



7-9 Booklist by Author - New

When using this booklist, please be aware of the need for guidance to ensure students select texts considered appropriate for their age, interest and maturity levels.

★This title also appears on the 9plus booklist.

⦿This title is usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.

PRC ID	Author/Title	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
877870	Abdullah, Chelsea Stardust thief, The	Orbit	2022	9780316368865	Neither here nor there, but long ago... Loulie al-Nazari is the Midnight Merchant: a thief who, with the help of her jinn bodyguard, hunts and sells illegal magic. When she saves the life of a cowardly prince, she draws the attention of his powerful father, the sultan, who blackmails her into finding an ancient lamp that has the power to revive the barren land, at the cost of sacrificing all jinn. With no choice but to obey or be executed, Loulie journeys with the sultan's oldest son to find the artifact. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 & above

PRC ID	Author/Title	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
751931	Acevedo, Elizabeth Clap when you land	HarperTeen	2020	9780062882769	Camino Rios lives for the summers when her father visits her in the Dominican Republic. But this time, on the day when his plane is supposed to land, Camino arrives at the airport to see crowds of crying people... In New York City, Yahaira Rios is called to the principal's office, where her mother is waiting to tell her that her father, her hero, has died in a plane crash. Separated by distance - and Papi's secrets - the two girls are forced to face a new reality in which their father is dead and their lives are forever altered. And then, when it seems like they've lost everything of their father, they learn of each other. In a dual narrative novel in verse that brims with both grief and love, award-winning and bestselling author Elizabeth Acevedo writes about the devastation of loss, the difficulty of forgiveness, and the bittersweet bonds that shape our lives. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
1019912	Acevedo, Elizabeth & Pippins, Andrea (ill) Inheritance: A visual poem	Quill Tree Books	2022	9780062931948	A beautiful adaptation of Elizabeth Acevedo's famous spoken-word poem with captivating illustrations.
995953	Akhurst, Graham Borderland	University of Western Australia Press	2023	9781760802646	Jono, a city-born Indigenous teenager is trying to figure out who he really is. Life in Brisbane hasn't exactly made him feel connected to his Country or community. After graduating, Jono and his friend Jenny score gigs at the Aboriginal Performing Arts Centre and an incredible opportunity comes knocking - interning with a documentary crew. Their mission? To promote a big government mining project in the Queensland desert. The catch? The details are sketchy, and the land is rumoured to be sacred. But who cares? Jono is stoked just to be part of something meaningful. Life takes a turn when they land in Gambari, a tiny rural town far from the city. He's haunted by an eerie omen of death, battling suffocating panic attacks, and even experiencing visions of Wudun - a malevolent spirit from the Dreaming. What's the real story behind the gas mining venture? Are the documentary crew hiding something from Jono? Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.
941519	Armstrong, Kate J Nightbirds	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2023	9781760526900	In a dazzling new fantasy world full of whispered secrets and political intrigue, the magic of women is outlawed but three girls with unusual gifts have the chance to change it all.

PRC ID	Author/Title	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
1017746	Barty, Ash Champion: a memoir of tennis and teamwork	HarperCollins Australia	2023	9781460762738	<p>This is a tennis story. It is a family story. It is a teamwork story. It is the story of how Ash Barty got to be who she is today. It is her story about the power and joy of doing that thing you love and seeing where it can take you.</p> <p>This book reflects on her whole tennis journey, from the first time she picked up a racquet to packing her bag after winning the Australian Open in 2022.</p> <p>It explains how she worked through self-doubt, homesickness and a break from the sport to realise her tennis dreams, winning Wimbledon and ranking number 1 in the world.</p> <p>Ash is hoping her story will inspire you to follow your dreams.</p>
862082	Bayron, Kalynn This Poison Heart	Bloomsbury	2021	9781547603909	<p>When Briseis's aunt dies and wills her a dilapidated estate in rural New York, Bri and her parents decide to leave Brooklyn behind for the summer. Hopefully there, surrounded by plants and flowers, Bri will finally learn to control her gift. But their new home is sinister in ways they could never have imagined - it comes with a specific set of instructions, an old-school apothecary, and a walled garden filled with the deadliest botanicals in the world that can only be entered by those who share Bri's unique family lineage.</p>
798307	Blake Kendare Three Dark Crowns	VIZ Media	2016	9780062385437	<p>In every generation on the island of Fennbirn, a set of triplets is born: three queens, all equal heirs to the crown and each possessor of a coveted magic. Mirabella is a fierce elemental, able to spark hungry flames or vicious storms at the snap of her fingers. Katharine is a poisoner, one who can ingest the deadliest poisons without so much as a stomachache. Arsinoe, a naturalist, is said to have the ability to bloom the reddest rose and control the fiercest of lions.</p> <p>But becoming the Queen Crowned isn't solely a matter of royal birth. Each sister has to fight for it. And it's not just a game of win or lose - it's life or death. The night the sisters turn sixteen, the battle begins.</p>

PRC ID	Author/Title	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
1019917	Boyce, Kristy Dungeons and drama	Delacorte Press	2024	9780593647011	Musical lover Riley has big aspirations to become a director on Broadway. Crucial to this plan is to bring back her high school's spring musical, but when Riley takes her mom's car without permission, she's grounded and stuck with the worst punishment: spending her after-school hours working at her dad's game shop. Riley can't waste her time working when she has a musical to save, so she convinces Nathan - a nerdy teen employee - to cover her shifts and, in exchange, she'll flirt with him to make his gamer-girl crush jealous. But Riley didn't realize that meant joining Nathan's Dungeons & Dragons game... or that role playing would be so fun. Soon, Riley starts to think that flirting with Nathan doesn't require as much acting as she would've thought...
901576	Boyle, Alice Dancing barefoot	Text Publishing Co	2022	9781922458711	Patch is out of place at Mountford College- she wears the wrong clothes, she's not sporty or popular, she lives in a small flat above her dad's record shop a world away from the leafy suburb where she goes to school. And she has a secret long-term crush on basketball star Evie Vanhoutte. Evie barely knows Patch exists until an accident involving a bottle of ink and Patch's school uniform sparks a friendship that's equal parts exhilarating and terrifying, and very, very confusing. As if that weren't enough, Patch is also trying to deal with a jealous school bully, forgetting to be supportive of her transitioning best friend, Edwin, and worrying about how a potential new stepmother could throw everything off course. Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.
916567	Bracken, Alexandra Silver in the bone	Hachette Australia	2023	9781786541727	Tamsin Lark is a hollower. In search of treasure, she breaks into the ancient crypts of dark sorceresses. Now, rumours are swirling about a powerful ring from Arthurian legend, a ring that could free her brother, Cabell, from a curse. But they aren't the only ones who covet it... Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.

PRC ID	Author/Title	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
1066631	🌐 Brewin, Emily Way home, A	MidnightSun Publishing	2024	9781922858382	16 year old Grace hadn't attended school for so long her Nan took her back to her sick, medicated mum. Now in Melbourne, her 6 months ago version of herself of love and responsibility more complex, homeless she plans to change the only thing that matters, her mum's happiness, in a world that has lost it's texture. Deep and heart-warming friendships of others who survive, a piano in the library, a book about courage all help her seize the moment and be brave now that the door in her heart has cracked open. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 or above.
820988	🌐 Brueggemann, Wibke Love is for losers	Farrar, Straus and Giroux	2020	9780374313975	Fifteen-year-old Phoebe thinks falling in love is vile and degrading, and vows never to do it. Then, due to circumstances not entirely in her control, she finds herself volunteering at a local thrift shop. There she meets Emma . . . who might unwittingly upend her whole theory on life. Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.
1013504	Burke, Cliff Occasionally happy family, An	HarperCollins US	2021	9780063286672	There are zero reasons for Theo Ripley to look forward to his family vacation. Not only are he, sister Laura, and nature-obsessed Dad going to Big Bend, the least popular National Park, but once there, the family will be camping. And Theo is an indoor animal. It doesn't help that this will be the first vacation they're taking since Mom passed away. Once there, the family contends with 110 degree days, wild bears, and an annoying amateur ornithologist and his awful teenage vlogger son. Then, Theo's dad hits him with a whopper of a surprise: the whole trip is just a trick to introduce his secret new girlfriend. Theo tries to squash down the pain in his chest. But when it becomes clear that this is an auditioning-to-be-his-stepmom girlfriend, Theo must find a way to face his grief and talk to his dad before his family is forever changed.
871666	🌐 Caught, Alexis Queer up	Walker Books	2022	9781406399226	Queer Up is an affirming text to help teens navigate the world of being a member of the LGBTQI or an ally. Chapters include one on coming out, mental health and interpersonal relationships to help the reader understand how to navigate their world with confidence and safety. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Author/Title	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
903076	Challen, Craig & Harris, Richard & Ellis, Henican Against all odds young readers edition	Puffin Australia	2022	9780143778202	In June 2018 the Thai soccer team the Wild Boars went on a walk into a cave after practice. After unexpected rains, they became trapped deep in the cave system, unable to escape, with no communication to the outside world, no food and no fresh water. For 17 days they remained in the caves as an international cave diving team, including the authors, Australians Richard Harris and Craig Challen worked on a plan to rescue the team. With the lives of the soccer team and the rescuers in danger, they built trust and showed incredible resilience to rescue each member of the team.
889561	Chee, Traci We are not free	HarperCollins US	2022	9780358131434	When Pearl Harbour is attacked in World War 2, Japanese Americans suddenly find themselves hated and treated as enemies in their own country. Follow the story of 14 Japanese Americans and their families as they try to navigate their way through a society that hates them and internment camps. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
936337	Comer, Karen Grace notes	Hachette Australia	2023	9780734421722	A debut YA verse novel about what happens when the paths of a young busking violinist and an aspiring street artist collide during a pandemic. Set in one of the most locked-down cities in the world - Melbourne, 2020.
1019856	Connolly, Vincent Heavy as a mountain	Booktopia Editions	2020	9781925995114	A WWII Japanese airman in the two greatest battles fought on Australian soil, shamed by his capture, faces a dilemma - uphold the honour of his family or risk the life of his young wife? Duty is heavy as a mountain, death as light as a feather. He conceals his true name to protect his family. Suicide is a possibility, but he's drawn away from his military indoctrination by experiences with ordinary Australians, drawn towards living out his own individuality. But the young bride he left behind had vowed she would kill herself if he died. He could write to tell her he lives, but would that reveal his cowardice, shame his family? A tale of the Australian WWII experience, seen through the eyes of this deeply troubled man.
916593	Constable, Kate Tumbleglass	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2023	9781760526962	When Rowan discovers a mysterious ring in Ash's room, it transports the sisters back to party in 1999 being held in the same house, and it's their mother's birthday party! While Ash dances, Rowan unwittingly disrupts the laws of time and, when she returns to the present day, Ash is missing. With the help of their mysterious neighbour Verity, Rowan travels back through time to gather the magic needed to rescue Ash before her sister disappears forever.

PRC ID	Author/Title	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
1019833	*Copley, Vince & McInerney, Lea Wonder of little things, The: Young readers edition	ABC Books	2024	9781460714843	<p>Welcome to my story.</p> <p>I didn't learn a lot in school, not in the classroom, anyway. But I learned a lot from life.</p> <p>"Always remember you're as good as anybody else", Vince's mother, Kate, often told him. And he was, becoming a champion footballer and premiership-winning coach. But change was in the air, and Vince wanted to help make life better for his people too.</p> <p>At every step, Vince found light in the darkness, the friendly face in the crowd, the small moments that make the world go round.</p> <p>Welcome to the wonder of little things. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 or above.</p>
1019843	Crew, Gary In the secret place		2023	9780645714937	<p>What does a teenage boy do when he has no friends? When everyone who knows him sneers? When he is laughed at to his face? The answer is simple. That boy chooses his own path. That boy makes his own way in life. That boy grows stronger. He finds his secret place and there- alone, in the dark- he grows even stronger. Ben Gardner is such a boy. Ben Gardner could be you...</p>
1019863	Doak, Amy Eleanor Jones is not a murderer	Penguin	2023	9781761342417	<p>Eleanor Jones has just started at her ninth high school in less than five years. Since she and her mum are always moving on, Eleanor likes to stay on the outer, to stay invisible. So maybe it's just bad luck that the very first person she talks to at Coinda Secondary College, Angus Marshall, is stabbed and left for dead the same day. The last message on Angus's phone is from Eleanor Jones.</p> <p>After being interviewed by the police, Eleanor realises they don't have all the facts and decides to investigate. In trying to understand what happened to Angus, Eleanor inadvertently becomes involved with an eclectic group of fellow students - all of whom have their own reasons to want to solve the mystery.</p> <p>As they slowly unravel Angus's secrets, Eleanor discovers the true meaning of friendship - and uncovers a danger lurking at the heart of the town...</p>

PRC ID	Author/Title	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
871665	Foster, Kate Bravest word, The	Walker Books Australia Pty Ltd	2022	9781760654719	Matt is having trouble on the football field. Real trouble. All the enjoyment has been sucked out of the game that was once his whole life and now his body seems to be seizing up. He is tired all the time and overwhelmed by thoughts that leave him sure he's second rate. Which is when Matt meets Cliff, an abandoned puppy that needs saving. Perhaps together, they can help each other discover how to be brave.
1019621	French, Jackie Secret sparrow	HarperCollins Australia	2023	9781460760468	It's 1916 and sixteen-year-old Jean McLain is working in a Post Office in a quiet village in England. Jean wins the national Morse code competition and that sets her on an adventure to help the British army as a secret signaller in France. Jean begins her time in France on a British army base as part of an all-female signaller team, sending and decoding messages to and from the battle front. Soon she finds herself right on the battlefields in a trench as the British army begins to make the final push towards Germany. Based on true events, this story of adventure, courage and unshakable loyalty restores women and girls to their place in history that the British authorities have tried to erase.
941471	Furedi, Chelsey Project Nought	HarperCollins Australia	2023	9780358381693	Ren Mittal's last memory in the year 1996 is getting on a bus to visit his mystery pen pal Georgia. When he wakes up in 2122, he thinks he might be hallucinating...he's not! Tech conglomerate Chronotech sponsors a time-travel program to help students in 2122 learn what history was really like...from real-life subjects who've been transported into the future...and Ren is one of them. In 2122, Ren's life in the 1990s is practically ancient history-and Ren's not sure how to feel about that. On top of it all, he learns that his memory will be wiped of all things 2122 before he's sent back to the '90s. Adding to Ren's complicated feels, he's forming a crush on his student guide, Mars. And when he crosses paths with the absolute last person he expected to see in the future, he has a bigger problem on his hands: What if Chronotech isn't the benevolent organization they claim to be, and he and his fellow subjects are in great danger.
763456	Gabrielle Gloury Girls Change the Game	Ford Street Publishing	2020	9781925804492	The first Scorpions Under 14 Girls team from the Westpark Football Club has just been announced and this is their very first game. The Scorpions are up against the match-ready competition, the Eastvale Ravens. You can steer the Scorpions to victory by choosing what happens in the game in this choose your own adventure story!

PRC ID	Author/Title	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
1019629	Gloury, Gabrielle & Hyde, Michael Girls change the game: First Game back	Ford Street Publishing	2023	9781922696304	The Westpark Scorpions are back for a second season. They have a new coach and some new players. Will they be victorious this year? In this choose-your-own adventure, it's up to you!
1019866	Godwin, Jane Look me in the eye	Lothian Books	2024	9780734420794	Bella and Connie have been close friends for years and they continue to support each other as they start high school and come out of the lockdowns imposed due to the pandemic. Connie's cousin, Mish, has shown up under some mysterious circumstances and the girls are forced to welcome the older girl into their friendship. Mish is not a good fit and does not want to be a good fit. Bella and Connie need to find the balance between doing what they think is right, while trying not to attract the wrath of Mish.
901578	Godwin, Jane Walk in the dark, A	Hachette Australia	2022	9780734420770	Its just a walk in the dark. Nothing to worry about. That's what the leader, Johan says about the overnight hike in the dark with no adults. But does he know that a storm is coming? Five teenagers head into the bush but none are aware of what the night will bring. Each will have to find the strength to survive. They have to face the unknown, battle the elements and their own demons. Its a night that will change everything.
845528	Gruss, Karin & Krejtschi, Tobias (ill) One red shoe	Wilkins Farago Pty Ltd	2014	9780987109965	You're about to go to a place where thousands, even millions, of kids live every day. You're about to enter a war zone. There's been an attack. Grabbing his camera, a newspaper photographer rushes to the nearest clinic. What he finds there will change the way he thinks forever. Inspired by real events in the Middle East, events you might see any day on the TV news, this groundbreaking and acclaimed picture book for older readers will take you to a place far from comfort and safety. What could you possibly have in common with the kids who live there? You're about to find out...

PRC ID	Author/Title	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
798533	Gudsnuk, Kristen Making friends	Scholastic Australia	2022	9781338139211	Sixth grade was so much easier for Danielle. All her friends were in the same room and she knew what to expect from her life. But now that she's in seventh grade, she's in a new middle school, her friends are in different classes and forming new cliques and she is completely lost. When Danielle inherits a magical sketchbook from her eccentric great aunt Elma, she draws Madison, an ideal best friend that springs to life right off the page! But even when you create a best friend, it's not easy navigating the ups and downs of relationships and before long Danielle and Madison are not exactly seeing eye-to-eye.
992258	Hagger-Holt, Sarah Just like everyone else	Usborne Publishing Ltd	2023	9781801315784	Thirteen-year-old Aidan can't breathe in his crowded family home. Running is his only respite from four loud sisters and involved, touchy-feely parents. Then his mum makes an announcement: she's having another baby. Only, this time it's not for her; she will be a surrogate for gay couple Justin and Atif. Aidan is incensed. As if his family wasn't embarrassing - or big - enough already. But he's also scared. Aidan thinks he might be gay, and he's really struggling to accept this possibility. He's definitely not ready to come out, but what if being around Justin and Atif exposes him as gay? If only he was just like everyone else.
1019892	Hancock, Bonnie Girl who touched the stars, The	ABC Books	2024	9780733343353	254 days, 12,700 kilometres, sea sickness, sharks, crocodiles and ocean. Bonnie Hancock broke numerous records on her fastest ever circumnavigation by paddle around Australia but that wasn't the achievement she is most proud of. Testing the limits of her mental and physical toughness, she learned what it means to overcome adversity and how important teamwork and perspective truly are. What looks distressing from the rocky shore or storm-tossed waves can be inspiring when you look to the heavens. The Girl Who Touched the Stars is a love story, a travelogue and an exhilarating exploration of human ambition coming face to face with the beauty and power of nature. But most of all it's a lesson in overcoming self-doubt, trusting others and finding your true self. Bonnie demonstrates vividly and honestly the resilience of the human spirit and the importance of reaching for the stars.

PRC ID	Author/Title	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
1019857	Heath, Jack If you tell anyone, you're next	Scholastic Australia	2023	9781761292019	Jayden Jones is missing. Everyone thinks he ran away. His best friend, Zoe Gale, knows they're wrong. Zoe's search leads her to The 17 - a secret group chat, used by anonymous teens to blackmail the powerless. To join, you have to put on a mask and record yourself completing a challenge. The challenges are always illegal. Sometimes dangerous. Maybe deadly. Who are The 17? What have they done to Jayden? And what will they do to silence Zoe? A rollercoaster of suspense and twists from the author of the Liars series.
1019910	Heath, Jack Spy Academy: The Peak	Scholastic Australia	2024	9781761290473	Nolan Hawker is invited to attend the Peak, the world's most dangerous school. There he learns to crack codes, fly planes and deceive enemies so he can someday infiltrate the deadly anarchist group, Swarm. But Swarm is already inside the Peak, and they have a plan - the kind that no-one walks away from. Does Nolan have what it takes to save his friends, his school, the world?
1019631	Herrick, Steven In times of bushfires and billy buttons	Ford Street Publishing	2023	9781922696366	Ethan's parents are in jail, his aunt works too hard, the new kid, Joshua, has a scar on his arm, a firestorm threatens the suburb, while wildflowers bloom along the school fence. For Ethan, Audrey and their friends, it's time to choose what's important and what to leave behind.
903334	Ho, Joanna Silence that binds us, The	HarperCollins US	2022	9780063059344	Maybelline Chen isn't the Chinese Taiwanese American daughter her mother expects her to be. Her brother Danny, on the other hand, has just been admitted to Princeton University, but secretly struggles with depression, and when he dies by suicide, May's world is shattered. In the aftermath, racist accusations are hurled forcing May to challenge the ugly stereotypes. Who gets to tell our stories and who gets silenced? There are always consequences. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
785084	Holm, Jennifer L. & Holm, Matthew Sunny side up	Graphix	2022	9780545741668	When is a summer vacation not really a summer vacation? 10-year-old Sunny Lewin has been packed off to Florida to live with her grandfather for the summer. At first she thought Florida might be fun - it is the home of Disney World, after all. But the place where Gramps lives is no amusement park. In fact, it's an aged care home full of old people. Luckily, Sunny isn't the only kid around. She meets Buzz, a boy who is completely obsessed with comic books, and soon they're having adventures of their own. But the question remains - why is Sunny down in Florida in the first place? The answer lies in a family secret that won't be secret to Sunny much longer.

PRC ID	Author/Title	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
1019764	Hoosan, Dajuan & Anderson, Margaret & Turner, Carol & Douglas, Blak (ill) In my blood it runs	Pan MacMillan	2023	9781761263774	<p>This is the story of Dajuan Hoosan, a 10-year-old Arrernte and Garawa boy. A wise, funny, cheeky boy. A healer.</p> <p>Out bush, his healing power (Ngangkere) is calm and straight. But in town, it's wobbly and wild, like a snake.</p> <p>He's in trouble at school, and with the police. He thinks there's something wrong with him.</p> <p>Dajuan's family knows what to do: they send him to live out bush, to learn the ways of the old people, and the history that runs straight into all Aboriginal people.</p> <p>So he can be proud of himself.</p>
	Horowitz, Anthony Alex Rider series				<p>Any five titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top of the screen.</p>
1142158	Hosseini, Khaled & Williams, Dan (ill) Sea prayer	Bloomsbury	2018	9781526602718	<p>On a moonlit beach a father cradles his sleeping son as they wait for dawn to break and a boat to arrive. He speaks to his boy of the long summer of his childhood, recalling his grandfather's house in Syria, the stirring of olive trees in the breeze, the bleating of his grandmother's goat, the clanking of the cooking pots.</p> <p>When the sun rises they and those around them will gather their possessions and embark on a perilous sea journey in search of a new home.</p>
1019739	Ibanez, Isabel What the river knows	Hodderscape	2023	9781399722186	<p>In the glittering society of nineteenth century Buenos Aires Inez Olivera has everything except the one thing she really wants; her parents who frequently leave her behind on their adventures to Egypt. Then she receives a terrible letter from her uncle explaining her parents have died in mysterious circumstances. Determined to uncover the truth, Inez sets sail for Egypt bringing only her sketch pads and an ancient ring that her father had sent her. But upon her arrival in Egypt the ring flares with ancient magic and Inez is thrust into a treacherous game that could threaten her life. Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.</p>

PRC ID	Author/Title	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
803523	Ingemundsen, Linni One in a hundred thousand	Usborne Publishing Ltd	2021	9781474940641	Fifteen year old Sander wishes he was like everyone else. But he has Silver-Russell syndrome, a condition that affects one in a hundred thousand. It means he is smaller than all the other kids in school, a place where the biggest and the loudest get all the attention. Like Niklas. Everyone thinks Niklas is cool and good-looking - except Sander. He doesn't like the way Niklas brags, behaves like a jerk and lies. Niklas is one of life's tall people and next to him, Sander always ends up feeling small. But Sander is different in more ways than one. He notices things other people miss, and he's noticed something about Niklas... Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.
958039	Jaigirdar, Adiba Henna wars, The		2022	9781645675730	When Nishat comes out to her parents, they say she can be anyone she wants - as long as she isn't herself. Because Muslim girls don't like other girls. Nishat doesn't want to hide who she is, but she also doesn't want to lose her relationship with her family. And her life only gets harder once a childhood friend walks back into her life. Flavia is beautiful and charismatic and Nishat falls for her instantly. But when a school competition invites students to create their own businesses, both Flavia and Nishat choose to do henna, even though Flavia is appropriating Nishat's culture. Amidst sabotage and school stress, their lives get more tangled - but Nishat can't quite get rid of her crush on Flavia, and realizes there might be more to her than she realized.
992532	Jakobsen, Mette Fireflies in flight	Angus & Robertson (HarperCollins)	2023	9781460762097	Ally is on the run. The city is in ruins. Her friends are in mortal danger. Nothing about being back in the city is easy, but Ally knows that she must find the missing research before ONE does. The Administration has tight control of the capital and there are eyes everywhere. In her attempt to find somewhere to hide, Ally discovers that not everyone in the underground resistance group she encounters is welcoming, or safe. As tension builds in the city, Ally learns that the go-ahead has already been given to start the deadly experiments on her friends who are still locked up in the Towers. In a race against time, Ally is forced to risk everything. Will she be able to find the hidden research? Can she get back to the Towers to save her friends before it's too late? And can she really trust Josh, the handsome resistance group leader? Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.

PRC ID	Author/Title	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
1019760	Jeffers, Oliver Begin again	HarperCollins Australia	2023	9780008579593	It all begins with a question: Where did we begin? Oliver Jeffers explores fire first, and the early humans who controlled that fire and grew brains and started to do things with them. A thought provoking look at what guides us and where we came from.
916641	Jenkins, Steve Animal facts: By the numbers	Clarion Books	2022	9780358470168	In the by the Numbers series, we dive deep into the world of animals and insects. From the smallest known species of snake to the sleepest mammals, Animal Facts By the Numbers provides readers of all ages with the ultimate animal trivia knowledge.
916596	Jennings, Paul Lorikeet tree, The	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2023	9781761180095	Emily loves the bush and the native animals on her family's reforested property, particularly the beautiful rainbow lorikeets that nest in one of the tallest trees. But then her father is diagnosed with a terminal illness, and Emily's world enters a tailspin. Her twin brother, Alex, refuses to accept the truth. His coping mechanism is to build elaborate additions to his treehouse in the superstitious belief that it will avert disaster - leaving Emily to deal with harsh reality on her own. When Alex secretly adopts a feral kitten, going against everything that's important to Emily, the siblings' emotions reach boiling point - with potentially dangerous consequences for them all.
1023593	Jonsberg, Barry Smoke & mirrors	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2024	9781761180750	Grace cares about two things: performing magic and her cantankerous grandmother. Magic gives Grace the chance to forget the hard things in her life. When her grandmother finds out she is dying Grace moves in to help. She must draw on all her magical abilities to not just survive but learn to thrive. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Author/Title	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
903245	Kenwood, Nina Unnecessary drama	Text Publishing Co	2022	9781922458896	Unnecessary Drama is a funny and romantic coming-of-age story set in a student share house in Melbourne. The story focuses on Brooke's initial experiences living out of home while starting her first year of university. Rule-oriented and organised, Brooke is ready for anything, until she discovers her second housemate is really her friend-turned-enemy from high school, Jesse. She vows to ignore him. However, dealing with anxieties, mishaps and the unexpected complications of life might make this promise harder to keep than she thought. Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.
	Landy, Derek Skulduggery Pleasant series				Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen.
1019753	Landy, Derek & Holden, P.J. & Softe, Matt Bad magic: A Skulduggery Pleasant graphic novel	HarperCollins Children's Books	2023	9780008585785	A small town in the middle of Ireland, a string of unexplained deaths and a monster on the loose. Better call in the experts. When Skulduggery Pleasant and Valkyrie Cain drive into Termoncara, they discover a town with a drak past and a people haunted by darker secrets. There is a creature stalking the streets - a creature who delights in cruelty, who feeds off the little hatreds, who grows stronger with every drop of blood spilled. Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.
876985	Lawrence, Hayley Other Side of Tomorrow, The	Scholastic Australia	2022	9781760976453	What if you thought you had forever... To live your life. To tell your story. But what if forever was taken from you? When your tomorrows are counted, all you have is this moment. And this story you wish was never yours to tell. When Abby traded her life in the city for a wholesome new life on the coast, it was meant to be a fresh start for her family. Behind them was the sickness and sadness of the past. But sickness doesn't always play by the rules. And as Abby's past threatens to swallow her future, she is forced to decide what is most important. What she will fight for. And she will fight. For however many days she has left.
837031	Lawrence, Hayley Skin deep	Scholastic Australia	2021	9781760976446	This inspirational story follows Scarlett who is burnt 40% of her body in a fire. It follows Scarlett's journey of self acceptance and self love and highlights. It is not always the end journey that is important it is how you get to the end that matters.

PRC ID	Author/Title	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
1000114	Le, Minh & Santat, Dan (ill) Drawn Together	Little Brown	2018	9781484767603	When a young boy visits his grandfather, their lack of a common language leads to confusion, frustration, and silence. But as they sit down to draw together, something magical happens-with a shared love of art and storytelling, the two form a bond that goes beyond words.
1019779	Levithan, David Ryan and Avery	HarperCollins Australia	2023	9780008655686	When a blue-haired boy (Ryan) meets a pink-haired boy (Avery) at a dance - a queer prom - both feel an inexplicable but powerful connection. Follow them through their first ten dates as they bridge their initial shyness and fall in love - through snowstorms, groundings, meeting parents (Avery's) and not (Ryan's), cast parties, heartbreak, and every day and date in between. Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.
1013554	Lim, Rebecca Two sparrowhawks in a lonely sky	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2023	9781761180224	What if you were forced to set sail for a country that didn't want you, to meet a father you couldn't remember? Thirteen-year-old Fu, his younger sister, Pei, and their mother live in a small rural community in Southern China that is already enduring harsh conditions when it is collectivised as part of Mao Zedong's Great Leap Forward campaign that ultimately led to economic disaster, widespread famine and millions of deaths. After tragedy strikes, and threatened with separation, Fu and Pei set out on a perilous journey across countries and oceans to find their father, who left for Australia almost a decade ago. With nothing to guide them but a photograph and some documents in a language they cannot read, they must draw on all their courage and tenacity just to survive - and perhaps forge a better life for themselves.
977794	Lonesborough, Gary We didn't think it through	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2023	9781760526931	Jaime lives in Dalton's Bay with Aunty Dawn and Uncle Bobby. He spends his downtime hanging out with his mates, Dally and Lenny. Jamie's just an Aboriginal kid trying to find his way, but Mark Cassidy and the white lads take every opportunity they can to bully him and his friends. One night, Jamie, Dally and Lenny decide to retaliate...but things don't go as planned and the consequences are devastating. Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above. Can Jaime mend his relationships with himself, his friends, his family, and his future?

PRC ID	Author/Title	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
971937	Lu, Marie Stars and smoke	Roaring Book Press	2023	9780241646540	Winter Young is a global pop sensation. Everybody wants tickets to see him. That's why a top-secret government organisation thinks he'll make the perfect spy. His target is infamous business tycoon and bad guy Eli Morrison. Because Morrison's daughter has just one birthday wish: a private concert with Winter Young. Winter must use his stardom to crack his target's inner circle and bring Morrison down. With him will be expert spy Sydney - and she is convinced Winter doesn't have what it takes. Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.
871664	Lucas, Mike What we all saw	Penguin	2022	9781761045936	Witches only exist in stories. Everyone knows that. But when four friends are caught in the woods at dusk, their worst nightmare may just become their reality.
855834	Macx, Logan Swift and Hawk: Cyberspies	Walker Books Australia Pty Ltd	2022	9781406394931	When their families mysteriously disappear, Swift and Hawk, teen experts in AI and robotics, are recruited into the top-secret Mobius Programme. Plunged into a life-and-death rescue mission, Swift and Hawk race from London to an isolated, sinister island in the North Atlantic, straight into the hands of a deadly enemy...
885973	Mara, Sunya Darkening, The	Hodder & Stoughton	2022	9781529354874	The Storm is a deadly force that surrounds the city and curses everyone in it. Vesper Vale and her ex-revolutionary father must evade both the storm and the queen's soldiers by using dangerous experimental magic. When her father is captured, Vesper must find a way to infiltrate the elite squad of soldier-sorcerers, lead by the powerful Prince Valca. When Vesper learns there's more at play within the deadly Storm, she must risk everything to fight - including her heart. This book contains adult themes, including depictions of death and violence. Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.

PRC ID	Author/Title	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
903246	Marney, Ellie Killing code, The	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2022	9781760526535	<p>1943. World War II is raging across Europe and on the Pacific front. Kit Sutherland is hiding a huge secret when she is unexpectedly recruited to work as a young codebreaker at Arlington Hall, a US Signals Intelligence facility.</p> <p>When Kit's roommate doesn't return home from a dance, it sparks a search that ends in a gruesome discovery. And soon it turns into a horrifying pattern: Government girls are being murdered in Washington, DC.</p> <p>Kit joins forces with three other girl codebreakers, Dottie, Moya and Violet, and as they work to crack the killer's code, two things become terrifyingly clear: the murderer they're hunting is getting closer every moment... and Kit's own secret could put her in more jeopardy than she ever imagined. Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.</p>
1019827	Marsh, Katherine Lost year, The	Roaring Book Press	2023	9781250313607	<p>Thirteen-year-old Matthew is miserable. His journalist dad is stuck overseas and his mom has moved in his one-hundred-year-old great-grandmother to ride out the Covid pandemic. But when Matthew finds a tattered black-and-white photo in his great-grandmother's belongings, he discovers a clue to a hidden chapter of her past - one that will lead to a life-shattering family secret. Set in alternating times that connect the present day to the 1930s and the US to the USSR and the Holodomor - the horrific famine that killed millions of Ukrainians, which the Soviet government covered up for decades.</p>

PRC ID	Author/Title	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
1019639	McCann, Jackie & Cushley, Aaron (ill) If our world were 100 days	Farshore	2023	9780008599287	<p>A thought-provoking way of looking at world history and our place within it.</p> <p>About 10,000 years ago marks a major turning point in the history of life on Earth for humankind as people settled down and built towns and cities. Importantly, during this period, they began to record their activities and achievements.</p> <p>But 10,000 years ago is difficult to imagine - what if our calendar were condensed into just 100 days, where each day equals 100 years? How many days ago were the first cities built? When did the population explosion happen? When did we decide to write things down and when did books appear? Did writing change the way we share ideas?</p> <p>This book asks questions big and small, leaving readers wondering if all the changes have been for the better, and what does it mean for our future.</p>
977801	McDowell, Kara Prince & the apocalypse, The	Wednesday Books	2023	9781761264535	<p>Wren is a planner, but breaking news of a comet hurling towards Earth leaves her careful itinerary in tatters. Left behind after her senior-year trip to London she meets cute Prince Theo, the British crown prince. Wren and the Prince are soon forced into the highest-stakes journey of them all, racing through Europe to get her back home before the end of the world.</p> <p>Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.</p>
992290	McKenzie, Nean Timefire	MidnightSun Publishing	2023	9781922858030	<p>Rebecca Tobler 09/23</p> <p>In the scorching summer of 2033, Gilbert Black is accused of being a firebug, just like his mother was thirteen years previously. That night a fire starts on his family's farm. A fire with a tunnel in the centre of it. And that's when things start to get really weird. Pulled repeatedly back and forth through time, Gil finds himself at all the big Australian bushfires from the last two centuries. He searches across the years, determined to unlock the secret to his family's legacy. Gil can't change the past, but can he learn from it in time to return home and save his family from the biggest inferno ever known.</p>

PRC ID	Author/Title	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
978216	McManus, Karen M. One of us is back	Penguin	2023	9780593485019	<p>Ever since Simon died in detention, life hasn't been easy for the Bayview Crew. First the Bayview Four had to prove they weren't killers. Then a new generation had to outwit a vengeful copycat. Now, it's beginning again.</p> <p>At first the mysterious billboard seems like a bad joke: Time for a new game, Bayview. But when a member of the crew disappears, it's clear this 'game' just got serious - and no one understands the rules.</p> <p>Everyone's a target. And now that someone unexpected has returned to Bayview, things are starting to get deadly.</p> <p>Simon was right about secrets - they all come out in the end. And Bayview has a lot it's still hiding.</p> <p>Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.</p>
688974	McNeil, Gretchen Get even	HarperCollins Australia	2020	9780062260857	<p>Get even follows four high school students , Bree, Olivia, Kitty and Margot who have nothing in common however someone wants to get revenge on them. This fast pace revenge story has lots of twists and turns and chapter cliffhangers.</p>
902555	Merrison, Carl & Hustler, Hakea Tracks of the Missing	Magabala Books	2022	9781922613264	<p>Deklan 'Dek' Archer and his mates arrive at school to a tense atmosphere. 'Old Mate', Mr Henry, who has lived in town for a long time, has been found murdered. He had been selling grog on the black market for years. To add to these worries, the Year 12s, who were on camp, are now missing. The police think there is a link between the missing students and the murder.</p> <p>Dek and his friends are torn. Dek and Willum, his best mate, have an important football match that evening - professional recruiters are in town. Neither wants to let their coach down but they feel they must search for their friends.</p> <p>Deklan's grandfather, a renowned tracker with certain otherworld gifts turns up, and expects him to go bush. This choice will change Dek's life and family forever.</p> <p>A journey that moves deep in to an ancient landscape uncovers secrets, and the past, which is never far away, continues to call them.</p> <p>Usually read by students in years 9, 10 or above.</p>

PRC ID	Author/Title	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
1042725	Murray, Kate We who are forged in fire	Hardie Grant Egmont	2023	9781760508937	<p>Priscilla Daalman is training to be a Hollow Warrior - an elite monster hunter charged with killing evil beasts from another universe. But first, she has to deal with the Renegades, a rebellious group of outcasts who have declared war on the warriors and are unleashing deadly beasts across the globe.</p> <p>With everyone under attack by both Renegades and Hollow monsters, Priscilla decides the best way to fight is from within - so she cuts herself off from her girlfriend and family and becomes a spy in the Renegades' base. It's a bold plan - and one that doesn't account for her duplicitous ex-boyfriend, Dominic, being a leader of the rebellious group.</p> <p>As Priscilla struggles to remain undetected in the Renegade base, she realises Dominic has his own agenda - and she's part of it. And in order to stop him - and the Renegades - she may have to make the ultimate sacrifice...</p> <p>Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.</p>
895351	Murray, Kate We who hunt the hollow	Hardie Grant Egmont	2022	9781760508920	<p>Seventeen-year-old Priscilla Daalma's entire family are Hollow Warriors - legendary monster hunters charged with killing evil beasts from beyond our universe. She's desperate to live up to that legacy, but she's convinced neither she, nor her superpower - the ability to sense Hollow energy - is up to the task.</p> <p>But when Priscilla attempts a desperate ritual to enhance her abilities, she accidentally triggers a frightening new power: the power to summon monsters from the Hollow itself. Now, Priscilla must protect her loved ones from supernatural monsters, and also from herself. Because if her power gets out, all hell will break loose ... and Priscilla will risk losing everything. Usually read by students in years 9, 10, and above.</p>
1019696	Mushin, Steve Ultrawild: An audacious plan to rewild every city on Earth	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2023	9781760292812	<p>Join maverick inventor Steve Mushin as he tackles climate change with an avalanche of mind-bending, scientifically plausible inventions to rewild cities and save the planet.</p> <p>Jump into his brain as he designs habitat-printing robot birds and water-filtering sewer submarines, calculates how far compost cannons can blast seed bombs (over a kilometer), brainstorms bio-materials with scientists and engineers, studies ecosystems, and develops a deadly serious plan for future cities.</p> <p>A tour-de-force of extreme problem solving for anyone who loves big ideas.</p>

PRC ID	Author/Title	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
901579	Nannestad, Katrina Waiting for the storks	ABC Books	2022	9780733342271	It's the Second World War and Himmler's Lebensborn Program is in full flight when eight-year-old Zofia Ulinski is kidnapped by the Germans. She has blonde hair and blue eyes, just like the other Polish children taken from their families and robbed of their names, their language, their heritage. But when Zofia is adopted into a wealthy and loving German family, it is easier, it is safer to bury her past, deep down, so everything is forgotten. Until the Polish boy arrives. And the past comes back to haunt her.
1019775	Nijkamp, Marieke & Bi, Sylvia (ill) Ink girls	HarperCollins US	2023	9780063027107	A beautiful illustrated graphic novel that follows Cinzia - a printer's apprentice - as she tries to prove her mentor, Mestra Aronne, has been wrongfully imprisoned. She crosses paths with Elena, the daughter of nobles who force her to remain hidden away, and the two become unexpected allies. This is a powerful story of friendship and explores the power of individuals making a change to make the world a better place.
903381	O'Clover, Ellen Seven percent of Ro Devereux	HarperCollins US	2023	9780063318311	Seven percent of Ro Devereux is a fast paced romance which follows Ro a creator of a app called MASH. The app becomes an overnight success but Ro is forced to partner with Miller (her ex best-friend) A story about loss, family dynamics and living your dreams. This book is a 21st Century look on life on socials! Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.
	Oseman, Alice Heartstopper series				Any five titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen.
1019755	Pacat, C.S. Dark Heir	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2023	9781760875763	The Dark King has risen. Only a handful of heroes remain. The Hall of the Stewards is in ruins. Pursued by dark forces, Will and his allies must travel to the heart of the ancient world, forging new and dangerous ties, and revealing the shocking secrets of the past. But Will is carrying a dark secret of his own - his true identity. As the ancient world threatens to return, can Will and his friends fight their fate? Or will the truths they learn tear their world apart? Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.

PRC ID	Author/Title	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
855807	Pang, Camilla & Boglio, Laurene (ill) Perfectly weird perfectly you	Hachette Australia	2022	9781526364326	Camilla Pang grew up with autism and loved lists, numbers and science. As an adult, she has used this love of science to help explain the hows and whys of growing up. In her unique style she links big ideas like confidence, friendships and finding out who you really are to fun scientific concepts. This is a celebration of what makes us all unique, or perfectly weird.
903304	Pape, Scott & Watson, Richard Barefoot kids	HarperCollins Australia	2022	9781460763650	Do you want to be the boss and earn your own money? Get ready to go on an epic money adventure. Full of great ideas, tips and real life examples from kids who have set up their own business, you will learn fast easy ways to put money in your pocket and be a real life superhero.
	Pearson, Luke & Davies, Stephen & Lendaro, Sapó (ill) Hilda graphic novel series				Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen.
1075164	🌀 Polydoros, Aden Bone weaver	HarperCollins Children's Books	2024	9781867298434	The Kosa empire roils in tension, on the verge of being torn apart by a proletarian revolution between magic-endowed elites and the superstitious lower class, but seventeen-year-old Toma lives blissfully disconnected from the conflict in the empire with her adoptive family of benevolent undead. When she meets Vanya, a charming commoner branded as a witch by his own neighbors, and the dethroned Tsar Mikhail himself, the unlikely trio bonds over trying to restore Mikhail's magic and protect the empire from the revolutionary leader, Koschei, whose forces have stolen the castle. Vanya has his magic, and Mikhail has his title, but if Toma can't dig deep and find her power in time, all of their lives will be at Koschei's mercy. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Author/Title	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
982995	Preto, Nicki Pau Bonesmith	Hodder & Stoughton	2023	9781399722353	<p>In the Dominions, the dead linger, violent and unpredictable, unless a bonesmith severs the ghost from its remains. For bonesmith Wren, becoming a a ghost-fighting warrior is a chance to solidify her place in the noble House of Bone and impress her frequently absent father. But when sabotage causes Wren to fail her qualifying trial, she is banished to the Border Wall, the last line of defense against a wasteland called the Breach where the vicious dead roam unchecked.</p> <p>Determined to reclaim her family's respect, Wren gets her chance when a House of Gold prince is kidnapped and taken beyond the Wall. To prove she has what it takes to be a valkyr, Wren vows to cross the Breach and rescue the prince. But to do so, she's forced into an uneasy alliance with one of the kidnapers - a fierce ironsmith called Julian from the exiled House of Iron, the very people who caused the Breach in the first place -and the House of Bone's sworn enemy.</p> <p>Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.</p>
707956	Rallison, James Odd 1s out, The: The first sequel	Scholastic Australia	2020	9781760973377	<p>An original collection of stories from YouTube sensation James Rallison, filled with funny stories including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The upside of the robot uprising - Questionable pizza toppings - Strange yet completely reasonable fears - Inventions that don't exist, but should
1019881	Reynolds, Emma & Donovan, Natasha & 15 others Drawn to change the world: Graphic novel collection	HarperCollins US	2024	9780063084216	<p>Emma Reynolds shines a spotlight on sixteen incredible youth activists from around the world who are fighting to protect the planet and all life on Earth. From Autumn Peltier campaigning for clean water to Edgar Edmund Tarimo turning plastic waste into building materials-and many more-these inspiring true stories highlight the importance of taking charge and creating change.</p>
1019781	Rice, Angourie & Rice, Kate Stuck up & stupid	Walker Books Australia Pty Ltd	2023	9781760658281	<p>The story explores Lily a teenager who attends a party at Pippi Beach and meets Dorian Khan. The story highlights the importance of first impressions and how sometimes they can be deceiving. A modern take on the classic Jane Austin's Pride and prejudice.</p>

PRC ID	Author/Title	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
1019883	⊗ Ross, Rebecca Divine rivals	HarperCollins US	2023	9780008600662	When two rival journalists find love through a magical connection, their fate depends on their facing the depths of hell.....together. The first book in a new duology, begins with an epic enemies-to-lovers fantasy novel, filled with hope and heartbreak whilst fighting a war, and the unparalleled power of love. Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.
1019884	⊗ Ross, Rebecca Ruthless vows	HarperCollins US	2024	9780008588236	The war is far from over. Roman is missing, lost behind enemy lines, with no memory of his past, or Iris. He begins to write again, but this time for the enemy. When a strange letter arrives through his wardrobe door he strikes up a correspondence with a penpal who is both mysterious and familiar. As their connection deepens, the two of them will risk everything to change the tides of the war. Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.
1066671	⊗ Rushby, Pamela Those girls	Walker Books Australia Pty Ltd	2024	9781760657840	The world is at war. Sixteen-year-old Hilly is desperate to do something useful to the war effort, to help the boys on the front lines. So when she sees the poster recruiting for the Australian Women's Land Army, she jumps at the chance to make a difference. Traveling to farms across Queensland, Hilly encounters backbreaking work, adversity and romance, and may find she's capable of more than she thought possible. She is one of those girls with grit. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.
998662	⊗ Sanderson, Brandon Cytonic	Orion	2021	9780399555855	Spensa's life as a Defiant Defense Force pilot has been far from ordinary. She proved herself one of the best starfighters in the human enclave of Detritus and she saved her people from extermination at the hands of the Krell - the enigmatic alien species that has been holding them captive for decades. What's more, she traveled light-years from home as an undercover spy to infiltrate the Superiority, where she learned of the galaxy beyond her small, desolate planet home. Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above. Now, the Superiority - the governing galactic alliance bent on dominating all human life - has started a galaxy-wide war. And Spensa has seen the weapons they plan to use to end it: the Delvers. Ancient, mysterious alien forces that can wipe out entire planetary systems in an instant. Spensa knows that no matter how many pilots the DDF has, there is no defeating this predator. "

PRC ID	Author/Title	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
1019799	⊗ Sanderson, Brandon Defiant	Orion	2023	9781473234604	<p>Spensa has made it out of the Nowhere, but what she saw in the space between the stars has changed her forever. She came face to face with the Delters, and finally got answers to the questions she's had about her own strange Cytonic gifts.</p> <p>The Superiority didn't stop in its fight for galactic dominance while she was gone, though. Spensa's team, Skyward Flight, was able to hold Winzik off, and even collect allies to help with the cause, but it's only a matter of time until humanity-and the rest of the galaxy-falls.</p> <p>Defeating them will require all the knowledge Spensa gathered while in the Nowhere. But being Cytonic is more complicated than she ever could have imagined. Now, Spensa must ask herself: How far is she willing to go for victory, if it means losing herself-and her friends-in the process.</p> <p>Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.</p>
837330	⊗ Sanderson, Brandon Skyward	Orion	2018	9781473217850	<p>Defeated, crushed, and driven almost to extinction, the remnants of the human race are trapped on a planet that is constantly attacked by mysterious alien starfighters. Spensa, a teenage girl living among them, longs to be a pilot. When she discovers the wreckage of an ancient ship, she realizes this dream might be possible - assuming she can repair the ship, navigate flight school, and (perhaps most importantly) persuade the strange machine to help her. Because this ship, uniquely, appears to have a soul. Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.</p>
1011981	⊗ Sanderson, Brandon Starsight	Orion	2019	9781473217904	<p>All her life, Spensa has dreamed of becoming a pilot. Of proving she's a hero like her father. She made it to the sky, but the truths she learned about her father were crushing.</p> <p>Spensa is sure there's more to the story. And she's sure that whatever happened to her father in his starship could happen to her. When she made it outside the protective shell of her planet, she heard the stars - and it was terrifying. Everything Spensa has been taught about her world is a lie.</p> <p>But Spensa also discovered a few other things about herself - and she'll travel to the end of the galaxy to save humankind if she needs to.</p> <p>Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.</p>

PRC ID	Author/Title	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
1019829	Santat, Dan First time for everything, A	First Second	2023	9781626724150	Dan has a happy and mostly uneventful primary school experience. He is happy and comfortable. And then he goes to year seven. High school is very different. Kids can be rough, loud, and even a little cruel. At the end of the year he gets the chance to go on a school trip to Europe. Dan meets several other young people similar to himself and has a summer to remember. This autobiographical graphic novel celebrates being true to yourself and finding your tribe.
1019913	Sattin, Samuel & Hickman, Rye (ill) Buzzing	Hachette Australia	2023	9780316628419	Isaac Itkin can't get away from his thoughts. As a lonely twelve-year-old kid with Obsessive Compulsive Disorder (OCD), everything from studying to looking in the mirror becomes a battle between him and a swarm of unhelpful thoughts. The strict therapy his mother insists on doesn't seem to be working, but when a group of friends invites him to join their after-school role-playing game, the thoughts feel a little less loud, and the world feels a little brighter. But Isaac's therapist says that exposure to games can have negative effects on kids with OCD, and when his grades slip, his helicopter mother won't let him play anymore. Now Isaac needs to find a way to prove to himself, to his mother, and to the world that the way to quiet the noise in his head may have been inside him all along.
855833	Scholte, Astrid League of liars	Penguin	2022	9781760630799	Shadows are dangerous. Edem is illegal. And liars are cowards. Ever since his mother was killed in a freak edem-based crime, seventeen-year-old Cayder Broduck has had one goal: to have illegal users of extradimensional magic brought to justice. Cayder dreams of becoming a prosecutor and, when he secretly accepts an apprenticeship under the city's best public defender, he plans to learn every legal trick he can to one day dismantle defence arguments. Then he'll finally be able to make sure justice is served. But when he meets all three criminals he is to defend, he finds they are teenagers, like him, and their stories are....complicated, like his. As their cases unfold, Cayder must race to separate the truth from the lies and uncover what really happened the night his mother died. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Author/Title	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
1023615	Scholte, Astrid Shadows of truth	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2024	9781761068898	<p>After their dramatic escape from Vardean prison, Cayder and his friends leap into the unknown, tumbling headlong out of Telene and into the strange and mysterious world beyond the veil.</p> <p>Leta - who grew up believing a world of dark fairytales existed on the other side of the veil - finds that the truth is more magical, and terrifying, than she could ever have imagined. And it's the worst possible place to discover your boyfriend has been mortally wounded.</p> <p>Meanwhile, Cayder and Elenora learn that both this world and their own are teetering on the brink of destruction. Still reeling from Elenora's betrayal, Cayder must overcome his feelings and work with her to prevent an apocalypse. They have to make it home, and to do so they will need the help of their old enemy, Dr Bueter - as well as old friends they thought were lost forever.</p> <p>Usually read by students in years 9, 10 or above.</p>
1019690	Sekaran, Shanthi Samosa rebellion, The	HarperCollins US	2021	9780063051546	<p>Before his grandmother moved from India to the island of Mariposa, Muki Krishnan's life was pretty good. He hung out with his friends, stayed under the radar at school, and slept as late as he could. But now? He has to share his bedroom with Paati, his grandmother, who snores all night then wakes him at dawn to do yoga.</p> <p>Paati's arrival coincides with bigger challenges in Mariposa as the once peaceful island is fracturing. The president divides the people into those who have lived here for 3 or more generations (Butterflies) or more recent immigrants like Muki's family (Moths). Muki and his friends find the camp that is being built to imprison Moths and then Paati is taken away. A rebellion is under way but can Muki save Paati and his family in time and what can one school boy do against a whole government?</p>
992470	Shapter, Zena When dark roots hunt	MidnightSun Publishing	2023	9781922858061	<p>Sala's village survives at the edge of a lake, hidden by poison ivy, to keep them safe from giant water-ants and wyann trees, which spear passing prey with their roots. Everyone is safe as long as no-one goes out on the lake. The unexpected appearance of a space ship puts everyone in danger, stirring rivalries into a terrifying conflict set to change the world. Sala and her pet pointer must do whatever it takes to face the truth of who she is, to save her village, to save her family, to save herself.</p>

PRC ID	Author/Title	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
871491	Shelley Pearsall Seventh most important thing, The	Random House Children's Books	2015	9780553497311	<p>Arthur T. Owens grabbed a brick and hurled it at the trash picker. Arthur had his reasons, and the brick hit the Junk Man in the arm, not the head. But none of that matters to the judge-he is ready to send Arthur to juvie forever. Amazingly, it's the Junk Man himself who offers an alternative: 120 hours of community service... working for him.</p> <p>Arthur is given a rickety shopping cart and a list of the Seven Most Important Things: glass bottles, foil, cardboard, pieces of wood, lightbulbs, coffee cans, and mirrors. He can't believe it-is he really supposed to rummage through people's trash? But it isn't long before Arthur realizes there's more to the Junk Man than meets the eye, and the "trash" he's collecting is being transformed into something more precious than anyone could imagine. . . .</p>
622507	Shusterman, Neal Bruiser	Harper	2010	9780061134104	<p>The twins, Tennyson and Bronte, are very different in how they approach the world. This is best seen by the different reactions both have to the large, brooding and mysterious Brewster. While many in the school believe he is a dark and dangerous menace, Bronte befriends him and they begin dating. This is how both siblings notice the horrible scars on Brewster and suspect he is being abused at home. The truth is far stranger.</p>
941473	Smith, Lyssa Mia Revelle	HarperCollins Australia	2023	9780063323360	<p>Luxe Revelle, star of her family's fantastical show, knows the splendor is just an illusion. With Prohibition threatening their livelihood, her family struggles to make a living, watering down champagne and patching holes in their sequined costumes. So when the son of Charmant's wealthiest family makes her an offer - everything the Revelles need to stay in business, in exchange for posing as his girl and helping him become mayor - she can't refuse.</p> <p>The moment Jamison Port sets foot in Charmant, he can't shake the feeling of familiarity. An orphan with as few memories as gemstones, he's desperate to learn what happened to his parents. But as he delves into the island's secrets, he risks angering the wrong person and discovering a truth that just might break his heart.</p> <p>When Luxe and Jamison accidentally meet, the sparks that fly are more than her magical enchantments. But keeping secrets from powerful people is a dangerous game . . . one that could destroy them both.</p>

PRC ID	Author/Title	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
903249	Smith, Oliver Atlas of abandoned places	Octopus	2022	9781784726928	From rusting rocket ships to crumbling opulent palaces belonging to former dictators, this atlas journeys across fifty remarkable sites across the world. No longer in their heyday, these sites are abandoned and eerily different to what they once were. Each site has its own story to share.
977765	Spratt, RA Hamlet is not OK	Penguin	2023	9780143779278	Selby has mastered the art of going unnoticed and seems happy avoiding most school work and friendship dramas in this way. All goes well until her school contacts Selby's parents and they are not happy. With the help of her tutor, Selby finds herself not just reading Hamlet, but trying to help him understand his misery and murderous inclinations.
	Springer, Nancy Enola Holmes series				Any five titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top of the screen.
903282	🌀 Sugiura, Misa Love & other natural disasters	HarperCollins US	2023	9780062991249	Nozomi has it all planned out--a summer in San Francisco, the perfect internship and fake dating the girl of her dreams. All she has to do now is turn the fauxmance with the perfect girl into something real. But when it comes to love, there's no such thing as the perfect plan.... Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above. Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.
1019751	Suk, Sarah Space between here & now, The	HarperCollins US	2023	9780063373129	The space between here and now follows Aimee on her search to find her estranged mother through a fascinating tale of time travel. The story explores family, self identity and acceptance.
1019845	Sun, Miranda If I Have To Be Haunted	HarperCollins US	2023	9780008612412	Ghosts are always trouble, so Cara pretends she didn't inherit the ability to see and speak to them. She ignores their problems in favour of diligently completing homework and preparing for college. When she discovers the body of the school golden boy and her personal arch nemesis, she realises she can no longer pretend. Cara has to own up to her powers and set out on a journey that could be deadly.

PRC ID	Author/Title	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
903293	Syed, Matthew & Weeks, Kathy What Do YOU Think?: How to agree to disagree and still be friends	Wren and Rook Books	2022	9781526364937	If you are the kind of person who... -Avoids disagreements because you don't want to fall out -Gets too embarrassed to say that you've changed your mind -Feels so overwhelmed that you don't know what to think ...then this book is for you. What do YOU think? will help young readers to discover what is influencing their ideas, from peer pressure to fake news. They'll learn how to form and change opinions, and how to debate their views with empathy. Readers will see how debates and disagreements can give you new ideas, stronger friendships, and help change the world for the better. I know you have loads of incredible thoughts and ideas and the world deserves to hear your voice. I want to know... what do you think?
885974	Thomson, Hayli Comedienne's guide to Pride, The	HarperCollins Australia	2022	9781460762325	When Taylor is accepted as a finalist for a diverse writers' internship at Saturday Night Live, it turns her life upside down. And if Taylor wants a shot at winning, she'll have to come out about both of her secrets- being a comedienne and a lesbian. The only thing keeping Taylor from self-combusting is her pining for Salem's most bewitching actress - out and proud classmate, Charlotte Grey. So when Taylor finds herself sitting opposite Charlotte to discuss a school project, Taylor's simmering need to tell everyone exactly who she is and what she wants burns hotter than ever .
982996	Tooley, Adrienne Third daughter, The	Hachette Australia	2023	9781399713948	For centuries, the citizens of Velle have waited for their New Maiden to return. The prophecy states she will appear as the third daughter of a third daughter. When the fabled child is finally born to Velle's reigning queen all rejoice except for Elodie, the queen's eldest child, who has lost her claim to the crown. The only way for Elodie to protect Velle is to retake the throne. To do so, she must debilitate the Third Daughter - her youngest sister, Brianne. Desperate, Elodie purchases a sleeping potion from Sabine, who sells sadness. But the apothecary mistakenly sends the princess away with a vial of tears instead of a harmless sleeping brew. Sabine's sadness is dangerously powerful, and Brianne slips into a slumber from which she will not wake. With the fates of their families and country hanging in the balance, Sabine and Elodie hurry to revive the Third Daughter while a slow-burning attraction between the two girls erupts in full force.

PRC ID	Author/Title	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
1111999	Turk, Mariko I'll be waiting for you	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2024	9781760526603	<p>Natalie and Imogen are inseparable, and wildly different - Imogen is infuriatingly humble and incredibly intelligent, while Natalie is brave, jumping into danger and new adventures. Still, one thing ties them together: their love of the supernatural. Every summer they vacation at the famously haunted Harlow Hotel.</p> <p>Then, Imogen suddenly passes away from an undiagnosed heart condition, and Natalie is left to take on the summer before senior year alone.</p> <p>Without Imogen, Natalie throws herself into her senior project: she plans to spend her summer back at the Harlow Hotel recording fun fake footage. And her plans would be a lot less complicated if Leander Hall, her irritatingly attractive arch rival from school, wasn't working on his senior project at the very same hotel.</p> <p>But when strange things start happening at the Harlow, Natalie wonders, could there really be something to these ghosts after all?</p> <p>Usually read by students in years 9, 10, and above.</p>
1096788	Tutt, Corey & Hunt, Molly (ill) This book thinks ya deadly!	Hardie Grant Children's Publishing	2023	9781741178159	<p>Written by Corey Tutt, author of The First Scientists, this book features the profiles of 80 Blakfellas who are doing deadly things across sport, art, activism and science, through to politics, education and literature. It showcases the careers and Corey's personal stories of First Nations People who have done great things in their respective fields, including Professor Marcia Langton, Miranda Tapsell, Tony Armstrong, Dr Anita Heiss, Danzal Baker (Baker Boy), Adam Goodes and Blak Douglas.</p>
	Various Friday Barnes series				<p>Any three titles read from this series can be included as official Challenge books; up to five more titles can be included as your personal choice books. To see the individual book titles and their PRC ID numbers, go to the Series lists on the Booklists page, on the website. Or, you can search for a series name or the individual titles by using the Search function on the top left hand corner of the screen.</p>

PRC ID	Author/Title	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
885702	* Waugh, HM Evacuation Road	Rhiza Press	2021	9781761110351	Eva is far from home when everything goes wrong. And then it gets even worse. Her evacuation bus leaves her behind, stranded with classmates she barely knows. The chase is on. But South America is big, and the old rules are changing quickly. This is the road trip Eva never knew she needed. This is the race for the last flight home. Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.
941510	Welford, Ross Monkey who fell from the future, The	HarperCollins Australia	2023	9780008544744	The year is 2425. Centuries after a catastrophic meteor collision, nature has retaken the earth. In a small town in what was once England, young Ocean Mooney and the monkey-owning Duke Smiff have just dug up a 400 year-old tablet computer. Meanwhile, in the present day, Thomas Reeve and his genius cousin Kylie create the Time Tablet - a device which they hope will allow them to communicate with the future. But when the Time Tablet malfunctions live on television, Thomas and Kylie are sucked into the year 2425 - and have only 24 hours to return home, and save the future of humanity...
967407	⊕ Wilkinson, Lili Hunger of Thorns, A	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2023	9781760526948	Maude is the daughter of witches. She spent her childhood running wild with her best friend, Odette, weaving stories of girls who slayed dragons and saved princes. Then Maude grew up and lost her magic - and her best friend. These days, magic is toothless, reduced to glamour patches and psychic energy drinks found in supermarkets and shopping malls. Odette has always hungered for forbidden, dangerous magic, and two weeks ago she went searching for it. Now she's missing, and everyone says she's dead. Everyone except Maude. Storytelling has always been Maude's gift, so she knows all about girls who get lost in the woods. She's sure she can find Odette inside the ruins of Sicklehurst, an abandoned power plant built over an ancient magical forest - a place nobody else seems to remember is there. The danger is, no one knows what remains inside Sicklehurst, either. And every good story is sure to have a monster. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Author/Title	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
1019798	Williams, Megan Let's never speak of this again	Text Publishing Co	2023	9781922790392	Life is pretty good for sixteen-year-old Abby. Okay, her grandma has dementia and she accidentally kissed her cousin's cousin on the weekend, so not everything is perfect. But everything is manageable with her best friend Ella by her side. The arrival of new girl Chloe and her inclusion in the friendship group throws up some challenges for established relationships but when tragedy strikes Ella's family, Abby has to re-evaluate her own feelings and work out what friendship really means.
1019752	Wilson, Kerilynn Faint of heart, The	Greenwillow	2023	9780063116221	<p>Not that long ago, the Scientist discovered that all sadness, anxiety, and anger disappeared when you removed your heart. And that's all it took. Soon enough, the hospital had lines out the door - even though the procedure numbed the good feelings, too.</p> <p>Everyone did it. Everyone except high school student June. But now the pressure, loneliness, and heartache are mounting, and it's becoming harder and harder to be the only one with a heart.</p> <p>One day, June comes across an abandoned heart in a jar. The heart in the jar intrigues her, it baffles her, and it brings her hope. But the heart also brings her Max, a classmate with a secret of his own.</p> <p>And it may rip June's own heart in two.</p>
870185	Wilson, Stuart Prometheus High: How to make a monster	Puffin Australia	2022	9781761042256	<p>Athena Strange's first semester at Prometheus High starts with a bang. But when her lessons in reanimation, robotics and skulkers move too slowly and she has trouble making friends, Athena decides to take matters into her own hands.</p> <p>On a ship where science and magic collide, and the monster under your bed is probably very real ... will Athena be able to hold her head above water?</p>
992270	Winter, Tamsin Bad Influence	Usborne Publishing Ltd	2023	9781474979078	Navigating school is difficult at the best of times, but Amelia has found herself branded with the worst nickname, Maggot. In her attempt to prove her classmates wrong and get away from her nickname and become popular, Amelia makes an even worse blunder.

PRC ID	Author/Title	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
1019738	Wray, Melissa Summer change	Rhiza Press	2023	9781761111211	Summer Change is set in Townsville and follows Shae who has her family holiday cancelled with no explanation forcing her to spend the summer with her cousins. Shae is trying to solve the mystery about what her parents are keeping from her. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 or above.
1019626	Wynne, Sarah & Barrett, Laura (ill) Murder in velvet	New Frontier Publishing	2023	9781922326836	13 year old Grace loves her new charity shop coat. It is perfect! Except for one tiny thing. When she wears it, she sees visions of the previous owner's life....and their murder! Grace and her best friend, Suzy, decide to investigate but digging up the past reveals secrets some people want kept hidden. Can Grace solve a fifty-year-old murder or will she become the killer's next victim?
916557	Yong, Leanne Two Can Play That Game	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2023	9781761063374	Sam Khoo has one goal in life: create cool indie games. She's willing to do anything to make her dream come true - even throw away a scholarship to university. All she needs is a super-rare ticket to a game design workshop and she can kickstart her career. So when Jay Chua, aka Jerky McJerkface, sneakily grabs the last ticket, it's war. Knowing how their Australian-Malaysian community works, Sam issues him an ultimatum: put the ticket on the line in a 1v1 competition of classic video games, or she'll broadcast his duplicity to everyone. Thank you, Asian Gossip Network. Meeting in neutral locations, away from the eyes and ears of nosy aunties and uncles, Sam and Jay connect despite themselves. It's a puzzle that Sam's not sure she wants to solve. But when her dream is under threat, will she discover that there is more than one way to win?
993817	Zobel, Anna This camp is doomed: A Dennith Grange misadventure	Penguin	2023	9781761047565	A run-down camp in the woods with no phone reception and 10 students with untested powers- what could possibly go wrong? Something is definitely not right at Camp Buttress and who is the ghost that keeps appearing and what is he trying to tell them? Fionn, Celine and their friends together with their teachers try to solve the mystery- and survive.