Representing People and Politics
Form VI
NOVELS

Adams, Richard  
Watership Down  
F ADA:R
Fiver's sixth sense is never wrong according to his brother, Hazel. They had to leave immediately, and they had to persuade the other rabbits to join them. And so begins a long and perilous journey of a small band of rabbits in search of a safe home. Fiver's vision finally leads them to Watership Down, but here they face their most difficult challenge of all.

Adichie, Chimamanda  
Half of a Yellow Sun  
F ADI:C
Ngozi
Set in Nigeria during the 1960s, at the time of a vicious civil war in which a million people died and thousands were massacred in cold blood. The three main characters in the novel are swept up in the violence during these turbulent years. One is a young boy from a poor village who is employed at a university lecturer's house. Another is a young middle-class woman, Olanna, who has to confront the reality of the massacre of her relatives. And the third is a white man, a writer who lives in Nigeria for no clear reason, and who falls in love with Olanna's twin sister, a remote and enigmatic character.

Atwood, Margaret  
The Handmaid’s Tale  
F ATW:M
In the Republic of Gilead, Offred is a handmaid. As one of the few women left with functioning ovaries, the one role allowed her is to breed. If she deviates she will be hanged at the wall or sent out to die of radiation sickness. But the brainwashing hasn't worked as she has clear memories of the time before when women were free

Bellow, Saul  
Herzog  
F BEL:S
Herzog is alone, now that Madeleine has left him for his best friend. Solitary, in a crumbling house which he shares with rats, he is buffeted by a whirlwind of mental activity. People rumours that his mind had collapsed. But was it true? Lock for days in the custody of his rambling memories, Herzog scrabbles frantic letters which he never mails. His mind buzzes with conundrums and polemics, writing in a spectacular intellectual labyrinth. Is he crazy, or is he a genius?

Bellow, Saul  
Mr Sammler’s Planet  
F BEL:S
Mr. Artur Sammler, Holocaust survivor, intellectual, and occasional lecturer at Columbia University in 1960s New York City, is a “registrar of madness,” a refined and civilized being caught among people crazy with the promises of the future.

Bradbury, Ray  
Fahrenheit 451  
F BRA:R
Fahrenheit 451: the temperature at which book paper catches fire and burns. Guy Montag is a fireman. His job is to burn books, which are forbidden, being the source of all discord and unhappiness. Even so, Montag is unhappy; there is discord in his marriage. Are books hidden in his house? The Mechanical Hound of the Fire Department, armed with a lethal hypodermic, escorted by helicopters, is ready to track down those dissidents who defy society to preserve and read books.

Brooks, Geraldine  
People of the Book  
F BRO:G
When Hannah Heath gets a call in the middle of the night in her Sydney home about a precious medieval manuscript which has been recovered from the smoldering ruins of war-torn Sarajevo, she knows she is on the brink of the experience of a lifetime.

Carey, Peter True History of the Kelly Gang F CAR:P
Carey's retelling of the Ned Kelly legend paints a vivid picture of an Australia where English landowners skim off the country's best territory while government land grants allow the settlers just enough acreage to starve.

Catran, Ken Teresa Moran : Soldier F CAT:K
Teresa Moran is a fourth-generation soldier. She wants to live up to her father and uphold the family name, but must fight to gain acceptance among her male comrades. In Timor and Iraq she is put to the test. Can she break the cycle of wartime and peacetime violence that has always beset her family - and find the courage to change the future?

Coetzee, J.M. Waiting for the Barbarians F COE:J
For decades the Magistrate has run the affairs of a tiny frontier settlement, ignoring the impending war between the barbarians and the Empire. When the interrogation experts arrive he is jolted into sympathy with the victims and into an act of rebellion which lands him in prison.

Coetzee, J.M. The Master of Petersburg F COE:J
In 1869, Dostoevsky was summoned from Germany to St. Petersburg by the sudden death of his stepson. Coetzee dares to imagine the life of Dostoevsky, whom we watch as he obsessively follows his stepson’s ghost, trying to ascertain whether he was a suicide or a murder victim, and whether he loved or despised his stepfather.

Coetzee, J.M. Disgrace F COE:J
After years teaching Romantic poetry at the Technical University of Cape Town, David Lurie, middle-aged and twice divorced, has an impulsive affair with a student. The affair sours; he is denounced and summoned before a committee of inquiry. Willing to admit his guilt, but refusing to yield to pressure to repent publicly, he resigns and retreats to his daughter Lucy's isolated smallholding.

Collins, Suzanne Hunger Games F COL:S
Sixteen-year-old Katniss Everdeen regards it as a death sentence when she is forced to represent her district in the annual Hunger Games, a fight to the death on live TV. But Katniss has been close to death before - and survival, for her, is second nature.

Conrad, Joseph Under Western Eyes F CON:J
Describes a band of frustrated revolutionary exiles in Geneva. The narrator, an elderly English teacher in Geneva tells the story of the Russian student Razumov. This is a study of individuals under pressure, and it remains a most telling account of the fugitive life.

Conrad, Joseph The Secret Agent F CON:J
The secret agent explores the confused motives that lie at the heart of political terrorism. This is the story of a terrorist plot and its tragic consequences for both guilty and innocent alike.

Conrad, Joseph Nostromo F CON:J
AB ‘Banjo’ Paterson Library

Representing People and Politics

Form VI

A pessimistic portrayal of morally empty politicians in a fictional South American nation called Costaguana.

De Lillo, Don  White Noise  F DEL:D
Jack Gladney, head of Hitler studies at the College-on-the-Hill, is afraid of death, as is his wife Babette and his colleague Murray who runs a seminar on car crashes. The author exposes our common obsession with mortality, and Jack and Babette's biggest fear - who will die first?

Dickens, Charles  A Tale of Two Cities  F DIC:C
Portrays a world on fire, the split between Paris and London during the brutal and bloody events of the French Revolution.

Dickinson, Peter  AK  F DIC:P
Paul Kagomi is a child guerrilla, orphaned by war and schooled in bloodshed, who places his trust in his AK - his gun. With the promise of peace he comes out of the bush, only to find himself pursued, driven and hounded across hostile terrains.

Dobbs, Michael  House of Cards  F DOB:M
A battle begins to replace the Prime Minister, and Francis Urquhart will stop at nothing to gain power. Only one woman stands in his way, Mattie Storin, a political correspondent who has discovered a web of intrigue and financial corruption at the highest levels in Parliament and Fleet Street.

Doctorow, E.L.  The Book of Daniel  F DOC:E
As Cold War hysteria inflames America, FBI agents pay a surprise visit to a Communist and his wife in their New York apartment. After a trial that divides the country, the couple is sent to the electric chair for treason. Decades later, in 1967, their son Daniel struggles to understand the tragedy of their lives. But while he is tormented by his past and trying to appreciate his own wife and son, Daniel is also haunted, like millions of others, by the need to come to terms with a country destroying itself in the Vietnam War.

Dubosarsky, Ursula  The Red Shoe  F DUB:U
Six-year-old Matilda lives in 1950s Sydney with her parents and two sisters. Filtering through her eyes is the mad and marvelous world of that era and, punctuated by the headlines of the time, the lives of the three girls are juxtaposed against the undercurrents of their parents' marriage and the political dramas of the adult world.

Eggers, Dave  Your Fathers, Where are They? And the Prophets, Do They Live forever  F EGG:D
In a barracks on an abandoned military base, miles from the nearest road, Thomas watches as the man he has abducted wakes up. Kev, a NASA astronaut, doesn't recognize his captor, though Thomas remembers him. Kev cries for help. He pulls at the chain. But the ocean is close by, and nobody can hear him over the waves and wind. Thomas apologizes. He didn't want to have to resort to this. But they really needed to have a conversation, and Kev didn't answer his messages. And now, if Kev can just stop yelling, Thomas has a few questions.
Ellison, Ralph  
Invisible Man  
F ELL:R  
Tells the extraordinary story of a man who is invisible simply because people refuse to see him. Yet his powerfully depicted adventures - from a terrifying Harlem race riot to his expulsion from a Southern college - go far beyond the story of one man. The lives of countless millions are evoked in this superb portrait of a generation of black Americans.

Elton, Ben  
Gridlock  
F ELT:B  
Gridlock is when a city dies. Killed in the name of freedom. Killed in the name of oil and steel. Choked on carbon monoxide and strangled with a pair of fluffy dice.

Evans, Alwyn  
Walk in My Shoes  
F EVA:A  
After a perilous and terrifying escape from war-torn Afghanistan, Gulnessa and her family find themselves in Australia, a place they know nothing about. They are exhausted and traumatised but so full of hope. At last somewhere safe to call home. But their struggle isn't over yet. They are confined a detention centre for asylum seekers and forced to prove their refugee status.

Franzen, Jonathan  
Freedom  
F FRA:J  
An epic of contemporary love and marriage. This is the story of the Berglunds, their son Joey, their daughter Jessica and their friend Richard Katz. It is about how we use and abuse our freedom; about the beginning and ending of love; teenage lust; the unexpectedness of adult life; why we compete with our friends; how we betray those closest to us; and why things almost never work out as they 'should'. It is a story about the human heart, and what it leads us to do to ourselves and each other.

Gordimer, Nadine  
Burger’s Daughter  
F GOR:N  
Details a group of white anti-apartheid activists in South Africa seeking to overthrow the South African government. It is set in the mid-1970s, and follows the life of Rosa, the title character, as she comes to terms with her father Lionel Burger's legacy as an activist in the South African Communist Party.

Grass, Gunter  
The Tin Drum  
F GRA:G  
Oskar Matzerath, born with an unusually sharp mind, describes the amoral conditions through which he has lived in twentieth-century Germany, both during and after the Hitler regime. This strange narrator stops growing when he is three years old and remains three feet tall until sometime later, when he decides to grow a few inches more. After the war he escapes to West Germany. Depicted as a freak, Oskar symbolizes the deformed society of this century.

Graves, Robert  
I, Claudius  
F GRA:R  
Into the racy 'autobiography' of Clau-Clau-Clau-dius, the pitiful stammerer who was destined to become Emperor in spite of himself, Graves packs the everlasting intrigues, the depravity, the bloody purges and mounting cruelty of the reigns of Augustus and Tiberius, soon to culminate in the deified insanity of Caligula.

Greene, Graham  
The Quiet American  
F GRE:G  
Into the intrigue and violence of Indo-China comes Pyle, a young idealistic American sent to promote democracy through a mysterious 'Third Force'. As his naive optimism starts to cause bloodshed, his friend Fowler, a cynical foreign correspondent, finds it hard to stand aside and watch. But even as he intervenes he wonders why: for the same of politics, or for love...?
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hamid, Mohsin</td>
<td>The Reluctant Fundamentalist</td>
<td>F HAM:M</td>
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<td>Hardy, Frank</td>
<td>Power Without Glory</td>
<td>F HAR:F</td>
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<td>Harris, Robert</td>
<td>The Ghost</td>
<td>F HAR:R</td>
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<td>Harris, Robert</td>
<td>Imperium</td>
<td>F HAR:R</td>
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<td>Heller, Joseph</td>
<td>Catch-22</td>
<td>F HEL:J</td>
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<td>Hosseini, Khaled</td>
<td>The Kite Runner</td>
<td>F HOS:K</td>
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<td>Ishiguro, Kazuo</td>
<td>The Remains of the Day</td>
<td>F ISH:K</td>
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<td>Kadare, Ismail</td>
<td>The Siege</td>
<td>F KAD</td>
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<td>Kadare, Ismail</td>
<td>Agamemnon’s Daughter</td>
<td>F KAD:I</td>
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At a cafe table in Lahore, a Pakistani man converses with a stranger. As dusk deepens to dark, he begins the tale that has brought him to this fateful meeting.

Explores the social structure from the period of time from World War II until the Depression, and is concerned with one man, John West. It traces the journey of this ruthless man from the middle working class in a Melbourne suburb to a position of influence, power, and wealth.

Adam Lang has been Britain's longest serving - and most controversial - prime minister of the last half century. And now that he's left office, he's accepted one of history's largest cash advances to compose a tell-all (or at least, tell-some) memoir of his life and years of power. As pressure mounts for Lang to complete this magnum opus, he hires a professional ghostwriter to finish the book. As he sets to work, the ghostwriter discovers many more secrets than Lang intends to reveal, secrets with the power to alter world politics, secrets with the power to kill.

Of all the great figures of Rome, none was more fascinating than Marcus Cicero. Brilliant lawyer and orator, famous wit and philosopher, he launched himself, at twenty seven, into the treacherous world of Roman politics, determined to attain imperium, the supreme power in the state.

A satirical indictment of military madness and stupidity, and the desire of the ordinary man to survive it. It is a tale of the dangerously sane Captain Yossarian, who spends his time in Italy plotting to survive.

Winter, 1975. Afghanistan - a country hidden in the corner of Asia, quietly ruled over by a fading monarchy on the verge of an internal coup. But in Kabul, 12-year-old Amir has his own concerns. He is desperate to win the annual kite fighting tournament, then chase the last kite and bring it home triumphantly, to prove to his father that he has the makings of a man.

Stevens, the ageing butler of Darlington Hall, has just embarked on a motoring trip through the west of England that will become a journey deep into his past. A remarkable, strange and moving book.

The Ottoman Army - the most powerful the world had known by the early Fifteenth Century - lays siege to a Christian fortress in the mountains of Albania. Above the colourful host looms the great dark wall of the citadel that has to be overcome.

Sacrificed to further a father's blood-soaked career; sacrificed for the common good; sacrificed, then forgotten. This work tells a story of love denied, then shattered under the chilling wheels of the state.
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author</th>
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<tr>
<td>Kadare, Ismail</td>
<td>Chronicle in Stone</td>
<td>F KAD:I</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>In a seamless mosaic of dreams and games, Kadare's young narrator both reflects and distorts events as his ancient, magical home town are lost forever in the madness and brutality of the Second World War. A disturbing mix of tragedy, comedy, politics and sexuality.</strong></td>
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<td>Kadare, Ismail</td>
<td>The File on H</td>
<td>F KAD:I</td>
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<td><strong>Society in rural Albania in the early 1930s had evolved little since the Middle Ages. What better place for two Irish-American scholars to study the tradition of oral poetry, in the hope of understanding how the Homeric epics came to be composed and handed down, to elucidate the strange commerce between memory and forgetting?</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Kadare, Ismail</td>
<td>The Successor</td>
<td>F KAD:I</td>
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<td><strong>A powerful political novel based on the sudden, mysterious death of the man who had been handpicked to succeed the hated Albanian dictator, Enver Hoxha - Mehmet Sehu. Did he commit suicide or was he murdered?</strong></td>
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<td>Kafka, Franz</td>
<td>The Trial</td>
<td>F KAF:F</td>
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<td><strong>The Trial is the terrifying tale of Josef K., a respectable bank officer who is suddenly and inexplicably arrested and must defend himself against a charge about which he can get no information.</strong></td>
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<td>Kesey, Ken</td>
<td>One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest</td>
<td>F KES:K</td>
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<td><strong>Life in a mental institution is predictable and suffocating under the iron rule of Nurse Ratched, who tolerates no disruption of routine on her all-male ward. Half-Indian Chief Bromden, almost invisible on the ward because he is deaf and dumb, describes the arrival of rowdy Randle Patrick McMurphy. McMurphy takes on the nurse as an adversary in his attempt to organize his fellow inmates and breathe some self-esteem and joy into their lives.</strong></td>
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<td>Kingston, Maxine Hong</td>
<td>Woman Warrior</td>
<td>F KIN:M</td>
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<td><strong>Tells the story of growing up Chinese in America in the second half of the twentieth century.</strong></td>
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<td>Klein, Joe</td>
<td>Primary Colors: a Novel of Politics</td>
<td>F KLE:J</td>
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<td><strong>A look behind the scenes of modern American politics, Primary Colors is a funny, wise, and dramatic story with characters and events that resemble some familiar, real-life figures.</strong></td>
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<td>Koch, Christopher</td>
<td>The Year of Living Dangerously</td>
<td>F KOC:C</td>
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<td><strong>An Australian journalist, Hamilton, joins the Western Press Corps in Jakarta, Indonesia, during the abortive revolution of 1965.</strong></td>
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<td>Koestler, Arthur</td>
<td>Darkness at Noon</td>
<td>F KOE:A</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>This is a remarkable book, a grimly fascinating interpretation of the logic of the Russian Revolution, indeed of all revolutionary dictatorships. At the same time, it is a tense and subtly intellectualized drama of prison psychology.</strong></td>
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Kundera, Milan  The Joke  F KUN:M
A novel of thwarted love and revenge, set against the background of Cold War Prague. A sharp, sardonic study in deception and self-deception.

Kundera, Milan  The Book of Laughter and Forgetting  F KUN:M
This book is a novel in the form of variations. Various parts follow each other like the various stages of a journey leading into the interior of a theme, the interior of a thought, the interior of a single, unique situation the understanding of which recedes from my sight into the distance. It is a book about laughter and forgetting, about forgetting and about Prague, about Prague and about the angels.

Kundera, Milan  The Unbearable Lightness of Being  F KUN:M
The story of irreconcilable love and infidelities in which the author addresses himself to the nature of 20th 'being', offering a wide range of brilliant and amusing philosophical speculations.

Lanchester, John  Capital  F LAN:J
The residents of Pepys Road, London - a banker and his shopaholic wife, an old woman dying of a brain tumour, a family of Pakistani shop owners, the young football star from Senegal and his minder - all receive an anonymous postcard one day with a simple message: We Want What You Have. Who is behind it? What do they want? As the mystery of the postcards deepens, the world around Pepys Road is turned upside down by the financial crash and all of its residents' lives change beyond recognition over the course of the next year.

Lee, Harper  To Kill a Mockingbird  F LEE:H
Through the eyes of Scout and Jem Finch, Lee explores the issues of race and class in the Deep South of the 1930s with compassion and humour. She also creates one of the great heroes of literature in their father, whose lone struggle for justice pricks the conscience of a town steeped in prejudice and hypocrisy.

Makine, Andre  Testament Francaise  F MAK:A
The story of a boy's awakening in two parallel worlds: the Soviet Union of the Stalinist era and a mysterious, Atlantis-like country, created by a near-alchemical process from old photographs and newspapers clippings, and anecdotes his grandmother tells on the long Siberian nights of the school holidays.

Maloney, Shane  Stiff  F MAL:S
Don't you just hate it when someone tries to kill you and you don't know who or why? Single father Murray Whelan thinks the life of a political minder is tough enough. Throw in a femocrat ex, a snap-frozen Turk and a killer car, and he soon finds things spinning out of control. Then the red-hot Ayisha knocks on Murray's door.

Maloney, Shane  The Brush-off  F MAL:S
Angelo Agnelli has been Minister for the Arts for twelve hours and already artists have started killing themselves. Or so it seems when Marcus Taylor's body is fished from the Arts Centre moat. Was it really an act of protest over the state of arts funding? And what's the political damage if the suicide note becomes public?
**Mantel, Hilary**  
*BWolf Hall*  
England, the 1520s. Henry VIII is on the throne, but has no heir. Cardinal Wolsey is his chief advisor, charged with securing the divorce the pope refuses to grant. Into this atmosphere of distrust and need comes Thomas Cromwell, first as Wolsey's clerk, and later his successor.

**Mantel, Hilary**  
*Bring Up the Bodies*  
This sequel to *Wolf Hall*, delves into the heart of Tudor history with the downfall of Anne Boleyn. Though he battled for seven years to marry her, Henry is disenchanted with Anne Boleyn. She has failed to give him a son and her sharp intelligence and audacious will alienate his old friends and the noble families of England.

**Marquez, Gabriel Garcia**  
*On Hundred Years of Solitude*  
The story of seven generations of the Buendia family and of Macondo, the town they have built. Though little more than a settlement surrounded by mountains, Macondo has its wars and disasters, even its wonders and its miracles. A microcosm of Columbian life, its secrets lie hidden, encoded in a book, and only Aureliano Buendia can fathom its mysteries and reveal its shrouded destiny.

**Marques, Gabriel Garcia**  
*The Autumn of the Patriarch*  
As the citizens of an unnamed Caribbean nation creep through dusty corridors in search of their tyrannical leader, they cannot comprehend that the frail and withered man lying dead on the floor can be the self-styled General of the Universe. Their arrogant, manically violent leader, known for serving up traitors to dinner guests and drowning young children at sea, can surely not die the humiliating death of a mere mortal?

**Martin, George R.R.**  
*A Game of Thrones*  
In a land where summers can last decades and winters a lifetime, trouble is brewing. The cold is returning, and in the frozen wastes of the north of Winterfell, sinister and supernatural forces are massing beyond the kingdom's protective wall. At the centre of the conflict lie the Starks of Winterfell, a family as harsh and unyielding as the land they were born to.

**Morrison, Toni**  
*Beloved*  
It is the mid-1800s. At Sweet Home in Kentucky, an era is ending as slavery comes under attack from the abolitionists. The worlds of Halle and Paul D. are to be destroyed in a cataclysm of torment and agony. The world of Sethe, however, is to turn from one of love to one of violence and death - the death of Sethe's baby daughter Beloved, whose name is the single word on the tombstone, who died at her mother's hands, and who will return to claim retribution.

**Morrison, Toni**  
*Song of Solomon*  
Milkman Dead was born shortly after a neighborhood eccentric hurled himself off a rooftop in a vain attempt at flight. For the rest of his life he, too, will be trying to fly.

**Naipaul, V.S.**  
*A Bend in the River*  
This novel chronicles both an internal journey and a physical trek into the heart of Africa, a place caught between the dangerously alluring modern world and its own tenacious past and traditions.
Forty-year-old Ralph Singh, exiled in disgrace from his Caribbean home island, recalls, in a shoddy London boarding house, the too-large and too-fast events that proved beyond his control and destroyed his political career.

Sri Lanka, a country steeped in centuries of tradition, now forced into the late twentieth century by the ravages of the civil war. Into this maelstrom steps Anil Tissera, a young woman born in Sri Lanka, educated in England and America, who returns to Sri Lanka as a forensic anthropologist sent by an international human rights group to investigate the organised murder campaigns engulfing the island.

Tells of the escapades of Sir Percy Blakeney, whose mission is to help the innocent victims of the Reign of Terror escape the guillotine. Assuming ever more daring and ingenious disguises he succeeds in both outwitting his opponents and in keeping his activities a secret from his English friends.

'All animals are equal. But some animals are more equal than others.' Mr Jones of Manor Farm is so lazy and drunken that one day he forgets to feed his livestock. The ensuing rebellion under the leadership of the pigs Napoleon and Snowball leads to the animals taking over the farm.

Hidden away in the Record Department of the sprawling Ministry of Truth, Winston Smith skillfully rewrites the past to suit the needs of the Party. Yet he inwardly rebels against the harsh totalitarian world he lives in, which demands absolute obedience and controls him through the all-seeing telescreens and the watchful eye of Big Brother, symbolic head of the Party.

The epic story of the life and loves of a poet-physician during the turmoil of the Russian Revolution. Taking his family from Moscow to what he hopes will be shelter in the Ural Mountains, Yuri Zhivago finds himself instead embroiled in the battle between the Whites and the Reds, and in love with the tender and beautiful nurse Lara.

Suffused with rich satire, chaotic brilliance, verbal turbulence and wild humour, The Crying of Lot 49 opens as Oedipa Maas discovers that she has been made executrix of a former lover's estate. The performance of her duties sets her on a strange trail of detection, in which bizarre characters crowd in to help or confuse her. But gradually, death, drugs, madness and marriage combine to leave Oepida in isolation on the threshold of revelation, awaiting The Crying of Lot 49.

Nazi-style system sweeps through an American high school when a classroom experiment goes too far.
Roth, Veronica  Divergent  F ROT:V
For sixteen-year-old Tris, the world changes in a heartbeat when she is forced to make a terrible choice. Turning her back on her family, Tris ventures out, alone, determined to find out where she truly belongs. Shocked by the brutality of her new life, Tris can trust no one. And yet she is drawn to a boy who seems to both threaten and protect her.

Rushdie, Salman  Midnight’s Children  F RUS:S
Saleem Sinai was born at midnight, the midnight of India's independence, and finds himself mysteriously 'handcuffed to history' by the coincidence. He is one of 1,001 children born at the midnight hour, each of them endowed with an extraordinary talent - and whose privilege and curse it is to be both master and victims of their times.

Rushdie, Salman  Shame  F RUS:S
Omar Khayyam Shakil had three mothers who shared the symptoms of pregnancy, as they did everything else, inseparably. At their six breasts, Omar was warned against all feelings and nuances of shame. It was training which would prove useful when he left his mothers' fortress to face his shameless future.

Rushdie, Salman  The Satanic Verses  F RUS:S
Just before dawn one winter's morning, a hijacked jumbo jet blows apart high above the English Channel. Two figures fall to the sea, later washing up, alive, on a beach. It was an ambiguous miracle, for both seem to have acquired curious changes. Both have been chosen as opponents in the eternal wrestling match between Good and Evil.

Smith, Martin Cruz  Gorky Park  F SMI:M
A triple murder in a Moscow amusement center: three corpses found frozen in the snow, faces and fingers missing. Chief homicide investigator Arkady Renko is brilliant, sensitive, honest, and cynical about everything except his profession. To identify the victims and uncover the truth, he must battle the KGB, FBI, and New York police as he performs the impossible - and tries to stay alive doing it.

Stroud, Jonathan  Ptolemy’s Gate  F STR:J
The climax of the Bartimaeus trilogy in which a long-standing conspiracy comes to fruition and Bartimaeus, Nathaniel and Kitty face a final enemy which threatens them all.

Swift, Jonathan  Gulliver’s Travels  F SWI:J
Swift's great satire takes the reader with the hero, Gulliver, to the land of Lilliput which is inhabited by little people.

Vonnegut, Kurt  Jailbird  F VON:K
This wry tale follows bumbling bureaucrat Walter F. Starbuck from Harvard to the Nixon White House to the penitentiary as Watergate’s least known co-conspirator. But the humor turns dark when Vonnegut shines his spotlight on the cold hearts and calculated greed of the mighty, giving a razor-sharp edge to an unforgettable portrait of power and politics in our times.

Wright, Richard  Native Son  F WRI:R
Gripping and furious, Native Son follows Bigger Thomas, a young black man who is trapped in a life of poverty in the slums of Chicago. Unwittingly involved in a wealthy woman's death, he is hunted relentlessly, baited by prejudiced officials, charged with murder and driven to acknowledge a strange pride in his crime.
<table>
<thead>
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<th>Author</th>
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<tr>
<td>Arendt, Hannah</td>
<td>The Origins of Totalitarianism</td>
<td>321.9 ARE</td>
<td>A historical account of the forces that crystallized into totalitarianism: The ebb and flow of nineteenth-century anti-Semitism (she deemed the Dreyfus Affair a dress rehearsal for the Final Solution) and the rise of European imperialism, accompanied by the invention of racism as the only possible rationalization for it. For Arendt, totalitarianism was a form of governance that eliminated the very possibility of political action.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Confucius</td>
<td>The Analects</td>
<td>181.122 CHU</td>
<td>The 'Analects' is a Confucian classic which appeared in book form in the Warring States Period. Comprising 20 'books' or chapters, it is a record of the words and deeds of Confucius, the philosopher and educator of ancient China and his disciples and students.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Didion, Joan</td>
<td>The White Album (in: Live and Learn)</td>
<td>814.5 DID</td>
<td>Collection of essays about American culture and politics during the 60s and 70s.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gandhi, Mahatma</td>
<td>Autobiography: the Story of My Experiments With Truth On Order</td>
<td></td>
<td>My purpose, Mahatma Gandhi writes of this book, is to describe experiments in the science of Satyagraha, not to say how good I am. Satyagraha, Gandhi's nonviolent protest movement (satya = true, agraha = firmness), came to stand, like its creator, as a moral principle and a rallying cry; the principle was truth and the cry freedom.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kingston, Maxine Hong</td>
<td>China Men</td>
<td>920 KIN</td>
<td>The author chronicles the lives of three generations of Chinese men in America, woven from memory, myth and fact. Here's a storyteller's tale of what they endured in a strange new land.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Li, Cunxin</td>
<td>Mao’s Last Dancer</td>
<td>920 LI</td>
<td>A biography of a young Chinese peasant boy who emerged from abject poverty, and became principal dancer with some of the greatest ballet companies of the world.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Machiavelli, Niccolo</td>
<td>The Prince</td>
<td>320.1 MAC</td>
<td>As a diplomat in turbulent fifteenth-century Florence, Niccolo Machiavelli (1469-1527) knew how quickly political fortunes could rise and fall. The Prince is his controversial handbook about the dynamics of power, leadership and strategy. Machiavelli's shrewd argument that sometimes it is necessary to abandon ethics to succeed made his name notorious.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mandela, Nelson</td>
<td>Long Walk to Freedom</td>
<td>968.06092 MAN</td>
<td>The memoirs of one of the political leaders of our time, 'Long Walk to Freedom' re-creates the drama of the experiences that helped shape Nelson Mandela's destiny. It is the story of hardship, resilience and ultimate triumph told with a clarity and eloquence of a born leader.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More, Thomas Sir</td>
<td>Utopia</td>
<td>321.07 MOR</td>
<td>Depicts an imaginary society free of private property, sexual discrimination and religious intolerance.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
In 1936 Orwell went to Spain to report on the Civil War and instead joined the fight against the Fascists. This famous account describes the war and Orwell’s experiences.

Orwell, George 

*Homage to Catalonia* 823.912 ORW

Brings together Orwell's longer, major essays and a fine selection of shorter pieces.

Plato 

*The Republic* LOEB 888.01 PLA:E

One of the greatest works of philosophy and political theory ever produced, Plato's *The Republic* has shaped western thought for thousands of years, remaining as relevant today as when it was first written in the Ancient Greece. Presented in the form of a dialogue between Socrates and three different interlocutors, it is an enquiry into the notion of a perfect community and the ideal individual within it.

Robertson, Geoffrey 

*The Justice Game* 340.11 ROB

An attempt to explain why justice matters. Justice is the great game precisely because its rule provides the opportunity of winning against the most powerful, and against the State itself.

Sales, Leigh 

*Detainee 002: The Case of David Hicks* 343.73 HIC:S

In a remote American military base at Guantanamo Bay, 385 enemy combatants sit waiting for their day in court. Among them is David Hicks, who was detained for five years until the March 2007 hearing where he pleaded guilty to the charge of providing material support for terrorism.

Tacitus 

*The Annals of Imperial Rome* 937.07 TAC:G

Tells of the reigns of Tiberius, Caligula, Claudius and Nero - a crucial period when the Roman Empire was at its zenith and the foundations of modern Europe were being laid. Tacitus's account, which is the earliest record to have survived, stands as a historical and literary masterpiece.

Thucydides 

*The History of the Peloponnesian War* 938.05 THU

Thucydides' classic work is a foundational text in the history of Western political thought. His narrative of the great war between Athens and Sparta in the fifth century BC is now seen as a highly sophisticated study of the nature of political power itself: its exercise and effects, its agents and victims, and the arguments through which it is defended and deployed.

Tocqueville, Alexis de 

*Democracy in America* 320.973 TOC

In 1831 Tocqueville set out from post-revolutionary France on a journey across America that would take him 9 months and cover 7,000 miles. The result was "Democracy in America": a subtle and prescient analysis of the life and institutions of 19th-century America. Tocqueville's study of the strengths and weaknesses of an evolving democratic society has been quoted by every American president since Eisenhower. It remains a key point of reference for any discussion of the American nation or the democratic system.

Tomasi di Lampedusa, Guiseppe 

*The Leopard* 853.91 TOM

A bitter-sweet tale of quiet lives in the small and apparently timeless world of mid-19th century Sicilian nobility. Through the eyes of his princely protagonist, the author chronicles the details of an aristocratic, pastoral society, torn apart by revolution, death and decay.
GRAPHIC NOVELS AND PICTURE BOOKS

Briggs, Raymond

**The Tin-pot Foreign General and the Old Iron Woman**

PB BRI

A deceptively simple narrative about the Falklands War becomes a powerful and provocative anti-war statement.

Marsden, John & Tan, Shaun

**The Rabbits**

PB MAR

The rabbits came many grandparents ago. They built houses, made roads, and had children. They cut down trees. There was a whole continent of rabbits...

Satrapi, Marjane

**Persepolis**

GRA SAT

The story of a girl growing up in Iran during the Revolution.

Spiegelman, Art

**Maus**

GRA SPI

Spiegelman portrays the Nazis as cats, the Jews as mice, the Poles as pigs and the Americans as dogs. They are all terrifyingly human.

FILMS/TV

**All the President’s Men (M)** Director: Alan J. Pakula

DVD F ALL

In the Watergate Building, lights go on and four burglars are caught in the act. That night triggered revelations that drove a U.S. President from office. Washington reporters Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein grabbed the story and stayed with it through doubts, denials and discouragement.

**Amazing Grace**

DVD F AMA

The idealist William Wilberforce maneuvers his way through Parliament, endeavoring to end the British transatlantic slave trade.

**The Assassination of Richard Nixon (MA15+)** Director: Niels Mueller

DVD F ASS

Focuses on the tragic story of the deeply disillusioned Sam Bicke who is bitter that the 'American Dream' is for him, and many like him, an empty promise.

**The Battleship Potemkin (PG)**

DVD F BAT

Based on historical events the movie tells the story of a riot at the battleship Potemkin. What started as a protest strike when the crew was given rotten meat for dinner ended in a riot. The sailors raised the red flag and tried to ignite the revolution in their home port Odessa.

**Borgen (M)**

DVD F BOR

A drama series about the fight for political power - and about the personal sacrifices and consequences for those involved on and behind the political stage.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Format</th>
<th>Rating</th>
<th>Additional Info</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Butler</td>
<td>DVD</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>BUT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>As Cecil Gaines serves eight presidents during his tenure as a butler at the White House, the civil rights movement, Vietnam, and other major events affect this man's life, family, and American society.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cabaret (M)</td>
<td>DVD</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>CAB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Classic screen musical directed by Bob Fosse and set in depression-era Berlin. Liza Minnelli stars as Sally Bowles, a singer at the decadent Kit Kat Club; Michael York is her gay flatmate Brian; and Helmet Griem is the rich aristocrat who sleeps with both of them. As they enjoy the variety and excitement of their bohemian existence, all three gradually become aware of the Nazi's rise to power and realise that the freedom offered by Weimar Berlin will be a short-lived one.</td>
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<td>Charlie Wilson’s War</td>
<td>On Order</td>
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<tr>
<td>A drama based on a Texas congressman Charlie Wilson's covert dealings in Afghanistan, where his efforts to assist rebels in their war with the Soviets have some unforeseen and long-reaching effects.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Crash (MA15+)</td>
<td>DVD</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>CRA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>An unflinching look at the complexities of racial conflict in America. Diving headfirst into the diverse melting pot of post-9/11 Los Angeles, this compelling urban drama tracks the volatile intersections of a multi-ethnic cast, examining fear and bigotry from multiple perspectives as characters career in and out of each other's lives.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deadwood (TV)</td>
<td>Not held at SGS</td>
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<tr>
<td>A show set in the late 1800s, revolving around the characters of Deadwood, South Dakota; a town of deep corruption and crime.</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Dismissal</td>
<td>On Order</td>
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<tr>
<td>The drama surrounding the dismissal of Mr. Gough Whitlam as the Labor Prime Minister of Australia - on 11 November, 1975 - by the then Governor-General of Australia, Sir John Kerr - and the subsequent installation, in Parliament, of the Liberal 'caretaker government' and Mr. Malcolm Fraser as the 'caretaker' Prime Minister.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Divergent</td>
<td>DVD</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>DIV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In a world divided by factions based on virtues, Tris learns she's Divergent and won't fit in. When she discovers a plot to destroy Divergents, Tris and the mysterious Four must find out what makes Divergents dangerous before it is too late.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Downfall (MA 15+)</td>
<td>DVD</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>DOW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traudl Junge, the final secretary for Adolf Hitler, tells of the Nazi dictator's final days in his Berlin bunker at the end of WWII.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fahrenheit 9/11 (M) Director: Michael Moore</td>
<td>DVD</td>
<td>973.931</td>
<td>FAH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Through actual footage, interviews, and declassified documents, Michael Moore illustrates the connections President Bush has to the royal house of Saud of Saudi Arabia and the bin Laden's, how the president got elected on fraudulent circumstances and then proceeded to blunder through his duties while ignoring warnings of the looming betrayal by his foreign partners. When the treachery hits with the 9/11 attacks, Moore explains how Bush failed to take immediate action to defend the nation.</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
A Few Good Men (M15+)
Drama about the dangerous difference between following orders and following one's conscience.

Gallipoli (PG)
A compelling story of friendship and adventure between two Australian soldiers in 1915. The echoes of history blend with the friends’ extraordinary destiny as they become part of a legendary World War I confrontation at Gallipoli.

Game of Thrones
Nine noble families fight for control of the mythical land of Westeros. Political and sexual intrigue is pervasive. Robert Baratheon, King of Westeros, asks his old friend Eddard, Lord Stark, to serve as Hand of the King, or highest official. Secretly warned that the previous Hand was assassinated, Eddard accepts in order to investigate further.

Gandhi (M)
The life of the lawyer who became the famed leader of the Indian revolts against the British rule through his philosophy of nonviolent protest.

Gattaca (M15+)
A genetically inferior man assumes the identity of a superior one in order to pursue his lifelong dream of space travel.

Gladiator (M)
When a Roman general is betrayed and his family murdered by a corrupt Emperor, he comes to Rome as a gladiator to seek revenge.

Good Night, and Good Luck
In the early 1950's, the threat of Communism created an air of paranoia in the United States and exploiting those fears was Senator Joseph McCarthy of Wisconsin. However, CBS reporter Edward R. Murrow and his producer Fred W. Friendly decided to take a stand and challenge McCarthy and expose him for the fear-monger he was.

Gran Torino (M)
Disgruntled Korean War veteran Walt Kowalski sets out to reform his neighbor, a teenager who tried to steal his prized possession: a 1972 Gran Torino.

Great Dictator (G)
Dictator Adenoid Hynkel tries to expand his empire while a poor Jewish barber tries to avoid persecution from Hynkel's regime.

Henry V (PG)
Henry V, King of England is not much more than a token, puppet King. Clergymen lead him to believe that he ought to invade France to secure his legal ancestral claim to the throne.
Homeland (TV) DVD F HOM
Carrie Mathison, a brilliant but volatile CIA agent, suspects that a rescued American POW may not be what he seems. Is Marine Sgt. Nicholas Brody a war hero... or an Al Qaeda sleeper agent plotting a spectacular terrorist attack on U.S. soil? Following her instincts, Mathison will risk everything to uncover the truth her reputation, her career and even her sanity.

House of Cards DVD F HOU
House of Cards is a political drama series that slithers behind the curtain of power, sex, ambition, love, greed and corruption in modern Washington D.C.

The Hunger Games (M) DVD F HUN
Every year in the ruins of what was once North America, the evil Capitol of the nation of Panem forces each of its twelve districts to send a teenage boy and girl to compete in the Hunger Games. A twisted punishment for a past uprising and an ongoing government intimidation tactic, The Hunger Games are a nationally televised event in which “Tributes” must fight with one another until one survivor remains.

Invictus DVD F INV
Nelson Mandela, in his first term as the South African President, initiates a unique venture to unite the apartheid-torn land: enlist the national rugby team on a mission to win the 1995 Rugby World Cup.

King Lear (M) DVD 822.33 T3
The Royal Shakespeare Company’s adaptation of the Bard’s famous tale of jealously and betrayal.

Local Hero (PG) DVD F LOC
A Texas oil billionaire attempts to buy out a remote Scottish fishing village for an oil refinery and sends ace dealmaker Mac to secure his property rights. However, local eccentric Ben Knox refuses to sell his beach shack and Mac is forced to negotiate on Ben's terms.

The Newsroom (TV) (M) Director: Aaron Sorkin DVD F NEW
The series centres on a cable news anchor, his new executive producer, his newsroom staff, and their boss. Together they set out on a patriotic and idealistic mission to do the news well in the face of corporate and commercial obstacles and their own personal entanglements.

North Country (MA15+) DVD F NOR
A fictionalized account of the first major successful sexual harassment case in the United States - Jenson vs. Eveleth Mines, where a woman who endured a range of abuse while working as a miner filed and won the landmark 1984 lawsuit.

The Queen DVD F QUE
After the death of Princess Diana, HM Queen Elizabeth II struggles with her reaction to a sequence of events nobody could have predicted.

Ran (PG) DVD F RAN
Akira Kurosawa's re-telling of Shakespeare's King Lear magically mixes Japanese history, Shakespeare's plot and Kurosawas' own feelings about loyalty.
Robin Hood DVD F ROB
In 13th century England, Robin and his band of marauders confront corruption in a local village and lead an uprising against the crown that will forever alter the balance of world power.

Selma DVD F SEL
A chronicle of Martin Luther King's campaign to secure equal voting rights via an epic march from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama in 1965.

Triumph of the Will (G) Director: Leni Riefenstahl DVD 943.086 RIE
Beginning with Hitler's God-like descent from the clouds to a rapturous welcome from the locals, the film is a series of rallies, speeches and parades.

Treme (TV) (MA15+) DVD F TRE
Amid the ruins of an American city ordinary people - musicians, chefs, residents - find themselves clinging to a unique culture and wondering if the city that gave birth to that culture still has a future.

Tudors DVD F TUD
Passion, ambition, and treachery collide in this compelling drama series about the early years of King Henry VIII's infamous 40-year reign.

V for Vendetta DVD F V
In a future British tyranny, a shadowy freedom fighter, known only by the alias of "V", plots to overthrow it with the help of a young woman.

Wag the Dog (M15+) Director: Barry Levinson DVD F WAG
After being caught in a scandalous situation days before the election, the president does not seem to have much of a chance of being re-elected. One of his advisors contacts a top Hollywood producer in order to manufacture a war in Albania that the president can heroically end, all through mass media.

The West Wing (PG) DVD F WES
The West Wing provides a glimpse into the inner workings of the Oval Office as seen through the eyes of an eclectic group of staffers led by President Josiah Bartlett.

Whale Rider (PG) DVD F WHA
In a small New Zealand coastal village, Maori claim descent from Paikea, the Whale Rider. In every generation, a male heir has succeeded to the chiefly title. When twins are born and the boy twin dies, Koro, the chief is unable to accept his granddaughter Pai as a future leader.

Whitlam : The Power and the Passion DVD 920 WHI
An extraordinary story of the hard-fought rise and dramatic fall of a visionary Australian prime minister during one of the country's most turbulent eras. Heroic to some, flawed to others, his changes still echo today.

The Wire (TV) (MA15+) DVD F WIR
Viewed from the perspective of the principal characters, the police and their targets, The Wire captures a world where easy distinctions between good and evil and crime and punishment are challenged at every turn.
Yes Minister
A satirical British sitcom set principally in the private office of a British Cabinet minister in the fictional Department of Administrative Affairs in Whitehall.

POETRY

Yeats, W.B.  
The Wild Swans at Coole (in: The W.B. Yeats : Major Works)  821.912 YEA
Yeats, W.B.  
Michael Robartes and the Dancer (in: The W.B. Yeats : Major Works)  821.912 YEA
Yeats, W.B.  
The Tower (in: The W.B. Yeats : Major Works)  821.912 YEA

DRAMA/PLAYS

Bolt, Robert  
A Man for All Seasons  On Order
Dorfman, Ariel  
Death and the Maiden  862.64 DOR
Eliot, T.S.  
Murder in the Cathedral (in: The Complete Poems and Plays of T.S. Eliot)  821.912 ELI
Fo, Dario  
Accidental Death of an Anarchist (in: Plays 1)  852.91 FO
Frayn, Michael  
Copenhagen  822.914 FRA
Fugard, Athol  
Master Harold…and the Boys  On Order
Golding, William  
The Brass Butterfly  822.914 GOL
Shakespeare, William  
Macbeth  822.33 T5
Shakespeare, William  
King Lear  822.33 T3
<table>
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<tr>
<td>Shakespeare, William</td>
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<td>Shaw, George Bernard</td>
<td>Saint Joan</td>
<td>On Order</td>
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<tr>
<td>Williamson, David</td>
<td>Don’s Party</td>
<td>A822.3 WIL</td>
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<td>The Club</td>
<td>A822.3 WIL</td>
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<td>Whiticker, Alan</td>
<td>Speeches That Reshaped the World</td>
<td>808.85 SPE</td>
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<tr>
<td>MacArthur, Brian</td>
<td>The Penguin Book of Historic Speeches</td>
<td>808.85 PEN</td>
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<td>Midnight Oil (band)</td>
<td>20,000 Watt R.S.L.</td>
<td>CD 781.66 MID</td>
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<tr>
<td>Radiohead (band)</td>
<td>Ok Computer</td>
<td>CD 781.66 RAD</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quarterly Essay</td>
<td>Located at the magazine shelves</td>
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*OTHER*