

Maximising your potential in English

Reading:

Broaden your horizons. Use the library (school or local) to widen the breadth of your reading. Librarians are fantastic at recommending new authors and genres for you to try out. Our school library has lots of recommend reading lists to suit all tastes (and anything they don't stock they can get in for you)

How many from the following genres have you read?

Fantasy	
Romance	
Historical novel	
Poetry	
Detective fiction	
Biography	
Gothic	
Classical myths and legends	
Dystopian and Sci-fi	
Victorian	
Play	

Aim to cover as many of these as possible over your KS3 experience in preparation for KS4. You don't have to love them, or even finish them, but you do need to expose yourself to them!

Writing:

Writing for an actual audience has a massive impact on your accuracy and enjoyment. Some ideas for this include setting up a blog or self-publishing your creative writing online.

<https://startbloggingonline.com/>

<https://wordpress.com/>

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

Non-fiction/current affairs

It is incredibly important for young people to know what is happening in the world around them and have an opinion on it. Reading and watching the news on a regular basis helps inform you of this. It is useful to begin with news specifically aimed at young people, before branching out to high-quality broadsheet outlets.

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

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround>

Play:

Don't underestimate the skills that are developed through games, especially those played as a family. These can include family favourites such as: Scrabble, Articulate and Boggle