrights such as Jack Davis, plays that reflect the diversity of cultural groups or Australian traditions such as Hopgood's **And the Big Men Fly** and plays directly written for school performance such as Tulloch's **Year Nine are Animals**. Teachers should also encourage their students to attend live performances as this will assist them in understanding naturalistic and non-naturalistic theatre conventions.

Teachers can teach each of the texts on this list in a variety of ways. They may be used for public performance by students, for workshop explorations in classrooms and for study as dramatic literature. Teachers should select from the Drama list in ways that will ensure that students are given access to a wide range of dramatic texts.

Drama Stage 4

Wild Girl, Wild Boy

David Almond

Hodder Children's Books – ISBN: 0340854316

Elaine Grew's father has died and Elaine's grief overwhelms her. She avoids school and spends days at the allotment her father used to love. In her searching for answers, Elaine creates images and ideas that enchant. This magical play deals with grief in poetic language.

The Honey Spot

Jack Davis

Currency – ISBN: 0868191639

Jack Davis's play for younger readers and performers has been given a beautiful setting with illustrations by Ellen Jose. The design enhances the dramatisation of the friendships between Tim, an Aboriginal boy living in a forestry house, and Peggy, the daughter of the Ranger. Peggy's friendship with Tim helps overcome her father's racism. A gentle and positive play offering a way for black and white to live together.

Dracula

Adapted by David Calcutt from the novel by Bram Stoker

Oxford University Press – ISBN: 0198314566

Dracula is a perennial favourite in classrooms and this drama script allows immediate access into the ideas of Bram Stoker. This excellent series adapts a number of popular novels for classroom and performance and provides material that establishes the context of the play and develops key themes. (See also *The Labyrinth – The Dramatised Story of Theseus and the Minotaur* (David Calcutt) and *Across the Barricades* (John Lingard).)

Lockie Leonard Human Torpedo: The Play

Adapted by Paige Gibbs from the novel by Tim Winton

Currency – ISBN: 0868194786

This is an engaging story of first love, new school, surfing and family relationships. Lockie is new to town – his father is the local police officer, and Lockie's in love with the smartest and prettiest girl in class. Vicki wants to grow up fast but Lockie is not so sure. This play deals sympathetically with awakening sexuality and school relationships. (See also Garry Fry's adaptation of Tim Winton's *Lockie Leonard Scumbuster*.)

Whale

David Holman

Heinemann – ISBN: 0435 23286X

In October 1988 three Californian grey whales were trapped under the Arctic ice cap at Point Barrow in Alaska. This play is based on the real events of that time. The whales named Putu, Siku and K'nik occupied the world's attention for weeks as Inuits, Americans and Russians worked together to try and save the whales. The play begins with Inuit myth and legend and goes on to explore environmental themes and media influence. The play will provide opportunities for classroom performance, analysis and consideration of staging possibilities.

Two Weeks With The Queen: The Play

Adapted by Mary Morris from the novel by Morris Gleitzman
Currency – ISBN: 0868194018

Adapted from the best-selling novel by Morris Gleitzman, this play deals humorously and sensitively with serious issues. Colin is sent to England by his parents when his little brother is dying of leukaemia. He sets out to find the ‘best doctor in the world’; his comic cousin Alistair would like to help but stress brings on his dandruff! Colin helps a man whose friend is dying of AIDS in hospital and learns the importance of being *with* loved ones in a crisis.

Blabbermouth: The Play

Adapted by Mary Morris from the novel by Morris Gleitzman
Currency – ISBN: 0868194212

Blabbermouth is the adaptation of Morris Gleitzman’s novel about Rowena, a young girl who hears but cannot speak. When Rowena moves to a new country town and school, she has to establish herself despite a father who has a tendency to embarrass his daughter in public. The play explores disabilities, friendship and parent-child relationships in a humorous and sensitive way.

Spitting Chips

Peta Murray
Currency – ISBN: 0868194069

Sybil detests her name and prefers to be called Spud. Her relationship with Gary, her father, is difficult; her mother has died and Gary won’t talk about it. He has even hidden the photo album. Spud is angry with everyone, including Eric, her next door neighbour, who wants to help. Spud’s afternoon job as a companion/helper for an old woman helps her come to terms with her anger and grief. This simple and well-crafted play explores issues about family relationships and growing up.

Space Demons: The Play

Adapted by Richard Tulloch from the novel by Gillian Rubinstein
Currency – ISBN: 0868193291

This stage adaptation of Gillian Rubinstein’s novel *Space Demons* retains the compelling tension and fast pace of the original story without sacrificing the clever characterisation. Andrew Hayford is fascinated by his new computer game and soon he and his friends are drawn into the virtual reality of the game that frighteningly becomes their real world. Students would benefit from a comparison of the original text with the adaptation.

Body and Soul: A Musical Play

Richard Tulloch
Currency – ISBN: 0868195588

While this play is set in pre-2000 Olympic times it is still relevant with its exploration of competition and character. Tensions are apparent in the select group of young athletes at Challenge Camp Australia as they compete for limited places in the lead-up to the Sydney Games. This fast-moving play with its musical score provides opportunities for classroom production and discussion.

Drama Stage 5

Fossils

Manuel Aston

Currency – ISBN: 0868193992

Fossils explores the relationship between teenagers and their parents with humour and zest. Parents are classified as *homo-parentithicus* or fossils and over-protective of their young. The adults in the Jones, Watson and Zeferelli families relate very differently to their children as the adolescents try to juggle growing up, school and friends as well as their parents. The play deals with these concerns with humour and understanding.

The Heartbreak Kid

Richard Barrett

Currency – ISBN: 0868191884

Set in a tough inner-city school *The Heartbreak Kid* explores the migrant experience and assumptions about teaching. It centres on a young teacher and her relationships with her senior students. Richard Barrett's play has been adapted for film and television.

Jane Eyre

Adapted by Steve Barlow and Steve Skidmore from the novel by Charlotte Bronte

Oxford University Press – ISBN: 0198312962

This new adaptation of *Jane Eyre* provides students with an excellent introduction to the original work. Background information on the world of Jane Eyre and information on the author extends the texts. (See also *A Tale of Two Cities* in this series.)

This Way Out: Five Plays

Isobelle Carmody and Steve Taylor

Puffin – ISBN: 0140387048

Three of these five plays have been adapted from Isobelle Carmody's short story collection *Green Monkey Dreams*. Carmody and Taylor have written two especially for this collection. The plays range from fantasy to reality and students would benefit from comparing the plays with the original stories.

Play of 'Flowers for Algernon'

Bert Coules from the novel by Daniel Keyes

Heinmann Plays – ISBN: 0435232932

Charlie wants to be able to read and write. Although intellectually disabled he goes to night school determined to improve his skills. His motivation attracts the attention of surgeons keen to experiment with a new procedure to boost intelligence. Charlie undergoes a brain operation. The operation is initially successful and Charlie's higher IQ dramatically changes his relationships with those around him. When the procedure begins to reverse itself Charlie's life is shattered. This is a powerful dramatisation of Daniel Keyes's perceptive and haunting novella. (See also in this series *An Inspector Calls* and *The Play of Animal Farm*.)

Plays from Black Australia

Jack Davis (ed)

Currency – ISBN: 0868192260

(Jack Davis: **The Dreamers**; Eva Johnson: **Murras**; Richard Walley: **Coordah**; Bob Maza: **The Reapers**)

These plays draw on a range of contemporary Aboriginal experiences. In each play there is a strong sense of family and community loyalty and determination. Their value lies in the capacity of the younger characters to maintain pride, humour and mutual respect in the face of the disintegration brought about by colonisation. Each play combines a strong narrative with a lively use of vernacular.

48 Shades of Brown

Adapted by Philip Dean from the novel by Nick Earls

Currency – ISBN: 0868196525

Dan is in his final year at school and has moved in with his 22-year-old aunt, Jacq, because his parents have gone to Europe. Jacq's housemate, Naomi, attracts Dan's attention away from the study he is meant to be doing. Dan's struggles with fitting in and Jacq's realisation of her own sexuality are handled with humour and self-deprecation. This entertaining play has been adapted from Nick Earls' award-winning novel and contains an extensive set of teacher's notes.

A Beautiful Life

Michael Fitcher and Helen Howard

Currency – ISBN: 0868196053

When Amir sees his parents, Hamid and Jhila, on television, they're being arrested for protesting at the Iranian embassy against atrocities in their homeland. *A Beautiful Life* explores what constitutes a terrorist action and the reaction of governments to protest by refugees. Prejudice, injustice, brutality, the Australian judicial system and public values are all portrayed in this demanding and confronting play.

While the play is based on the reminiscences of Iranian refugees the playwrights stress that the true events have been interpreted in a dramatic way and should not be regarded as representing historical fact.

All Stops Out

Michael Gow

Currency – ISBN: 0868193100

This play was commissioned by the Australian Performing Group as a contemporary play about the HSC experience. It follows the stories of two sets of friends confronting the HSC. It explores the implications for adolescents of such crises as the HSC and their effects on personal ambition and growth. Two boys meet and share the burden of preparation for the exam. A parallel story is told of a young girl who takes up the challenge while in gaol. A tough reporter and a young photographer link the facets of the play together. Their job is to focus media attention on the human side of the exam. The play concludes on an unusual note of optimism. It is excellent for the purposes of performance.

What is the Matter with Mary Jane?

Wendy Harmer and Sancia Robinson
Currency – ISBN: 0868194808

Based on Sancia Robinson's own experiences this monodrama is about a recovering anorexic and bulimic. Just as *Eli's Wings* (listed in the nonfiction section) explored the painful world of a girl afflicted by eating disorders, so *What is the matter with Mary Jane?* allows the audience to share Sancia's journey to the discovery that her condition was an illness. This realisation is presented with humour and courage. The study guide at the end of the play provides articles and information on this life threatening illness.

Living with Lady Macbeth

Rob John
Cambridge University Press – ISBN: 0521425077

A lively play which is eminently appropriate for Stage 5. *Living with Lady Macbeth* explores the fantasies of a student, Lily Morgan, who has always played support roles in previous school productions but is captured by the possibilities of playing Lady Macbeth. 'Character types' surround Lily but it is her character's metamorphosis that will most effectively engage students and audiences. John accesses Macbeth and the motivations of Lady Macbeth to tell Lily's story. Excerpts from *Macbeth* are effectively interwoven through the play. Lily resolves to demonstrate that the other characters' assumptions about her are misguided. Students will be able to explore Lily's reactions to her world from which she normally hides – but not this time. There is a generous amount of humour employed as we follow Lily's approach to auditioning for the lead role in the school play as well as her playing out of a series of vengeful fantasies to rid herself of the obstacles to her ambition. The final twist in the conclusion will require further discussion in terms of its theatrical effect and the conclusions we make about Lily's character.

Looking for Alibrandi

Screenplay by Melina Marchetta, from her novel
Currency – ISBN: 0868196231

Anna Maria Dell'oso's overview and an essay from author Melina Marchetta about adapting her award-winning novel *Looking for Alibrandi* for the screen provide a good introduction to this text. The screenplay details the story of Josephine's last year at school in which she discovers a great deal about her family, herself and life. The text has the full screenplay and stills from the film.

Dags

Debra Oswald
Currency – ISBN: 0868191809

Dags is a modern classic of Australian young people's theatre. This text began life as a Theatre-in-Education piece, engaging with the self-consciousness of the average teenager. Gillian is 16, suffers from pimples and is worried about not having a boyfriend. It is a play of sustained humanity and gentleness for the modern girl. Both girls and boys would recognise their own dilemmas here and, as importantly, learn to laugh at them.

Frankenstein

Adapted by Philip Pullman from the novel by Mary Shelley
Oxford Playscript – ISBN: 0198312679

Frankenstein is among the most enduring and self-renewing of modern myths. The story is constantly recreated in both high and popular culture and in almost all modern art forms. This adaptation of the Mary Shelley novel is illustrated with woodcuts and engravings, and is accompanied by a useful series of activities to enhance students' appreciation of the historical and dramatic features of the story. An excellent script for possible class or school presentation, it grew out of a British Theatre-in-Education project.

Could Do Better

Richard Tulloch
Currency – ISBN: 0868193046

Two Year 10 students, Scott and Cass, adopt different techniques for dealing with exams. Cass studies and Scott daydreams. Cass has something to prove and Scott knows his father is worried about his son failing his exams. Their attraction for each other leads to a tutoring arrangement that turns out to be to the advantage of both. This simple play deals with current issues for students with humour and understanding.

Burger Brain, the Fast Food Musical

Dennis Watkins, music by Chris Harriott
Currency – ISBN: 086819252X

The staff of Hacketts, the international fast food chain, is thrown into turmoil when Waldo is made manager. His change in personality is abrupt and he proves to be a harder taskmaster than the old boss. Ultimately he brings about good when the brainwashing power of the Burger Brain is exposed. Catchy songs and a large cast make this a good choice for performance.

Media and Multimedia

Preface

The *English Years 7–10 Syllabus* requires that students must study examples of media and multimedia texts each year. These texts should, over Stages 4 and 5, include texts drawn from radio, television, newspapers, the internet and CD-ROMs. Students will learn about the nature, scope and ethical use of information and communication technologies in society.

Students study media and its effects as a form of mass communication in their work on television, newspapers, magazines and radio. The advent of the internet, the expansion in texts and information, and the multimodal nature of these texts will create many new opportunities for students to compose and respond to complex texts in different technologies. Students will be able to evaluate the impact of multimedia texts on contemporary society and speculate on the development of such texts in the future. With a critical eye they will be able to see how ideas, information and issues are shaped and presented through technology.

Finding websites and CD-ROMS containing exciting, relevant ideas and information at an appropriate level of difficulty for students is a challenging experience for teachers – a challenge this list hopes to assist. Students need access to such texts and they need effective strategies to enable them to develop independent learning skills. Reading on the internet provides an immediate example of the differences multimedia texts can make. The conventional notion of reading from left to right and from top to bottom is challenged when images and text are not often placed in a linear fashion. The visual weight of elements on the screen is what determines our order and manner of reading. Such changes in reading and viewing illustrate just one of the differences in studying multimedia texts.

The definition of classic texts in multimedia is complicated by the swiftness with which changing technology can render texts obsolete in terms of their delivery. The very nature of websites allows a flexibility and progression that can be denied to CD-ROMs. There are classic websites and CD-ROMs that were developed early in the field. These texts have influenced current developments – and are still available or visible on current technology. In the field of digital interactivity these texts are the equivalent of classic literary works.

Decisions Decisions and **Riddle of the Trumpalar** (Mac Classic) represented opportunities for good pedagogy and were reliable, simple and fun. They are the forerunners of many of the adventure games and CD simulations of today. **Where in the World is Carmen Sandiego?** and **SimCity** in their turn influenced a series of interactive texts such as **Myst** and **Age of Empires**. Microsoft's **Encarta** remains a benchmark by which other multimedia encyclopedias are judged because of its use of multimedia and integrating sound, video, pictures and text. A classic website is the oldest unchanged web page in the world
www.w3.org/History/

The study of media and multimedia texts in New South Wales schools will continue to develop as interactivity and ingenuity in such texts makes use of changing technology.

Media and Multimedia Stage 4

Australian Museums and Galleries on Line <http://amol.org.au> is a practical guide and support to a wide range of subjects including English. There are two very practical links for students: the most appropriate for Stage 5 students, 'Stories from Museums and Galleries' http://amol.org.au/guide/stories_index.asp contains a range of stories from the various sources presented in a logical and interactive format; the other, 'Discovernet' <http://amol.org.au/discovernet> has a wide range of Stage 4 support material, including such exercises as how to make your own exhibition.

Biography <http://www.biography.com> is a useful starting point for source information about historical figures as well as authors, movie stars and other popular contemporary personalities. This is a useful site to have students commence a more thorough study of an individual. It is a website that lends itself to the pleasures of surfing.

Children's Literature Web Guide www.acs.ucalgary.ca/~dkbrown includes information about books, an 'Ask the Author' section, and links to other sites on books and films. The Children's Literature Web Guide gathers together and categorises internet resources related to books for children and young adults. The information is generally provided by fans, schools, libraries, and commercial enterprises involved in the book world.

ELAC Theatre www.perspicacity.com/elactheatre/workshop/workshop.htm has a range of support for theatre study. The site offers the possibility of publishing plays, reading other submitted plays, and guidance to the art, craft and business of playwriting. The sublink to 'monologues' is a very practical additional site for student performance.

Kangaroos faces in the mob (G)

Directed by Jan Aldenhoven and Glen Carruthers
ABC video

Eastern Grey Kangaroos are the stars of this wildlife feature. Their complex and sophisticated society is explored in this detailed documentary. The film provides opportunities for student discussion and analysis of the soundtrack, text and cinematography and the contribution they make to the documentary.

Focus on Fiction www.eddept.wa.edu.au/cmis/eval/fiction promotes the reading of fiction for enjoyment as well as developing students' literacy skills. This site presents excellent links to information about publishers, authors and literature on the web and is a useful resource for research for students as well as a programming support for teachers. It has links to book awards, biographical information on authors and teaching suggestions.

Gary Paulsen www.randomhouse.com/features/garypaulsen is Paulsen's 'official' website and provides a source of general information about the author and his work. It lists his various novels and provides support for teaching programs, biographical information, answers to frequently asked questions, information about survival and his upcoming work and personal adventures.

Katherine Paterson www.terabithia.com is this author's 'official' website and provides a source of general information about the author and her work. There is special emphasis on her

most successful novel. It lists her other texts, biographical information, answers to frequently asked questions, reviews, visual images and soundtracks to shows based on her novels.

Kids Love a Mystery www.kidsloveamystery.com is a site created as a literacy project of Mystery Writers Of America and MysteryNet.com. It brings together authors who write for juvenile and young adult readers. Its specific goal is to increase literacy through a recognition that mystery writing is the most popular genre as determined by student selection.

Legends <http://legends.dm.net> provides guided access to primary source material and scholarship on traditional legends from a range of cultural backgrounds. The site contains essays and reviews, historical background and commentary. Students will be able to read a variety of legends and assess the quality of the support material that is readily accessible. The legends emphasise romance and adventure. It offers links to other relevant sites and accesses visual libraries as well as annotated legends from 'Beowulf' to 'Robin Hood'. It is easily navigated and may be useful for both Stages 4 and 5.

Morris Gleitzman website www.morrisgleitzman.com is Gleitzman's 'official' website and provides a source of general information about the author and his work. There are details about several of his novels and other products, excerpts from his texts and answers to frequently asked questions.

NASA <http://kids.msfc.nasa.gov> offers an enjoyable and practical way for students to learn about NASA's activities and science, using interactive tools. NASA Kids is an online or printable resource designed for students aged 5 to 14. This may be an appropriate site for students who have not yet reached the Stage 4 outcomes. **Liftoff to Space Exploration** <http://liftoff.msfc.nasa.gov> has been designed to cater for older students. It is a more challenging site which contains a wide range of material. **NASA Human Spaceflight** <http://spaceflight.nasa.gov/index.html> offers space travel oriented information. Each of these sites is useful for research and student interaction.

Official Roald Dahl website www.roalddahl.com/index2.htm is Dahl's 'official' website and provides a source of general information about the author and his work. It contains a number of visual images and other source material.

Poets' Corner www.geocities.com/~spanoudi/poems/index.html offers a diverse and user-friendly library of poems. The materials on display are selected from an inventory of thousands of works by hundreds of authors, transcribed and gathered from around the world. There are over 780 poets and 6700 poems represented on this site. The poems are clearly presented and gathered under title, poet's name and themes. Some images of the poets and reference material on the works are also available. This site would be useful for Stage 5 as well.

Pirates! Facts and legends www.piratesinfo.com/detail/detail.php?article_id=51 is an interactive and informative site that provides details about piracy including the historical background of pirates with specific references to the types of pirates, pirate legends, and pirate ships. There are also further reading references and web links. This is a valuable site to use in conjunction with a unit of work on pirates.

Round the Twist (G)

Directed by Esben Storm, Ray Boseley and Chris Anastassiades
ABC Television program

This series of nine outrageous tales about the Twist family will appeal to students' sense of humour while providing a model for comic writing. Paul Jennings' stories have been translated to the screen with suitably exaggerated performances.

Secrets Can Kill Nancy Drew This interactive mystery game offers students the opportunity to work through the game either as an individual activity or in small groups. The game encourages them to solve a murder mystery. There are visual literacy skills as a central focus of the mystery as well as the need to follow clues provided by characters who 'you' meet and interview as you move from scene to scene to unravel the case. The students will need to make notes and identify those clues which will solve the case. It is a relatively simple program to follow.

Star Wars: The Magic of Myth www.nasm.si.edu/StarWars US National Space and Air Museum virtual online exhibition of the first three Star Wars films, Episodes IV-VI. This site contains a myriad of visual images, resource information, sound effects, commentary by James Earl Jones (the voice of Darth Vader) and interactive possibilities for students. There is a virtual web tour of many artifacts from these films that were either altered or rejected in the developmental stages.

SurLaLune Fairy Tale Pages www.surlalunefairytales.com provides a range of annotated fairy tales from around the world as well as folklore studies and recommendations for additional texts for teachers. For the annotated texts there are historical details, editorials for the given annotations, illustrations, historical background and cross-cultural links.

Writing Den www2.actden.com/writ_den is a Canadian site that promotes writing, drafting work, and research for creative writing exercises. It includes visual and aural support for the animals it uses as a focus. The site aims to improve students' writing skills and the ability to write a variety of essays, as well as the development of students' vocabulary, comprehension and visual literacy skills.

Media and Multimedia Stage 5

Blackadder Goes Forth (the ‘Goodbyeee’ episode)

Directed by Richard Boden

BBC (video and DVD)

Rowan Atkinson presides over this witty spoof on World War I that will occasion much humour in the classroom and provide a valuable model for parody and satiric writing. The final scene in this episode is compelling, offering an alternative to the humour that has gone before. It could be used as an introduction to a study of the poetry that was motivated by the Great War. (See also the website *The Great War*.) Schools should note that this episode only is annotated. Any other episodes should be reviewed to determine suitability.

Bush Mechanics

Directed by David Batty

Roadshow (video)

The travels of a group of young Aboriginal men through outback Australia give rise to some inventive engineering. To get the rock band to their first gig some vehicle modifications are required and the bush mechanics are capable of solving any problems. The three episodes in the series provide insight into contemporary and traditional Aboriginal life and culture with humour and inventiveness.

Creative Writing for Teens <http://kidswriting.about.com/?once=true&> provides an exhaustive list of writing support and guidance for students. The students are led through a series of questions to target their needs and then are provided with generalised information about that topic. The most valuable element of this site is the range of texts covered that include captions, slogans, e-publishing, names of characters and software.

CyberGuides: Teacher Guides and Student Activities

www.sdcoe.k12.ca.us/score/cyberguide.html are supplementary, standards-based, web-delivered units of instruction centred on core works of literature. There are some particularly useful guides to an exhaustive list of texts, both American and European. Each ‘CyberGuide’ contains a student and teacher edition, standards, a major assessment task and a process by which the elements of the task may be completed.

eidolon.net: Australian SF Online <http://eidolon.net/ezine/index.html> contains an exhaustive list of Australian Science Fiction and Fantasy text resources, reviews, short stories and details of SF events around Australia. The material is regularly reviewed and contains articles and stories by well-known Australian authors such as Sara Douglas, Sean Williams and Sophie Masson.

In the Footsteps of Sir Douglas Mawson www.mawson.sa.gov.au/netscape.htm highlights aspects of Mawson’s achievements – his adventures, his success in taking science to extreme environments and the scope of his accomplishments. It also illustrates how Mawson’s achievements are part of ever-evolving scientific endeavours. Mawson’s achievements are inspirational and act as a stimulus to understand the world in a scientific way, and to lift aspirations.

Jane Austen Information Page www.pemberley.com/janeinfo/janeinfo.html includes annotated and illustrated hypertext version of *Pride and Prejudice* and some of her early writings. It is a scholarly site. There are research essays and a range of support materials available for students studying Jane Austen.

MarsdenNet www.panmacmillan.com.au/johnmarsden/index.htm is Marsden's 'official' website and provides a source of general information about the author and his work including previews, reviews, newsletters, speeches and lists of details about John Marsden.

Mr William Shakespeare and the Internet <http://daphne.palomar.edu/shakespeare> is essentially an index for, and offers links to, resources about Shakespeare on the web. It is a very thoroughly prepared and highly organised site. It is easily navigated and provides a range of links to other Shakespearean sites including an annotated guide to the scholarly Shakespeare resources. It provides a range of other material on Shakespeare's life and works that is not available through any other net source.

New Poets Press – Writing Tips www.newpoetspress.com/writetips.html is a practical guide and support for students who wish to analyse the quality of their poetry drafts. It provides a clear series of steps to assess the quality of the poetry as well as some additional links, providing students with feedback on their writing and wider references for poetry writing.

Ozlit Australian Literature Resources on the internet <http://avoca.vicnet.net.au/~ozlit> contains more than 500 pages of Australian Literary information as well as more than 1100 entries in the 'Books and Writers' database which is organised by authors, subject and title, and includes some contact addresses. There are links provided to other useful literature sites. It is a valuable resource for a wide range of Australian writing.

Shakespeare's Globe Research Database www.rdg.ac.uk/globe is a site devoted to presenting students with comprehensive details about Shakespeare's theatre as well as theatre in general terms from the Elizabethan period. The site is divided into three main sections: a research database which includes copies of the Globe Research Bulletins and also details of the staging of the plays at the Globe; the story of the Original Globe which includes the archaeology and some information about contemporary London and its playhouses; and the building of the New Globe which includes much detail of its design and the building and decoration of the theatre.

Shakespeare on film www.jetlink.net/~massij/shakes/films/movilst.shtml Imagine comparing Baz Luhrmann's *Romeo + Juliet* to Franco Zeffirelli's version of 1968. Or perhaps you would like to compare Branagh's *Hamlet* to Olivier's; or Mel Gibson's (Zeffirelli's); or even Disney's *The Lion King*? All this is possible on this site where a good range of information lies, carefully arranged, on easily navigated pages. The advice on how to watch a Shakespeare film is comprehensive, and includes tips for viewing film generally. A page each is dedicated to the four categories of Shakespearean canon (**Comedies; Tragedies; Histories; Romances**). There are also links to sites that are often of high visual and textual quality, though these require exploration time to verify curriculum relevance.

Shakespeare Resource Center <http://bardweb.net/> An extensive collection of information and links on the Bard, this site is useful for a wide age range. It includes: biographical information; synopses of Shakespeare's plays; sketches of The Globe theatre; detailed information on Elizabethan England; an explanation of aspects of Elizabethan Language and

much more. A search mechanism is available for ease of access. Beginners, students well versed in Shakespeare, and teachers, will find this a valuable reference source. This is a readily navigable site, with concise information, attractively presented, with the written material often being supported by well-selected illustrations.

Schizm: Mysterious Journey This interactive game has a narrative created by an Australian SF writer, Sean Williams. He has chosen to mirror the mystery of the Mary Celeste in an SF context. The appropriation of the original story is deserving of some research and consideration by students. The striking visuals and the haunting soundtrack could be used as a valuable motivation to compose a range of texts. The students could also be drawn to create a range of written responses to the game. The mystery elements of the game allows for high interest and interactivity.

StageStruck – Dept of Communications, Information Technology and the Arts

CD-ROM Produced by NIDA, Opera Australia, The Australian Ballet, Sydney Opera House Trust and the University of Wollongong, this CD-ROM provides drama teachers with a powerful tool to engage their students' interest. Students have the opportunity to take a virtual tour backstage and then design and stage their own performance. Historical information is embedded in easily accessed mini databases, for example quality visual and text information on the State Theatre. *StageStruck* is a significant step forward in the relationship between technology and teaching creative arts, in particular drama and dance. It is a useful way of introducing students to difficult concepts in theatrical and performance design. Teachers could use the CD to introduce ideas in drama in the virtual environment before exploring them experimentally. Use of this CD would strongly complement practical experiences in the dance and drama classroom. Further exploration of this resource will uncover more applications for each teacher's specific needs.

The Great War www.pitt.edu/~pugachev/greatwar/ww1.html is a site that has been developed by the University of Pittsburgh. It has a broad range of links to a number of other sites around the world, including virtual tours of French war memorial sites, sound effects and images. It may complement historical research skills and the analysis of what makes an effective website.

The Hobbit Name Generator www.chriswetherell.com/hobbit/default.asp does as the title suggests: you can create a hobbit name for every member of your class. *The Hobbit* has its own site, www.thehobbit.com that has background to the novel and is a rich source of visual images from the text and other Tolkien-related material.

Shakespeare.com www.shakespeare.com is a more commercial site than many. It has clear copies of the plays which can be edited relatively easily. There is an interactive poetry exercise employing Shakespearean language, as well as hyperlinks to sections where students can ask questions to be answered by other visitors to the site, and to reviews of recent performances of Shakespeare's plays around the world.

To Kill a Mockingbird & Harper Lee <http://mockingbird.chebucto.org> A greatly loved work of American fiction is celebrated on this site. The sheer extent of the links collected and recorded suggest it is the work of a most avid fan of the novel. It is a treasure trove of fascinating resources, which include information on both the novel and the film; biographical information on the author; quizzes and tests; an FAQ page; further readings; and opportunities

to join discussion and chat groups. For teachers who would like to see their students link a traditional study of fiction with information available on the internet, this is a valuable site.

Wayne Bennett: A Man For All Seasons (video, 30 minutes) Deb Fleming, ABC TV, www.abc.net.au/programsales/programs/s436728.htm *Australian Story* is a regular program on ABC Television that looks at the lives of interesting Australians. Wayne Bennett is the coach of the Brisbane Broncos rugby league team and the Queensland State of Origin team. He is one of the best-known coaches in Australia. This program, originally shown on *Australian Story* in 1999, looks at his family life as well as his coaching career, and profiles the love and dedication of Wayne and his wife for their children, two of whom are disabled. Students could identify and explore the characteristics of the documentary genre and compare the purpose, audience and context of this program with those of other media reports about Wayne Bennett.

Texts for students in Years 7 to 10 who have not yet achieved Stage 3 Outcomes

Preface

All students are entitled to have access to good books (as well as good poems, plays, films and multimedia texts).

In particular, for less able students the drama, poetry, film and multimedia sections of *Fiction, Film and Other Texts* will provide many texts that stimulate at the level of ideas and emotions and are accessible because of their brevity or their relatively immediate association with spoken language. Novels and nonfiction can create special problems for reluctant or less successful readers because of their length. Less successful readers are often offered books that have little interest or appeal to them. They need books that stir the emotions, books that are easy and enjoyable to read but which address the same demands and interests as books for better readers. If such students are given access to good writers, their resistance to reading can be overcome and they can gain confidence that the books others read are not beyond them.

In Years 7 to 10 there are likely to be several groups of readers who would enjoy books in this section. Among these would be some students for whom English is a new language. In addition, the annotated list of books below should assist students whose first language is English but who find reading difficult. It is recognised that NESB students, students seen as remedial readers and students who are reluctant readers are not the same group. Nevertheless, all such students will find these books useful in gaining access to literature in English.

So-called remedial texts have often proved to be unsuccessful with each of these groups. They look different from the books their peers are reading and sometimes sacrifice story and feeling in favour of excessively simple language. It is teachers, parents and librarians who read widely who will provide students with a range of books to interest and enthuse them. Many of the books on this list are also found on the other fiction list, illustrating the fact that good books are available to all. Most texts in this section are mapped to Stage 4 in Appendix 2. With many of the books on this list students will experience success and enjoyment. We can help to match books to students and expand their horizons of reading. That is surely the start to becoming a successful reader.

Fiction

Dogs

Bill Condon

Hodder Headline – ISBN: 0733612040

Set in a working-class Australian suburb, *Dogs* is an action drama about two teenage boys and their fathers, brought together by a greyhound called Monster. The story centres on Stephen and his father and the moral dilemmas they face when they are drawn into the world of greyhound racing by Hangan and his unpredictably violent father. The story is a thought-provoking read that explores issues of loyalty and friendship, domestic violence and animal cruelty without being didactic. Written in an accessible, distinctly Australian voice. (For Stage 5.)

Bumface

Morris Gleitzman

Penguin (Puffin) – ISBN: 0140387978

Gleitzman again displays his talent for highlighting a serious social issue while maintaining humour through the use of a child's perspective. Angus exaggerates his chaotic home life hilariously and, realising he hasn't a hope of changing his parents' irresponsible behaviour, summons the energy necessary to look after his siblings. He encourages his friend Rindi to assert herself in a potentially ghastly situation and protects his mother from certain ruin.

Unreal ISBN: 0141301767

Unbelievable ISBN: 0141301716

Quirky Tails ISBN: 0141301783

Uncanny ISBN: 0141301759

Paul Jennings

Penguin (Puffin)

Jennings's collections of 'surprising', 'spooky', 'oddball' (his subtitles) etc stories have now established themselves as favourites among both primary and high school students. The stories in these collections follow the basic structures of bizarre plot and surprising twist at the end. Tales about a skeleton on a dunny, stuffed cane toads and similar wacky plots have a Dahl-like appeal to a very wide adolescent audience in Australia.

Thunderfish

Simon Higgins

Random House Australia – ISBN: 009183953X

This action-packed sea rescue adventure is set in the future. Kira is a rich female protagonist whose aim is to save refugees attacked by pirates on the high seas. The book deals with a number of moral dilemmas, decisions relating to piracy, individual responsibility and the dubious power of the press, highlighted in sensationalised gossip columns and headlines. The thriller is compelling and easy reading with an interesting twist to complete the story.

The Burnt Stick

Anthony Hill, illustrated by Mark Sofilas
Penguin NZ – ISBN: 0140369295

Until the 1960s many Aboriginal children in traditional communities were forcibly separated from their parents and expatriated to Christian missions. In spare but eloquent prose this unhappy history is personalised through the poignant, fictional but factually based story of John Jagamarra's childhood. Mark Sofilas' highly accomplished graphite pencil and charcoal pictures are a judicious choice of images highlighting the emotion behind Liyan's desperate but ingenious ruse to keep her son from the 'Big Man from Welfare'.

Onion Tears

Diana Kidd
Collins/Angus & Robertson – ISBN: 0207170282

This is the story of young Nam-Huong who escaped from Vietnam but lost her grandfather on the long terrible voyage to Australia. She has many reasons to cry but finds it hard to release her pent-up grief as she struggles to understand a different culture. This simple tale of refugees and the trauma they face is a valuable text for classroom discussion.

The Binna Binna Man

Meme McDonald and Boori Monty Pryor
Allen & Unwin – ISBN: 1865080713

This novel introduces young people coming to terms with their identity and heritage. The story covers a trip to a relative's funeral and the response of different generations to the grief of untimely death. The Binna Binna man of the title is a presence who encourages appropriate behaviour and respect for traditional ways. While true to the oral tradition of storytelling, the language is accessible.

The Colour of Sunshine

David Metzenthen
Puffin – ISBN: 0141310510

This is a depiction of grief and confusion in a family's life seen through the eyes of nine year old Davey. His sixteen year old sister has been killed in a road accident, and the loss has sunk his parents into a depression. Colour comes back into Davey's life in the form of an irrepressible family who runs a pet shop in the neighbourhood. The difference between the families is almost too polarised yet the complexity of emotions, especially in the older characters, is intelligently drawn.

Hatchet

Gary Paulsen
Macmillian Children's Books – ISBN: 0330310453

This is a survival story a reader will never forget. Brian Robeson is a thirteen-year-old city boy who is left alone in the Canadian wilderness after his plane crashes. He faces the problems of finding food, shelter and clothing. With imagination and courage, he experiences despair and perseverance and it is the character development as well as the survival skills that grip the reader. (See also *Hatchet: the Truth*.)

Holes

Louis Sachar

Bloomsbury – ISBN: 0747548471

In a Texas wasteland at Camp Green Lake, in a juvenile detention facility where there is no lake, boys are forced to dig countless holes to improve their character. Stanley Yelnats finds himself at Camp Green Lake, the innocent victim of mistaken identity. He discovers that the character building is a cover for the warden (who paints her fingernails with rattlesnake venom) and her search for something hidden in the desert. The novel moves between time with humour and craft, it has a wonderfully twisted ending and its deep understanding of friendship and compassion make it an outstanding classroom text. *Holes* won the Newbery Award in 1999.

The Bad Beginning

Lemony Snicket

HarperCollins – ISBN: 0064407667

Poor Violet, Klaus, and Sunny Baudelaire! They have the misfortune to lose their parents and despite their intelligence, charm and resourcefulness they are exceptionally unlucky. This leads to many difficult and dangerous experiences, which inevitably amuse and entertain. This irreverent and twisted tale should prove popular in the classroom.

Nips XI

Ruth Starke

Lothian Books – ISBN: 0734401132

If white boys can't jump, can Asian boys play cricket? Vietnamese-born Lan is sick of multicultural food festivals and wants to do something different. He decides with his friend, Izram, to form a school cricket team with a difference. This funny and entertaining novel explores multiculturalism from the other side of the fence.

Charlie Carver Stacks It! And Other Stories: A Crash Course in Applied Physics for Beginners

Laurie Stiller, illustrated by Jeff Raglus

Random House Australia – ISBN: 0091832969

A science-based text illustrating the laws of physics creates its own category of humorous case studies in the guise of stories about Charlie. Raglus's Mambo-style drawings and wild diagrams support the equally exaggerated narrative style. The humour is accessible to ten-year-olds but is also appreciated by young adults, as Charlie crashes in increasingly spectacular ways.

Lockie Leonard, Legend

Tim Winton

Macmillan – ISBN: 0330360027

This is an engaging story of second love as Lockie continues learning about relationships when his ex-girlfriend comes back into his life. Lockie is growing up and family responsibilities take over when his mother suffers a breakdown and is admitted to the local hospital. Winton's skilful use of language and his creation of a contemporary vernacular are very appealing. (See also *Lockie Leonard, Human Torpedo* and *Lockie Leonard, Scumbuster*.)

Nonfiction

The Blue Death

Judy Allen

Hodder Children's Books – ISBN: 0340805714

This detective story with a difference concerns the tracking down of the source of the dreadful cholera epidemic in London 1854. In simple and accessible prose Judy Allen tells a remarkable tale of Dr John Snow, a doctor who would not give up until he had solved the mystery of the cause of cholera.

Crash! The Search for the Stinson

Jennifer Beck, Dyan Blacklock and Katrina Allen

Omnibus Books – ISBN: 1862913781

Using refreshing innovative design features this book retells the story of a modern Australian hero and Australian mateship in a format that should appeal to young readers. Using original sources to research and illustrate a large part of this true story of a 1937 plane crash, the authors have created a collage of facts, personal anecdotes, technical details and images which merge to produce a sense of mystery, anticipation and drama. The collage style is challenging to the reader.

Race to the Pole

Meredith Hooper

Hodder Children's Books – ISBN: 0340785055

This account of the three attempts to be first to the South Pole is exciting and accessible. Shackleton, Scott and Amundsen prepared for their attempts in different ways and Hooper's retelling of their expeditions contains details of food, transport, difficulties and dangers. The glossary of terms and the information about Antarctica adds additional material for students to investigate.

Tough Stuff

Kirsty Murray, illustrated by Harry Harrison

Allen & Unwin – ISBN: 1864489294

The courage of children is portrayed in this sensitive compilation of true stories. Each story gives a short account of a young person's experience, encompassing stories of rebellion, oppression, survival and fortune made or lost. As the stories are set in varying countries and times over the past couple of centuries, they provide a good insight into lives in times past. This book is interesting and enlightening, though sometimes confronting. It encourages readers to develop a greater understanding of the strength and courage that children can and do have when faced with adverse situations. The inclusion of the character Milo, who highlights important messages, adds to the book's appeal for students. This book could be used to examine the idea of personal identity in relation to young people.

Stoked! Real Life, Real Surf

Glyn Parry, illustrated by Jeff Raglus
Allen & Unwin – ISBN: 1863737111

This small handbook on surfing stretches from the origins of boardriding to predictions that surfing contests will take place in constructed wave pools. History, techniques, safety, the big names – it is all here. Parry talks surfer language. He writes with humour and his topic is well researched. The text presentation is varied using subheadings, blocked summaries and interspersed with Jeff Raglus's delightful drawings. Coloured centre photographs are attractive and give good female representation. There are references to fiction and nonfiction books, surfing biographies and magazines.

Hatchet: The Truth

Gary Paulsen
Macmillan – ISBN: 0330483625

Gary Paulsen's 'Hatchet' novels of disaster and survival are widely read in schools. In this book, Paulsen describes the true-life experiences that underpin his books. This account of the inspiration and craft of writing will be of great interest to students.

Bog Bodies: Mummies and Curious Corpses

Natalie Jane Prior
Allen & Unwin – ISBN: 1863735836

This small paperback draws a wide range of readers into its fascinating survey of corpses that have remained preserved over millennia through ritual or chance natural circumstances: embalmed mummies and mediaeval knights, peat-entombed murder victims and ice-bound travellers. It even peeks into future cryonics. *Bog Bodies* has all the reference features expected of information books but is firstly an engaging, lucidly written factual anthology generously illustrated with sketches and photographs.

Mysterious Ruins: Lost Cities and Buried Treasure

Natalie Jane Prior, illustrated by John Nicholson
Allen & Unwin – ISBN: 1863737677

This book provides information on lost cities, sunken treasure, pyramids, caves and stone monuments. All are presented as tantalising mysteries with sufficient information on each to encourage the reader to make use of the extensive 'Further Reading' list to seek out more details. In addition there are line drawings, maps, eight pages of coloured photographs, a glossary and an index.

Appendix 1: Winners of major book awards for children and young adults

John Newbery Award (USA)

The Newbery Medal honours the year's most distinguished contribution to American literature for children. The medal was established in 1922 and is presented annually by the Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC), a division of the American Library Association (ALA). The recipient must be a citizen or resident of the United States.

1976	Susan Cooper	The Grey King
1977	Mildred D Taylor	Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry
1978	Katherine Paterson	Bridge to Terabithia
1979	Ellen Raskin	The Westing Game
1980	Joan W Blos	A Gathering of Days: A New England Girl's Journal, 1830–1832
1981	Katherine Paterson	Jacob Have I Loved
1982	Nancy Willard	A Visit to William Blake's Inn: Poems for Innocent and Experienced Travelers
1983	Cynthia Voigt	Dacey's Song
1984	Beverly Cleary	Dear Mr Henshaw
1985	Robin McKinley	The Hero and the Crown
1986	Patricia MacLachlan	Sarah, Plain and Tall
1987	Sid Fleischman	The Whipping Boy
1988	Russell Freedman	Lincoln: A Photobiography
1989	Paul Fleischman	Joyful Noise: Poems for Two Voices
1990	Lois Lowry	Number the Stars
1991	Jerry Spinelli	Maniac Magee
1992	Phyllis Reynolds Naylor	Shiloh
1993	Cynthia Rylant	Missing May
1994	Lois Lowry	The Giver
1995	Sharon Creech	Walk Two Moons
1996	Karen Cushman	The Midwife's Apprentice
1997	E L Konigsburg	The View From Saturday
1998	Karen Hesse	Out of the Dust
1999	Louis Sachar	Holes
2000	Christopher Paul Curtis	Bud, No Buddy
2001	Richard Peck	A Year Down Yonder
2002	Linda Sue Park	A Single Shard

Carnegie Medal (UK)

The Carnegie Medal was established in 1937. It is presented annually for an outstanding book published in the United Kingdom. It was initially limited to English writers whose books were published in England, but since 1969 any book written in English and published first, or concurrently, in the UK has been eligible.

1976	Jan Mark	Thunder and Lightnings
1977	Gene Kemp	The Turbulent Term of Tyke Tyler
1978	David Rees	The Exeter Blitz
1979	Peter Dickinson	Tulku
1980	Peter Dickinson	City of Gold
1981	Robert Westall	The Scarecrows
1982	Margaret Mahy	The Haunting
1983	Jan Mark	Handles
1984	Margaret Mahy	The Changeover
1985	Kevin Crossley-Holland	Storm
1986	Berlie Doherty	Granny was a Buffer Girl
1987	Susan Price	The Ghost Drum
1988	Geraldine McCaughrean	A Pack of Lies
1989	Anne Fine	Goggle-eyes
1990	Gillian Cross	Wolf
1991	Berlie Doherty	Dear Nobody
1992	Anne Fine	Flour Babies
1993	Robert Swindells	Stone Cold
1994	Theresa Breslin	Whispers in the Graveyard
1995	Philip Pullman	His Dark Materials: Northern Lights
1996	Melvin Burgess	Junk
1997	Tim Bowler	River Boy
1998	David Almond	Skellig
1999	Aidan Chambers	Postcards from No Man's Land
2000	Beverley Naidoo	The Other Side of Truth
2001	Terry Pratchett	The Amazing Maurice and his Educated Rodents

Children's Book Council Book of the Year (Australia)

The first Australian Children's Book of the Year Award was made in 1946. At that time and until 1952, there was a single category of award.

In 1952 a category for picture books was created, a Younger Readers category in 1982, the Eve Pownall Award for Non-Fiction in 1993, and the Early Childhood category in 2001.

The awards are primarily for literary merit but the judges also take other factors into consideration including the books' appeal to children, design and illustration.

1976	Ivan Southall	Fly West
1977	Eleanor Spence	The October Child
1978	Patricia Wrightson	The Ice is Coming
1979	Ruth Manley	The Plum-Rain Scroll
1980	Lee Harding	Displaced Person
1981	Ruth Park	Playing Beatie Bow

Award renamed *Book of the Year: Older Readers* and *Book of the Year: Younger Readers*.

Children's Book Council Book of the Year: Older Readers

1982	Colin Thiele	The Valley Between
1983	Victor Kelleher	Master of the Grove
1984	Patricia Wrightson	A Little Fear
1985	James Aldridge	The True Story of Lilli Stubeck
1986	Thurley Fowler	The Green Wind
1987	Simon French	All We Know
1988	John Marsden	So Much to Tell You
1989	Gillian Rubinstein	Beyond the Labyrinth
1990	Robin Klein	Came Back to Show You I Could Fly
1991	Gary Crew	Strange Objects
1992	Eleanor Nilsson	The House Guest
1993	Melina Marchetta	Looking for Alibrandi
1994	Isobelle Carmody Gary Crew	The Gathering Angel's Gate
1995	Gillian Rubinstein	Foxspell
1996	Catherine Jinks	Pagan's Vows
1997	James Moloney	A Bridge to Wiseman's Cove
1998	Catherine Jinks	Eye to Eye
1999	Phillip Gwynne	Deadly, Unna?
2000	Nick Earls	48 Shades of Brown

2001	Judith Clarke	Wolf on the Fold
2002	Sonya Hartnett	Forest

The Guardian Award for Children's Fiction (UK)

The Guardian Children's Fiction Award is awarded annually in September by *The Guardian* newspaper. The prize is given to an outstanding novel for children, published in the UK, written by a British or Commonwealth author.

1976	Nina Bawden	The Peppermint Pig
1977	Peter Dickinson	The Blue Hawk
1978	Diana Wynne Jones	A Charmed Life
1979	Andrew Davies	Conrad's War
1980	Ann Schlee	The Vandal
1981	Peter Carter	The Sentinels
1982	Michelle Magorian	Goodnight Mister Tom
1983	Anita Desai	The Village by the Sea: An Indian Family Story
1984	Dick King-Smith	The Sheep-Pig
1985	Ted Hughes	What is the Truth?
1986	Ann Pilling	Henry's Leg
1987	James Aldridge	The True Story of Spit MacPhee
1988	Ruth Thomas	The Runaways
1989	Geraldine McCaughrean	A Pack of Lies
1990	Ann Fine	Goggle-eyes
1991	Robert Westall	The Kingdom by the Sea
1992	Rachel Anderson Hilary McKay	Paper Faces The Exiles
1993	William Mayne	Low Tide
1994	Sylvia Waugh	The Mennymys
1995	Lesley Howarth	Maphead
1996	Philip Pullman	His Dark Materials: Northern Lights
1997	Melvin Burgess	Junk
1998	Henrietta Branford	Fire, Bed and Bone
1999	Susan Price	The Sterkarm Handshake
2000	Jacqueline Wilson	The Illustrated Mum
2001	Kevin Crossley-Holland	The Seeing Stone

Whitbread Book Award (UK)

The Whitbread Book Awards are given each year in five categories (novel, first novel, poetry, biography and children's book) to works by authors who have lived for three or more years in Great Britain or Ireland.

1976	Penelope Lively	A Stitch in Time
1977	Shelagh Macdonald	No End to Yesterday
1978	Phillipa Pearce	The Battle of Bubble & Squeak
1979	Peter Dickinson	Tulku
1980	Leon Garfield	John Diamond
1981	Jane Gardam	The Hollow Land
1982	W J Corbett	The Song of Pentecost
1983	Roald Dahl	The Witches
1984	Barbara Willard	The Queen of the Pharisees' Children
1985	Janni Howker	The Nature of the Beast
1986	Andrew Taylor	The Coal House
1987	Geraldine McCaughrean	A Little Lower than the Angels
1988	Judy Allen	Awaiting Developments
1989	Hugh Scott	Why Weeps the Brogan?
1990	Peter Dickinson	AK
1991	Diana Hendry	Harvey Angell
1992	Gillian Cross	The Great Elephant Chase
1993	Anne Fine	Flour Babies
1994	Geraldine McCaughrean	Gold Dust
1995	Michael Morpurgo	The Wreck of Zanzibar
1996	Anne Fine	The Tulip Touch
1997	Andrew Norriss	Aquilla
1998	David Almond	Skellig
1999	J K Rowling	Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban
2000	Jamila Gavin	Coram Boy
2001	Philip Pullman	The Amber Spyglass

Caldecott Medal (USA)

Established in 1938, the Caldecott Medal is presented by the American Library Association, Association for Library Service to Children.

The Medal is awarded annually to an American illustrator of picture books for children, published in the preceding year.

1976	retold Verna Aardema, illustrated by Leo & Diane Dillon	Why Mosquitoes Buzz in People's Ears
1977	Margaret Musgrove, illustrated by Leo & Diane Dillon	Ashanti to Zulu: African Traditions
1978	Peter Spier	Noah's Ark
1979	Paul Goble	The Girl Who Loved Wild Horses
1980	Donald Hall, illustrated by Barbara Cooney	Ox-Cart Man
1981	Arnold Lobel	Fables
1982	Chris Van Allsburg	Jumanji
1983	Blaise Cendrars, translated from the French and illustrated by Marcia Brown	Shadow
1984	Alice & Martin Provensen	The Glorious Flight: Across the Channel with Louis Bleriot
1985	retold Margaret Hodges, illustrated by Trina Schart Hyman	Saint George and the Dragon
1986	Chris Van Allsburg	The Polar Express
1987	Arthur Yorinks, illustrated by Richard Egielski	Hey, Al
1988	Jane Yolen, illustrated by John Schoenherr	Owl Moon
1989	Karen Ackerman, illustrated by Stephen Gammell	Song and Dance Man
1990	Ed Young	Lon Po Po: A Red-Riding Hood Story from China
1991	David Macaulay	Black and White
1992	David Wiesner	Tuesday
1993	Emily Arnold McCully	Mirette on the High Wire
1994	Allen Say	Grandfather's Journey
1995	Eve Bunting, illustrated by David Diaz	Smoky Night
1996	Peggy Rathmann	Officer Buckle and Gloria
1997	David Wisniewski	Golem
1998	Paul O Zelinsky	Rapunzel

1999	Jacqueline Briggs Martin, illustrated by Mary Azarian	Snowflake Bentley
2000	Simms Taback	Joseph Had a Little Overcoat
2001	Judith St. George, illustrated by David Small	So You Want to Be President?
2002	David Wiesner	The Three Pigs

Horn Book Awards (USA)

The Boston Globe-Horn Book Awards are among the most prestigious and respected national honours accorded children's books each year. Conceived in 1967, the awards were originally founded to encourage children's book publishing in the United States. Today, a committee of three judges, chosen for their professional contributions and experience in the field of children's literature, considers and evaluates hundreds of submissions from US publishers.

Authors and illustrators of titles submitted for consideration may be citizens of any country, but books must have been published in the United States to be eligible for the Boston Globe-Horn Book Award.

1976	Jill Paton Walsh	Unleaving
1977	Laurence Yep	Child of the Owl
1978	Ellen Raskin	The Westing Game
1979	Sid Fleischman	Humbug Mountain
1980	Andrew Davies	Conrad's War
1981	Lynn Hall	The Leaving
1982	Ruth Park	Playing Beatie Bow
1983	Virginia Hamilton	Sweet Whispers, Brother Rush
1984	Patricia Wrightson	A Little Fear
1985	Bruce Brooks	The Moves Make the Man
1986	Zib Oneal	In Summer Light
1987	Lois Lowry	Rabble Starkey
1988	Mildred D Taylor, illustrated by Max Ginsburg	The Friendship
1989	Paula Fox	The Village by the Sea
1990	Jerry Spinelli	Maniac Magee
1991	Avi	The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle
1992	Cynthia Rylant	Missing May
1993	James Berry	Ajeemah and His Son
1994	Vera Williams	Scooter
1995	Tim Wynne-Jones	Some of the Kinder Planets
1996	Avi, illustrated by Brian Floca	Poppy
1997	Kazumi Yumoto, translated by Cathy Hirano	The Friends
1998	Francisco Jiménez	The Circuit: Stories from the Life of a Migrant Child
1999	Louis Sachar	Holes

2000	Franny Billingsley	The Folk Keeper
2001	Marilyn Nelson	Carver: A Life in Poems
2002	Graham Salisbury	Lord of the Deep

Appendix 2: Mapping of texts and other requirements

Stage 4

Text	Text Requirements	Other Requirements
100 Great Poems	poetry	cultural heritages, literature from other countries and times, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Ariel, Zed and the Secret of Life	fiction	Australian, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Australian Imaginings	poetry	Australian, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Australian Museums and Galleries on Line	multimedia	Australian, cultural heritages, popular cultures and youth cultures, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Babe	film	Australian, popular cultures and youth cultures, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Bad Beginning, The	fiction	range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Baraka	film	range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Binna Binna Man, The	fiction	Australian, insight into Aboriginal experiences
Biography	multimedia	literature from other countries and times, popular cultures and youth cultures
Blabbermouth: The Play	drama	Australian, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Blue Death, The	nonfiction	literature from other countries and times
Body and Soul: A Musical Play	drama	Australian, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Bog Bodies	nonfiction	literature from other countries and times, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Book that Jack Wrote, The	fiction	picture book, literature from other countries and times
Book to Write Poems By, A	poetry	Australian, popular cultures and youth cultures, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Boy	nonfiction	literature from other countries and times
Bridge to Terabithia	fiction	literature from other countries and times, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Bumface	fiction	Australian, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Burnt Stick, The	fiction	Australian, insight into Aboriginal experiences, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives

By Heart: 101 Poems and how to remember them	poetry	cultural heritages, literature from other countries and times, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Cairo Jim and the Lagoon of Tidal Magnificence: a Sumatran tale of splendour	fiction	Australian, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Catherine, Called Birdy	fiction	literature from other countries and times, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Cay, The	fiction	literature from other countries and times, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Changing Stories	fiction	literature from other countries and times, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Chariots of Fire	film	range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Charlie Carver Stacks It!	fiction	Australian, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Chicken Run	film	popular cultures and youth cultures
Children's Literature Web Guide	multimedia	literature from other countries and times, popular cultures and youth cultures
Chinese Cinderella	nonfiction	literature from other countries and times, range of social gender and cultural perspectives
Colour of Sunshine, The	fiction	Australian, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Crash: The Search for the Stinson	nonfiction	Australian, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Cry of the Wolf	fiction	literature from other countries and times
Dark Crystal	film	popular cultures and youth cultures
Dracula	drama	literature from other countries and times, cultural heritages
E.T.	film	popular cultures and youth cultures
ELAC Theatre	multimedia	Australian, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Ever After	film	popular cultures and youth cultures
Faber Book of Greek Legends, The	nonfiction	literature from other countries and times, cultural heritages
Faeries	nonfiction	literature from other countries and times, cultural heritages
First Book of Samuel, The	fiction	Australian, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Fly Away Home	film	popular cultures and youth cultures, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Focus on Fiction	multimedia	literature from other countries and times, popular cultures and youth cultures
Galax-Arena	fiction	cultures, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives

Galaxy Quest	film	literature from other countries and times, popular cultures and youth cultures
Gary Paulsen	multimedia	literature from other countries and times, popular cultures and youth cultures
Giver, The	fiction	literature from other countries and times, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Goodnight Mr Tom	fiction	literature from other countries and times, cultural heritages, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Great Deeds of Heroic Women	nonfiction	literature from other countries and times, cultural heritages
Great Deeds of Super Heroes, The	nonfiction	literature from other countries and times, cultural heritages
Great Escape from City Zoo, The	fiction	Australian, picture book, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Haroun and the Sea of Stories	fiction	literature from other countries and times
Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone	fiction	literature from other countries and times, popular cultures and youth cultures
Hatchet	fiction	literature from other countries and times, popular cultures and youth cultures
Hatchet: The Truth	nonfiction	literature from other countries and times, popular cultures and youth cultures
Heroes	nonfiction	Australian, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Highwayman, The	poetry	cultural heritages, literature from other countries and times
Hitler's Daughter	fiction	Australian, popular cultures and youth cultures range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Hobbit Name Generator	multimedia	popular cultures and youth cultures
Hobbit, The	fiction	cultural heritages, literature from other countries and times
Holes	fiction	literature from other countries and times, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Honey Spot, The	drama	Australian, insight into Aboriginal experiences, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Island of the Blue Dolphins	fiction	literature from other countries and times, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Journey through Horror	fiction nonfiction	literature from other countries and times, popular cultures and youth cultures
Jungle Book, The	fiction	cultural heritages, literature from other countries and times
Kangaroos: Faces in the Mob	media	Australian, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives

Katherine Paterson	multimedia	literature from other countries and times, popular cultures and youth cultures
Keeper of the Isis Light, The	fiction	literature from other countries and times, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Kids Love a Mystery	multimedia	popular cultures and youth cultures
King of Shadows	fiction	literature from other countries and times, cultural heritages
Kundun	film	range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Ladyhawk	film	popular cultures and youth cultures, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Lady of Shalott, The	poetry	literature from other countries and times, cultural heritages
Legends	multimedia	literature from other countries and times, cultural heritages
Life Bytes	fiction	insight into multicultural experiences in Australia, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe, The	fiction	literature from other countries and times, cultural heritages
Lockie Leonard, Human Torpedo: the play	drama	Australian, popular cultures and youth cultures, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Lockie Leonard, Legend	fiction	Australian, popular cultures and youth cultures, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Lost Thing, The	fiction	Australian, picture book, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Lousy Little Sixpence	media	Australian, insight into Aboriginal experiences
Matilda	film	literature from other countries and times, popular cultures and youth cultures, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Morris Gleitzman home page	multimedia	Australian, popular cultures and youth cultures
Mrs Frisby and the Rats of Nimh	fiction	literature from other countries and times, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
My Place	fiction	picture book, insight into Aboriginal experiences, insight into multicultural experiences in Australia
Mysteries of Harris Burdick, The	fiction	picture book, literature from other countries and times, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Mysterious Ruins: Lost Cities and Buried Treasure	nonfiction	range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
NASA	multimedia	popular cultures and youth cultures
Never-ending Story, The	film	popular cultures and youth cultures

Night at the Opera	film	literature from other countries and times cultural heritages
Nips XI	fiction	insight into multicultural experiences in Australia, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Official Roald Dahl website	multimedia	literature from other countries and times, popular cultures and youth cultures
One Thousand and One Arabian Nights	nonfiction	literature from other countries and times, cultural heritages
Onion Tears	fiction	insight into multicultural experiences in Australia, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Outside Over There	fiction	picture book, literature from other countries and times, cultural heritages
Oxford Book of Animal Poems	poetry	literature from other countries and times, cultural heritages
Oxford Treasury of Classic Poems	poetry	literature from other countries and times, cultural heritages
Pagan's Vows	fiction	Australian, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Papunya School Book of Country and History	nonfiction	Australian, picture book, insight into Aboriginal experiences
Parvana	fiction	literature from other countries and times, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Pilawuk – When I Was Young	nonfiction	Australian, picture book insight into Aboriginal experiences
Pirates! Facts and Legends	multimedia	literature from other countries and times, popular cultures and youth cultures
Plays from Black Australia	drama	insight into Aboriginal experiences, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Poets' Corner	multimedia	cultural heritages, literature from other countries and times
Power of Poetry, The	poetry	literature from other countries and times, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Princess Bride, The	film	popular cultures and youth cultures
Quirky Tails!	fiction	Australian, popular cultures and youth cultures
Race to the Pole	nonfiction	literature from other countries and times
Refuge	fiction	Australian, popular cultures and youth cultures, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Rhyme Stew	poetry	literature from other countries and times, popular cultures and youth cultures
Round the Twist	media	Australian, popular cultures and youth cultures range of social, gender and cultural perspectives

Sadako	fiction	picture book, literature from other countries and times, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes	fiction	literature from other countries and times, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Secrets Can Kill Nancy Drew	multimedia	popular cultures and youth cultures
Secrets in the Fire	fiction	literature from other countries and times, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Shrek	film	popular cultures and youth cultures
Singing Hat, The	fiction	Australian, picture book, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Skellig	fiction	literature from other countries and times, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Soldier Boy	nonfiction	Australian, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Space Demons	drama	Australian, popular cultures and youth cultures, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Spangled Drongo, The	poetry	Australian, popular cultures and youth cultures, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Spitting Chips	drama	Australian, popular cultures and youth cultures
Staircase Cat, The	fiction	Australian, picture book, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Star Wars: The Magic of the Myth	multimedia	popular cultures and youth cultures
Stoked!: Real Life, Real Surf	nonfiction	Australian, popular cultures and youth cultures
SurLaLune Fairy Tale Pages	multimedia	literature from other countries and times
Take a Chance	poetry	Australian, popular cultures and youth cultures, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Thunderfish	fiction	Australian, popular cultures and youth cultures
Tolkien Bestiary	nonfiction	literature from other countries and times, cultural heritages
Tough Stuff	nonfiction	popular cultures and youth cultures, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Tuck Everlasting	fiction	literature from other countries and times, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives

Tunnel, The	fiction	picture book, literature from other countries and times, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Two Weeks with the Queen	fiction	Australian, popular cultures and youth cultures, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Two Weeks with the Queen: The Play	drama	Australian, popular cultures and youth cultures, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Unbelievable!	fiction	Australian, popular cultures and youth cultures, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Uncanny!	fiction	Australian, popular cultures and youth cultures, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Unreal!	fiction	Australian, popular cultures and youth cultures, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Walk Two Moons	fiction	literature from other countries and times, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Walker Book of Classic Poetry and Poets, The	poetry	literature from other countries and times, cultural heritages
Wanderings of Odysseus, The	nonfiction	literature from other countries and times, cultural heritages
Way Home	fiction	Australian, picture book, popular cultures and youth cultures, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Whale	drama	literature from other countries and times, popular cultures and youth cultures
Where the Wild Things Are	fiction	picture book, literature from other countries and times, cultural heritages
Who Framed Roger Rabbit?	film	popular cultures and youth cultures
Wild Girl, Wild Boy	drama	literature from other countries and times, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Wind in the Willows, The	fiction	literature from other countries and times, cultural heritages
Wringer	fiction	literature from other countries and times, popular cultures and youth cultures, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
WritingDEN	multimedia	popular cultures and youth cultures, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Z for Zachariah	fiction	literature from other countries and times, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Zlata's Diary	nonfiction	literature from other countries and times, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives

Stage 5

Text	Text Requirements	Other Requirements
10 Things I Hate about You	film	popular cultures and youth cultures, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
48 Shades of Brown	fiction	Australian, popular cultures and youth cultures
48 Shades of Brown	drama	Australian, popular cultures and youth cultures
Age of Empires	multimedia	popular cultures and youth cultures
All Stops Out	drama	Australian, popular cultures and youth cultures, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Among Ants, Between Bees	poetry	Australian, cultural heritages, literature from other countries and times, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
And the Big Men Fly	drama	Australian, popular cultures and youth cultures, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Animal Farm	fiction	cultural heritages, literature from other countries and times
Apollo 13	film	popular cultures and youth cultures
Australian Visions	poetry	Australian, cultural heritages range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Baboon King, The	fiction	literature from other countries and times, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Beast	fiction	literature from other countries and times, cultural heritages, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Beautiful Life, A	drama	insight into multicultural experiences in Australia, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Blackadder Goes Forth	media	popular cultures and youth cultures
Blackout	fiction	Australian, popular cultures and youth cultures
Blue Faraway, The	fiction	insight into multicultural experiences in Australia, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Blue Dress, The	fiction	Australian, popular cultures and youth cultures range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Borrowed Light	fiction	Australian, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Boy's Life, A	nonfiction	Australian, insight into Aboriginal experiences
Breaker Morant	film	Australian, cultural heritages, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives

Burger Brain: The Fast Food Musical	drama	Australian, popular cultures and youth cultures
Bush Mechanics	media	Australian, insight into Aboriginal experiences, popular cultures and youth cultures
Came Back to Show You I Could Fly	fiction	Australian, popular cultures and youth cultures, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Careful He Might Hear You	film	Australian, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Casablanca	film	cultural heritages
Changeover, The	fiction	literature from other countries and times, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Child of Hitler, A	nonfiction	literature from other countries and times, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Could do Better	drama	Australian, popular cultures and youth cultures, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Creative Writing for Teens	Multimedia	popular creative, youth culture
Crucible, The	drama	cultural heritage, literature from other countries and times
Cry Freedom	film	range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
CyberGuides: Teacher Guides and Student Activities	multimedia	cultural heritages, literature from other countries and times
Dags	drama	Australian, popular cultures and youth cultures, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Dead Poets Society	film	range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Deadly, Unna?	fiction	insight into Aboriginal experiences, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Diary of Anne Frank, The	nonfiction	cultural heritages, literature from other countries and times
Divine Wind, The	fiction	insight into multicultural experiences in Australia, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Dogs	fiction	Australian, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Dons, The	fiction	insight into multicultural experiences in Australia, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Double Vision	poetry	literature from other countries and times
Dreamwalker	fiction	Australian, picture book, popular cultures and youth cultures, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives

Edward Scissorhands	film	literature from other countries and times, popular cultures and youth cultures
eidolon.net: Australian SF Online	multimedia	Australian, popular cultures and youth cultures, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Eli's Wings	nonfiction	Australian, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Encarta	multimedia	range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Endless Steppe, The	nonfiction	literature from other countries and times
Endurance	nonfiction	cultural heritages, literature from other countries and times
Eva	fiction	literature from other countries and times, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Eyre Affair, The	fiction	literature from other countries and times, popular cultures and youth cultures
Falling	fiction	literature from other countries and times, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Fatal Storm	nonfiction	Australian, popular cultures and youth cultures
Fifth Quest, The	fiction	Australian, popular cultures and youth cultures
Fighting Reuben Wolfe	fiction	Australian, popular cultures and youth cultures, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Finding Grace	fiction	Australian, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
For the Term of his Natural Life	fiction	Australian, cultural heritages
Fortunate Life, A	nonfiction	Australian, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Fossils	drama	Australian, popular cultures and youth cultures, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Fox	fiction	Australian, picture book, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Frankenstein	drama	cultural heritages, literature from other countries and times
From Inside Sport	nonfiction	Australian, popular cultures and youth cultures
From the Ground Up	nonfiction	Australian, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Gallipoli	film	Australian, cultural heritages
Getting of Wisdom, The	fiction	Australian, cultural heritages
Glass Menagerie, The	drama	cultural heritages, literature from other countries and times

Great Expectations	fiction	cultural heritages, literature from other countries and times
Great Expectations	film	cultural heritages, popular cultural and youth cultures
Great War, The	multimedia	literature from other countries and times, cultural heritages
Green Monkey Dreams	fiction	Australian, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Greystoke: The Legend of Tarzan	film	popular cultures and youth cultures, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Head Book, The	nonfiction	Australian, popular cultures and youth cultures
Heartbreak Kid, The	drama	insight into multicultural experiences in Australia, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Hiroshima	nonfiction	cultural heritages, literature from other countries and times
House that was Eureka, The	fiction	insight into multicultural experiences in Australia, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
I Can Jump Puddles	nonfiction	Australian, cultural heritages, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Il Postino	film	range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Importance of Being Earnest, The	drama	cultural heritages, literature from other countries and times
Importance of Being Earnest, The	film	cultural heritages, popular cultures and youth cultures
In the Footsteps of Douglas Mawson	multimedia	Australian, cultural heritages
Into Thin Air	nonfiction	literature from other countries and times, popular cultures and youth cultures
Jane Austen Information Page	multimedia	cultural heritages, literature from other countries and times
Jane Eyre	fiction	cultural heritages, literature from other countries and times
Jane Eyre	drama	cultural heritages, literature from other countries and times
Jedda	film	Australian, insight into Aboriginal experiences
Jinx	poetry	Australian, popular cultures and youth cultures
Julius Caesar	drama	Shakespearean drama, cultural heritages
Katie.com	nonfiction	literature from other countries and times, popular cultures and youth culture, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Kid Stakes	drama	Australian, cultural heritages
Kon-Tiki Expedition, The	nonfiction	cultural heritages, literature from other countries and times

Land's Edge	nonfiction	Australian, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
League of their Own	film	popular cultures and youth cultures, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Letters from the Heart	nonfiction	Australian, cultural heritages, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Little Women	fiction	cultural heritages, literature from other countries and times
Living with Lady Macbeth	drama	Australian, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Looking for Alibrandi	fiction	insight into multicultural experiences in Australia, popular and youth culture
Looking for Alibrandi	drama	insight into multicultural experiences in Australia, popular and youth culture
Lord of the Flies	fiction	cultural heritages, literature from other countries and times
Lost Thing, The	fiction	Australian, picture book, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Louise Sauvage: My Story	nonfiction	Australian, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Love, Ghosts and Nose Hair	poetry	Australian, popular cultures and youth cultures, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Macbeth	drama	Shakespearean drama, cultural heritages, literature from other countries and times
Making the Most of It	fiction	Australian, popular cultures and youth cultures
Marsden Net	multimedia	Australian, popular cultures and youth cultures, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Memorial	fiction	Australian, picture book, cultural heritages, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Merchant of Venice, The	drama	Shakespearean drama, cultural heritages, literature from other countries and times
Merryl of the Stones	fiction	Australian, popular cultures and youth cultures
Metropolis	film	cultural heritages, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Midsummer Night's Dream, A	drama	Shakespearean drama, cultural heritages, literature from other countries and times
Midsummer Night's Dream, A	film	Shakespearean drama, cultural heritages, literature from other countries and times
Montana 1948	fiction	literature from other countries and times, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Mr William Shakespeare and the Internet	multimedia	cultural heritages, literature from other countries and times

Much Ado About Nothing	drama	Shakespearean drama, cultural heritages, literature from other countries and times
Much Ado About Nothing	film	Shakespearean drama, cultural heritages, literature from other countries and times
My Brilliant Career	fiction	Australian, cultural heritages, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
My Brother Jack	fiction	Australian, cultural heritages, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
My Cousin Clarette	fiction	literature from other countries and times, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
My Family and Other Animals	nonfiction	literature from other countries and times, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
My Forbidden Face	nonfiction	literature from other countries and times, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
My People	poetry	insight into Aboriginal experiences, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Myst	multimedia	popular cultures and youth cultures
Navigator, The	film	literature from other countries and times, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
New Poets Press – Writing Tips	multimedia	cultural heritages, literature from other countries and times
Newsfront	film	Australian, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Northern Lights	fiction	literature from other countries and times, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Norton Anthology of Poetry, The	poetry	cultural heritages, literature from other countries and times
Of Mice and Men	fiction	cultural heritages, literature from other countries and times
Old Man and the Sea, The	fiction	cultural heritages, literature from other countries and times
One Day of the Year, The	drama	Australian, cultural heritages, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Oxford Book of Modern Australian Verse	poetry	Australian, cultural heritages
Oxford Treasury of Time Poems	poetry	literature from other countries and times cultural heritages
Ozlit	multimedia	Australian, cultural heritages
Penguin Book of Modern Australian Poetry	poetry	Australian, cultural heritages, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Phantom Script	poetry	literature from other countries and times
Phoenix	nonfiction	literature from other countries and times
Picnic at Hanging Rock	film	Australian, cultural heritages

Picture of Dorian Gray, The	fiction	cultural heritages, literature from other countries and times
Play of Flowers for Algernon	drama	literature from other countries and times, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Playing Beatie Bow	fiction	Australian, cultural heritages, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Plays from Black Australia	drama	insight into Aboriginal experiences, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Pleasantville (M)	film	range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Poison under their lips	fiction	insight into Aboriginal experiences, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Pride and Prejudice	fiction	cultural heritages, literature from other countries and times
Pygmalion	drama	cultural heritages, literature from other countries and times
Rabbits, The	fiction	Australian, picture book, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Raiders of the Lost Ark	film	popular cultures and youth cultures
Rebecca	fiction	cultural heritages
Rebecca	film	cultural heritages, literature from other countries and times
Red Dog	nonfiction	range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Red Scarf Girl	nonfiction	literature from other countries and times, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Red Tree, The	fiction	Australian, picture book, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Ring of Bright Water	nonfiction	literature from other countries and times
Romeo and Juliet	drama	Shakespearean drama, cultural heritages, literature from other countries and times
Romeo + Juliet (M)	film	Shakespearean drama, cultural heritages, popular and youth culture
Rough with the Smooth: Stories of Australian Men	fiction/nonfiction	insight into multicultural experiences in Australia, popular and youth culture, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Sabriel	fiction	Australian, popular cultures and youth cultures
Schizm: Mysterious Journey	multimedia	popular cultures and youth cultures
Sense and Sensibility	film	cultural heritages, literature from other countries and times
Shakespeare on Film	multimedia	cultural heritages, literature from other countries and times
Shakespeare Stories	nonfiction	cultural heritages, literature from other countries and times
Shakespeare Web	multimedia	cultural heritages, literature from other countries and times

Shakespeare Resource Center	multimedia	cultural heritages, literature from other countries and times
Shakespeare's Globe Theatre	multimedia	cultural heritages, literature from other countries and times
Shane	film	popular cultures and youth cultures
Shifting Heart, The	drama	insight into multicultural experiences in Australia, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Shine	film	Australian, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Silas Marner	fiction	cultural heritages, literature from other countries and times
Spirit Song	poetry	Australian, insight into Aboriginal experiences
Stagestruck	multimedia	Australian, popular cultures and youth cultures
Staircase Cat, The	fiction	Australian, picture book, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Stand and Deliver	film	popular cultures and youth cultures
Sterkarm Handshake, The	fiction	literature from other countries and times, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Stone Cold	fiction	literature from other countries and times, popular cultures and youth cultures
Stripes of the Sidestep Wolf, The	fiction	Australian, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Summer of the Seventeenth Doll	drama	Australian, cultural heritages
Tales from a Suitcase: the Afghan Experience	nonfiction	insight into multicultural experiences in Australia
Taronga	fiction	Australian, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Tehanu	fiction	literature from other countries and times, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
This Accursed Land	nonfiction	Australian, cultural heritages
This Way Out 5 Plays	drama	Australian, popular cultures and youth cultures, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
To Kill a Mockingbird	fiction	cultural heritages, literature from other countries and times
To Kill a Mockingbird	film	cultural heritages, literature from other countries and times
To Kill a Mockingbird & Harper Lee	multimedia	cultural heritages, literature from other countries and times
Tomorrow when the War Began	fiction	Australian, popular cultures and youth cultures, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Touch Me	fiction	popular cultures and youth cultures, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives

Two Centuries of Australian Poetry	poetry	Australian, cultural heritages
Water Colours	fiction	Australian, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Watership Down	fiction	literature from other countries and times
Watertower, The	fiction	Australian, picture book, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Wayne Bennett: A Man for All Seasons	media	Australian, popular cultures and youth cultures, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
West Side Story	film	literature from other countries and times
What is the Matter with Mary Jane?	drama	Australian, popular cultures and youth cultures
What's Eating Gilbert Grape?	film	popular cultures and youth cultures, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Willow Tree and Olive	fiction	insight into multicultural experiences in Australia, popular cultures and youth cultures, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Wind Singer, The	fiction	literature from other countries and times, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Wolf on the Fold	fiction	Australian, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Wuthering Heights	film	cultural heritages
Year Nine are Animals	drama	Australian, popular cultures and youth cultures, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives
Yolngu Boy (M)	film	insight into Aboriginal experiences, range of social, gender and cultural perspectives