



9plus Booklist by Title - Full

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.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
750744	#famous Gagnon, Jilly	HarperCollins Publishers Ltd, UK	2017	9780062430045	Rachel Ettinger and Kyle Bonham led fairly predictable lives until Rachel's jokey picture of Kyle working at the Burger Barn wound up going viral. Suddenly he is insta-famous and everyone on the planet knows about Rachel's silly crush on him... including Kyle. Just as they think their lives couldn't get any more complicated, an innocent photo becomes a whirlwind adventure full of fangirls, haters, and French-fry bouquets that forces them both to questions whether fame -- and love -- are worth the price. Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.
774346	100 remarkable feats of Xander Maze, The Comber, Clayton Zane	HarperCollins Australia	2021	9781460759455	Xander Maze loves lists and his grandmother is #1 on his list of People I Love Most in the World. But now that nanna has stage 4 cancer, can a new list of 100 Remarkable Feats really save her life? Particularly when his list contains difficult things like #2 Make a Friend and #3 Make a Best Friend. A funny and moving book about defying the odds, not accepting the unacceptable and one boy's unconditional love for his nanna. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
1147083	A tempest of tea Faizal, Hafsa	First Second	2025	9781035069361	Arthie Casimir is a criminal mastermind and collector of secrets. Her prestigious tearoom transforms into an illegal bloodhouse by night, catering to the vampires feared by society. But when her establishment is threatened, Arthie is forced to strike an unlikely deal with an alluring adversary to save it - and she can't do the job alone. Calling on some of the city's most skilled outcasts, Arthie hatches a plan to infiltrate the dark and glittering vampire society known as the Athereum. But not everyone in her ragtag crew is on her side, and as the truth behind the heist unfolds, Arthie finds herself in the midst of a conspiracy that will threaten the world as she knows it.
863865	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Able Alcott, Dylan	HarperCollins Australia	2019	9780733340550	Dylan Alcott has never let his disability get in the way of what he wanted to achieve. His family treated him no differently to any other kid, and it was the best thing they ever did. Growing up, Dylan always had a positive attitude to life. So when he discovered sport, he'd have a go at anything and could always be found at the centre of the action, giving his best and playing to win. Then he tried wheelchair basketball and tennis and was hooked. Fast forward ten years or so, and the now three-time Paralympic gold medallist, Order of Australia recipient, world No 1 tennis champion, Logie winner and philanthropist combines elite sport with a love for music. But Dylan's greatest passion is changing the way those with disabilities are perceived, and to inspire young people - whether they have disabilities or are able-bodied - to achieve their dreams. It's a passion that drives him every day of his life. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
16047	<input checked="" type="radio"/> About a girl Horniman, Joanne	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2010	9781742371443	Anna is afraid she must be unlovable until she meets Flynn. Together, the girls swim, eat banana cake, laugh and love. Some days, Flynn is unreachable. On other days, she's at Anna's door. When Anna discovers Flynn's secret, she wonders if she knows her at all. Includes mature themes. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
602864	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Ace of Shades Foody, Amanda	Harlequin	2018	9781489256560	Enne Salta is a naive young lady with strengths yet to be revealed. Lost and alone in a new city which is rife with criminal gangs and corruption, Enne is in a desperate search for her lost mother. Along the way she finds out incredible truths about her mother and her family background, whilst discovering untold strengths. Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
571050	After the lights go out Wilkinson, Lili	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2018	9781760297299	What happens when the lights go off after what might truly be an end-of-the-world event? How do you stay alive? Who do you trust? How much do you have to sacrifice? Seventeen-year-old Pru Palmer lives with her twin sisters, Grace and Blythe, and their father, Rick, on the outskirts of an isolated mining community. The Palmers are doomsday preppers. They have a bunker filled with non-perishable food and a year's worth of water. One day while Rick is at the mine, the power goes out. At the Palmers' house, and in the town. All communication is cut. No one knows why. It doesn't take long for everything to unravel. In town, supplies run out and people get desperate. The sisters decide to keep their bunker a secret. The world is different; the rules are different. Survival is everything, and family comes first. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
4809	Afterlight Lim, Rebecca	Text Publishing Co	2015	9781925240498	Since her parents died, Sophie Teague's life has fallen apart. She's just enrolled at a new high school, hoping for a fresh start. But, Eve, a beautiful ghost, starts making terrifying nightly appearances, wanting Sophie to be her hands, eyes and go-to girl to tie up loose ends. Dealing with the dead might just involve the greatest sacrifice of all. Dark, thrilling and unrelentingly eerie. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
12278	Afterworlds Westerfeld, Scott	Penguin	2014	9780143572046	Darcy, a budding author, arrives in New York City, to live her dream life as a published author of a novel, 'Afterworlds'. Told in alternating chapters is Darcy's novel, a suspenseful thriller about Lizzie, a teen who slips into the 'Afterworld', a place between the living and the dead, to survive a terrorist attack. The stories intertwine and one reality becomes the other. A challenging read; usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
4249	Against the tide Savvides, Irini	ABC Books	2008	9780733322907	Katie and Matt are champion ocean swimmers who love a challenge that will test their training and skills to the limit. Effi and Christie live in a different world which is intense, funny, often overheated and far removed from the beach. When these two worlds meet, in a blend of love and loss, violence and prejudice, only the strongest will succeed in swimming against the tide. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
871639	Agathas, The Glasgow, Kathleen & Lawson, Liz	HarperCollins Australia	2022	9781460762455	Welcome to Castle Cove - a town cursed with missing girls, bad boyfriends, family secrets and some very steep cliffs. Last summer, Alice Ogilvie's basketball-star boyfriends Steve dumped her. Then she disappeared for five days. Where she went and what happened to her is the biggest mystery in Castle Cove. Or at least it was. Because now, another one of Steve's girlfriends has vanished: Brooke Donovan, Alice's ex-best friend. And it doesn't look like Brooke will be coming back... Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
15510	Al Capone does my shirts Choldenko, Jennifer	Bloomsbury	2004	9780747568988	Moose Flanagan lives with his family on Alcatraz, a high security prison housing the notorious Al Capone, in the 1930s. His friend's plan to make money out of this backfires with serious consequences. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.
3154	Alaska Saliba, Sue	Penguin Books Australia	2011	9780143206118	When Mia follows her sister halfway across the world to Alaska, she discovers that love can be found in the most unexpected and beautiful of places. Mia must find the courage to follow her heart in Alaska. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
785	Alexander Altmann A10567 Zail, Suzy	Black Dog Books	2014	9781922179999	Alexander is a Jewish boy during World War II and is being held in a camp. To survive, he toughens up and vows to make friends with nobody. He is given the job of caring for the soldiers' horses, where he is ordered to break in the commander's new horse, who is scared and damaged. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
5343	All I ever wanted Wakefield, Vikki	Text Publishing Co	2011	9781921758300	RULE NUMBER ONE: I will not turn out like my mother. Mim wants to be anywhere but home -- in a dead suburb and with a mother who won't get off the couch. She's set herself rules to live by, but she's starting to break them. In nine days she'll turn seventeen. What she doesn't know is that her life is about to change forever. And when it does, the same things will look entirely different. Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.
8	All in the blue unclouded weather Klein, Robin	Penguin	1992	9780140349825	A collection of interlinked stories set in the late 1940s in an Australian country town which focus on the four young Melling sisters. Each story links the girls and their friends together in a variety of domestic events and problems. The stories present a nostalgic feel for the post-war years. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
587849	☉ All that impossible space Morgan, Anna	Lothian Books	2019	9780734419637	Lara Laylor is 15 and is struggling to find her sense of self. She's always been seen as Ashley's best friend or Hannah's sister. When her History teacher Mr Grant gives her the assignment of researching the mystery of Adelaide's Somerton Man, she is instantly transported into another world. Lara becomes a detective as she tries to find out who this mysterious man was and why he died, anonymously, on a beach. As Lara researches, she is able to ignore some of the toxic friendships and crushes happening around her. However, she needs to grow up eventually and solve her own mysteries too. Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.
846269	☉ All that's left in the world Brown, Erik J	Hachette Australia	2022	9781444960167	James is living his post-apocalyptic life in a well stocked cabin in the woods. He is more prepared than most, but, like many, has not come to terms with the loss of loved ones. Andrew shows up badly injured at his door after getting caught in a bear trap, and James feels obliged to help him. Their two stories become entwined as they must leave the comfortable cabin to go on a dangerous journey south, encountering pockets of people rebuilding society in ways which sometimes proves deadly. Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.
895457	☉ All the best liars Kahaney, Amelia	Flatiron Books	2022	9781250312723	A psychological thriller. Three best friends grew up on the wrong side of the tracks in the stifling California desert desperately seeking a way out. Two weeks before the end of school a fatal fire means nothing will ever be the same. They all will end up escaping. One by dying one by lying and the third by taking the fall. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
13887	☉ All the light we cannot see Doerr, Anthony	HarperCollins Australia	2015	9780007548699	For Marie-Laure, blind since the age of six, the world is full of mazes. The miniature of a Paris neighbourhood, made by her father to teach her the way home. The microscopic layers within the invaluable diamond that her father guards in the Museum of Natural History. The walled city by the sea, where father and daughter take refuge when the Nazis invade Paris. And a future which draws her ever closer to Werner, a German orphan, destined to labour in the mines until a broken radio fills his life with possibility and brings him to the notice of the Hitler Youth. In this magnificent, deeply moving novel, the stories of Marie-Laure and Werner illuminate the ways, against all odds, people try to be good to one another. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
660721	☉ All the stars and teeth Grace, Adalyn	St Martin's	2020	9781250307781	In the Kingdom of Visidia, each island has its own unique form of magic. As princess of Visidia, Amora Montara has spent her whole life learning to control the ruling family's dangerous soul magic. Amora is determined to rule fairly and justly, and grows frustrated as her father, the King of Visidia, continues to exclude her from the politics of her future kingdom. She has also spent her entire life preparing for the performance of soul magic that will prove her suitability to rule. But on the night of her performance, Amora loses control of her soul magic and is forced to flee. She strikes a deal with a mysterious pirate, who promises to help her in exchange for Amora's assistance reclaiming his stolen magic. As Amora travels the seas, she learns things in her kingdom are not quite what they seem to be, and it's not just her crown that is in danger, but her entire kingdom. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
1046752	☉ All this twisted glory Mafi, Tahereh	electric monkey	2024	9780008625757	As the long-lost heir to the Jinn throne, Alizeh has finally found her people -- and perhaps her crown. Cyrus, the mercurial ruler of Tulan, has offered her his kingdom in a twisted exchange: one that would begin with their marriage and end with his murder. Cyrus's dark reputation precedes him. killing him should be easy. But despite their best efforts to despise each other, Alizeh and Cyrus are drawn together over and over with an all-consuming thirst that threatens to destroy them both. And then Prince Kamran arrives in Tulan, ready to exact revenge Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
4203	All too much Cotterill, Jo	Bloomsbury	2017	9781472934079	Samira wants to do well, her parents want her to do well, her teachers want her to do well, but the pressure is starting to tell. Can her friends rescue her when it all gets too much? Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
6512	Amelia Westlake Gough, Erin	Hardie Grant Egmont	2018	9781760127152	Harriet and Wilhelmina couldn't be more dissimilar. Harriet has the perfect life - she's dating the perfect girl, has been elected prefect, is the apple of her teachers' eye, and is an overachiever. Will, on the other hand, has gained the ire of her teachers and lands more detentions than she does accolades. But when both girls witness a teacher harass a fellow student, the two form an unlikely partnership to shed light on the many problems of the exclusive Rosemead Grammar. To protect their identities, they create Amelia Westlake, and as they work together they begin to question their distance from each other...Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
22778	American born Chinese Yang, Gene Luen	First Second	2006	9781596431522	When Jin Wang starts at a new school, he's the only Chinese-American student. He just wants to be an all-American boy. Danny is popular and great at basketball but his obnoxious Chinese cousin's annual visits are a disaster, ruining his reputation at school. The Monkey King is the most powerful monkey on earth and his story is one of the greatest Chinese fables. These three apparently unrelated characters come together with an unexpected twist. Graphic novel. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
660122	Angel mage Nix, Garth	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2019	9781760630904	The icon-maker and angel-summoner Liliath, long believed dead, has woken from her century long sleep to pick up the threads of a plan that has already destroyed one kingdom and may yet destroy another. To succeed, Liliath must bring together Agnez the musketeer, Simeon the doctor, Dorotea the mage, and Henri, one of the Cardinal's clerks...and take them into utmost danger. Set in an alternative seventeenth century where angels can be summoned to do the bidding of those with a talent for magic, Angel Mage is an action-packed story of angels, heroes, gunpowder and high magic. Usually read by students in Year 9, 10 and above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
751164	Angel of Waterloo, The French, Jackie	HarperCollins Australia	2020	9781460757918	The soldiers she saved called her the Angel of Waterloo. The husband she loved and lost called her Hen. The patients she treated in secret called her Auntie Love. She was Henrietta Bartlett, a surgeon's daughter, a survivor of the Napoleonic Wars. But now the battlefield is just a blood-soaked memory, and Hen dreams of peace, a home, and a society that allows women to practise medicine. On the other side of the world, the newly founded colony of New South Wales seems a paradise. But Europe's wars cast long shadows .. Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.
17550	Angelmonster Bennett, Veronica	Walker Books	2005	9780744559866	Mary and her sister, Jane, always longed to be carried off by a handsome poet. The reality of life with Percy Shelley and Lord Byron is a combination of romance and tragedy. Adult themes around their liberated behaviour may offend some readers. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
14	Animal farm Orwell, George	Penguin	2004	9780141187389	A classic allegory in which the animals take over Manor Farm from their drunken master and all seems to be perfect as everyone is equal under the Seven Commandments. Circumstances change as the pigs become more equal than the others. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
11352	Anna and the swallow man Savit, Gavriel	Corgi Books	2016	9780552575270	On 6 November 1939, Anna's father had to go away for a few hours. He left shortly after eleven o'clock and did not come back again. Seven year old Anna is locked out of the apartment and alone. She is hungry and scared, and unsure who she can trust or who she can turn to. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
1810	Ant colony, The Valentine, Jenny	HarperCollins Publishers Ltd, UK	2009	9780007283590	A strange assortment of misfits and losers live at number 33. Runaway Sam has disappeared there, Bohemia's mum is between boyfriends again and Old Isabel acts like she owns the place. The owner, Slezzy Steve, is always trying to squeeze in one more tenant. Maybe their concern for Bohemia, the most caring of them all, can teach these people to care. Strong language used in context and adult themes. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
848780	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Anything but fine Madden, Tobias	Penguin	2021	9781761042027	Luca Mason knows exactly who he is and what he wants: In six months, he's going to be accepted into the Australian Ballet School, leave his fancy private high school, and live his life as a star of the stage - at least that's the plan until he falls down a flight of stairs and breaks his foot in a way he can never recover from. With his dancing dreams dead on their feet, Luca loses his performing arts scholarship and transfers to the local public school, leaving behind all his ballet friends and his whole future on stage. The only bright side is that he strikes up unlikely friendships with the nicest (and nerdiest) girl at his new school, Amina, and the gorgeous and popular school captain, Jordan Tanaka-Jones. As their unlikely bonds grow stronger, Luca starts to wonder: who is he without ballet? And is he setting himself up for another heartbreak? Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.
20	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Anzacs at Gallipoli, The: a story for Anzac Day Pugsley, Chris & Lockyer, John	Thomas C Lothian Pty Ltd	2000	9780734400703	A simply written, moving account of Australian and New Zealand soldiers' dramatic experiences at Gallipoli, which includes extracts from their letters and diaries, along with graphic photographs. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
88054	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Apache: girl warrior Landman, Tanya	Walker Books	2007	9781406303315	Siki rises to the rare position of girl-warrior in an Apache tribe. She witnesses the horrors of the Indian wars against the Mexicans and the invading White Eyes. A sometimes violent and very honest story of courage, integrity, betrayal, love, hope and despair as Siki struggles to belong and learns the truth of her own story. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
21	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Apostle bird, The Disher, Garry	Hodder Headline Australia Pty Ltd	1997	9780733605253	Set in the Western Australian goldfields in the 1930s, Neil describes the sometimes violent life on the diggings. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
	Arc of a scythe series Shusterman, Neal				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.

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687907	Arctic Zoo Muchamore, Robert	Hot Key Books	2019	9781471408328	Georgia and Julius meet in an adolescent mental health unit and in a flashback format we gradually find out about the events that led them to both be there. This novel explores highly believable political events in London and Nigeria and explores how Georgia and Julius both ended up in way deeper than they liked. This story is focused on social media and how its impact influences us all. Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.
19063	Aristotle and Dante discover the secrets of the universe Saenz, Benjamin Alire	Simon & Schuster	2014	9781442408937	Aristotle is angry and self-doubting, with a brother in prison. Dante is self-assured, with an unusual way of viewing the world. They would seem to have nothing in common. But, as the loners spend time together, a special bond develops. Through their connection, Ari and Dante learn the most important truths about themselves and the kind of people they want to be. Adult themes and language. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
593283	Art of taxidermy, The Kernot, Sharon	Text Publishing Co	2018	9781925603743	Lottie collects dead creatures and lovingly cares for them, hoping to preserve them, to save them from disintegration. Her father understands - Lottie has a scientific mind, he thinks. Her aunt wants it to stop, and she goes to cruel lengths to make sure it does. And her mother? Lottie's mother died long ago. And Lottie is searching for a way to be close to her. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
911144	As long as the lemon trees grow Katouh, Zoulfa	Bloomsbury	2022	9781526648518	Salama Kassab was a pharmacy student when the cries for freedom broke out in Syria. She still had her parents and her big brother; she still had her home. She was even supposed to be meeting a boy to talk about marriage. Now Salama volunteers at a hospital in Homs, helping the wounded who flood through the doors. She knows that she should be thinking about leaving, but who will help the people of her beloved country if she doesn't? With her heart so conflicted, her mind has conjured a vision to spur her to action. His name is Khawf, and he haunts her nights with hallucinations of everything she has lost. But even with Khawf pressing her to leave, when she crosses paths with Kenan, the boy she was supposed to meet on that fateful day, she starts to doubt her resolve in leaving home at all. Soon, Salama must learn to see the events around her for what they truly are. Not a war, but a revolution and decide how she, too, will cry for Syria's freedom. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.

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	Ash princess series Sebastian, Laura				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.
23695	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Astonishing colour of after, The Pan, Emily X R	Hachette Children's Books	2018	9781510102965	What is the colour of love or loss? After an unimaginable tragedy turns her life upside-down, Leigh embarks on a quest that is partly physical, partly magical, and entirely transformative. An artist by calling, Leigh's story is illuminated in colours of all shades and meaning. As she journeys into her family's past and discovers a cultural identity she never knew, she finds the answers she was looking for, and even answers she didn't know she needed. This book deals with issues of grief, suicide and healing. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
622523	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Astrologer's daughter, The Lim, Rebecca	The High street publishing company	2019	9780648468608	Avicenna Crowe's mother, Joanne, is an astrologer with uncanny predictive powers and a history of being stalked. Now she is missing. The police are called, but they're not asking the right questions. Like why Joanne lied about her past, and what she saw in her stars that made her so afraid. But Avicenna has inherited her mother's gift. Finding an unlikely ally in the brooding Simon Thorn, she begins to piece together the mystery. And when she uncovers a link between Joanne's disappearance and a cold-case murder, Avicenna is led deep into the city's dark and seedy underbelly, unaware how far she is placing her own life in danger. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
25	<input checked="" type="radio"/> At Ardilla Rubinstein, Gillian	Penguin	2001	9780141312675	Jen returns to Ardilla, a well-loved, old holiday home, and struggles to understand the changing relationships between families and friends. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
4576	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Australia to Z Greder, Armin	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2016	9781760113186	This striking alphabet book shows an Australia with many dimensions. As a country, it has a lot to offer but Australia needs to confront its history and current greed; to stop leaning on old cultural institutions and symbols; and to welcome and tolerate differences. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
27	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Baboon king, The Quintana, Anton	Random House Australia Pty Ltd	2001	9780440229070	Morengaru, a man divided against himself, who is an outcast in the wilderness, must live as an animal. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
1019753	☉Bad magic: A Skulduggery Pleasant graphic novel Landy, Derek & Holden, P.J. & Soffe, Matt	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.
17657	☉Ballad for a mad girl Wakefield, Vikki	Text Publishing Co	2017	9781925355291	Grace is a risk taker and never one to say no to a dare. So when she is challenged to walk "the pipe" at a local disused quarry, she accepts the challenge. But partway along the pipe, she has a supernatural experience she just can't explain. No one believes she has been hearing the voice of Hannah since walking the pipe, because Hannah is dead. As Grace sinks deeper into a decades-old local mystery, she herself starts to fear she is becoming a Mad Girl. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
574224	☉Be the one Pitts, Byron	Simon & Schuster	2018	9781442483835	Emmy Award-winning ABC News chief national correspondent and Nightline co-anchor, Byron Pitts shares the heartbreaking and inspiring stories of six young people who overcame impossible circumstances with extraordinary perseverance. This book is usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
3019	☉Beach they called Gallipoli, The French, Jackie & Whatley, Bruce (ill)	Angus & Robertson (HarperCollins)	2014	9780732292263	This book is about Gallipoli, the place, and what happened on Gallipoli Beach, from the ANZACS first landing in April to their retreat in December 1915. Images, memorabilia, illustrations and photographs enrich the recount of the months that followed the landing. Includes images that may trouble some readers. A challenging read; usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
2956	☉Beatle meets Destiny Williams, Gabrielle	Penguin Books Australia	2009	9780143011491	Beatle normally doesn't go out on Friday the thirteenth but this is an exception. And, then, there's the attractive girl wearing sunglasses and reading a book. Not only is her name Destiny but her surname is McCartney, and since his real name is John Lennon, and for a whole lot of other spooky reasons, it seems destined that they will be together. But Beatle already has a girlfriend. Some language in context. Usually read by student in Years 9,10 or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
5168	Beautiful mess Christian, Claire	Text Publishing Co	2017	9781925498547	Since Ava lost Kelly, things haven't been going so well. Even before she gets thrown out of school for shouting at the principal, there's the simmering rage and all the weird destructive choices. The only thing going right for Ava is her job at Magic Kebab. Which is where she meets Gideon. Skinny, shy, anxious Gideon. A mad poet and collector of vinyl records with an aversion to social media. He lives in his head. She lives in her grief. The only people who can help them move on with their lives are each other. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
49280	Beautiful monster McCaffrey, Kate	Fremantle Press	2010	9781921361982	Tessa needs to be perfect, the perfect daughter, with the perfect marks and the perfect body. But, there is a fine line between being in control and being controlled, in Tessa's effort to achieve perfection. Contains mature themes and some language in context. Usually read by student in Years 9,10 or above.
846218	Beautiful, The Ahdieh, Renee	Hodder & Stoughton	2019	9781529368154	As Celine Rousseau escapes Paris to 1872 New Orleans, she is hoping for escape and a better future. What she gets is attraction to the glitzy underworld and the members of La Cour des Lions. New Orleans is not all it seems and with a serial killer following her footsteps and her heart betraying her head, Celine is entering a world that may be her downfall. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 or above.
5757	Beauty is in the walking, The Moloney, James	Angus & Robertson (HarperCollins)	2015	9780732299941	Everyone thinks they know what Jacob O'Leary can and can't do, and they're not shy about telling him either. But, no one, not even Jacob, knows what he's truly capable of. When a shocking and mystifying crime leaves his small country town reeling, and fingers start pointing at a young Muslim boy at his school, Jacob is convinced the police have accused the wrong guy. He's determined to prove it, and himself, to everyone. Challenging book; usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.
35592	Because of you Harry, Pip	University of Queensland Press	2017	9780702259777	Tiny is an eighteen-year-old girl living on the streets of Sydney, running from her small-town past. She finds short-term accommodation at Hope Lane - a shelter for the homeless - where she meets Nola, a high school student on volunteer placement. Both girls share their love of words through the Hope Lane writing group. Can they share their secrets, too? Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
587853	○ Becoming Obama, Michelle	Penguin	2018	9780241334140	In her memoir, a work of deep reflection and mesmerising storytelling, Michelle Obama invites readers into her world, chronicling the experiences that have shaped her - from her childhood on the South Side of Chicago to her years as an executive balancing the demands of motherhood and work, to her time spent at the world's most famous address. With unerring honesty and lively wit, she describes her triumphs and her disappointments, both public and private, telling her full story as she has lived it - in her own words and on her own terms. Warm, wise, and revelatory, Becoming is the deeply personal reckoning of a woman of soul and substance who has steadily defied expectations - and whose story inspires us to do the same. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
774240	○ Becoming (adapted for younger readers) Obama, Michelle	Penguin	2021	9780241531815	What's important is our story, our whole story, including those moments when we feel a little vulnerable . . . Michelle Robinson started life sharing a bedroom with her older brother Craig, in their family's upstairs apartment in her great-aunt's house. Her parents, Fraser and Marian, poured their love and energy into their children. She would go on to become Michelle Obama, the inspirational First Lady of the United States of America. Now adapted for younger readers, with new photographs and a new introduction from Michelle Obama herself, this memoir tells a very personal, and completely inspiring, story of how, through hard work and determination, the girl from the South Side of Chicago built an extraordinary life. Usually read by students inn years 9, 10, or above.
30767	○ Becoming Aurora Kasmer, Elizabeth	University of Queensland Press	2016	9780702254208	Sixteen year old Rory (Aurora) is at the crossroads in her life. While her gang plans its next move in a racially motivated turf war, Rory refuses to reveal their names and takes the rap for an attack on the local immigrant community. She is sentenced to community care in an aged care facility. There, she meets resident and ex-boxer Jack, an encounter that leads her to Essam, a young migrant boxer, who will challenge her prejudices and force her to address the mistakes of her past. Some violence. Usually read by Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
3113	⓪ Been here all along Hall, Sandy	Swoon Reads	2016	9781250100658	Gideon always had a plan. His plans include running for class president, leading the yearbook committee and having his choice of colleges. They do not include falling head over heels for his best friend and next-door neighbour, Kyle. Kyle finally feels like he has a handle on life. He has a wonderful girlfriend, a best friend willing to debate the finer points of Lord of the Rings and social acceptance as captain. Then both Ruby and Gideon start acting weird...Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
3296	⓪ Before you forget Lawrinson, Julia	Penguin Books Australia	2017	9780143574071	Year Twelve is not off to a good start for Amelia. Art is her world, but her art teacher hates everything she does; her best friend has stopped talking to her; her mother and father may as well be living in separate houses; and her father is slowly forgetting everything. Even Amelia. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
12364	⓪ Being Bindy Brugman, Alyssa	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2004	9781741142181	This is what happens when your worst enemy, who used to be your best friend, threatens to become your sister. Bindy makes some tough decisions as she faces adolescence and the problems caused by her parents' new relationships. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
774350	⓪ Being black 'n chicken, and chips (Teen edition) Okine, Matt	Hachette Australia	2019	9780734420671	Based on Matt Okine's award-winning stand-up show, this is a heart-breaking and hilarious story about trying to grow up when everything around you is falling down. Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.
1080	⓪ Being here Jonsberg, Barry	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2011	9781742373850	Sixteen year old Carly is interviewing Leah Cartwright for her local history project. Leah resists, determined to tell her own story of a lonely child on an isolated farm, whose only escape is in the world of books. Carly is drawn into the story about Leah's present, past, secrets, an unlikely boy who changes everything, and a rich imagination that rescues her from a grim reality. Includes some violence and adult themes. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
1424099	⓪ Belly of a wolf, The Negri, Julianne	University of Western Australia Press	2026	9781760803209	Red is going back to high school six months after the death of their best friend Wolf. Their friendship began on the first day of prep, when they were cast as Little Red and Wolf in the school play: ever after their lives were entwined as two halves of the same story. Red is defined by Wolf in life and death. As Red tries to move on with her life, she is forever pulled back by memories of Wolf and her guilt about not knowing Wolf planned to die. Red becomes increasingly self-destructive and questions: can you ever recast who you are in a story? Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
ID 15844	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Beneath the surface Crew, Gary & Woolman, Steven (ill)	Hodder Children's Books (Australia)	2005	9780733619328	Trying to understand his haunting nightmares, Dr Trotter returns to Preston, where he grew up, to the watertower, where he played as a child. The mystery lies beneath the surface of the deep, still waters. Dark sequel to 'The Watertower'. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.
36	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Beowulf Heaney, Seamus	Faber & Faber	2000	9780571203765	A translation of the classic, Anglo-Saxon epic of warriors, dragons and monsters composed between the 7th and 10th centuries. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
17171	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Beowulf: graphic novel Hinds, Gareth (adapt)	Candlewick Press	2007	9780763630232	Gareth Hinds' Beowulf is a beautiful graphic novel, with some violent scenarios, remaining true to the classic Norse saga about Beowulf. He tackles a dragon with tragic consequences leaving questions about the real cost of his sacrifice. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
5828	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Best day of my life, The Ellis, Deborah	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2012	9781742379142	In Jharia, India, Valli spends her days picking up coal and fighting with her cousins. Her family won't let her go to school and there's never enough food. When Valli discovers that her 'aunt' is a stranger who was paid to take her, she leaves Jharia and begins a new life, surviving on the streets of Kolkata. A chance encounter with a doctor may change her life but Valli must decide if she trusts enough to accept help. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
29866	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Between shades of gray Sepetys, Ruta	Penguin Books Australia	2011	9780143205418	In 1941, fifteen year old Lina is preparing for art school and looking forward to summer. When the Soviet secret police invade her home and forcibly remove Lina, her mother and brother, they must fight for their lives. They are transported via cattle trucks from Lithuania to remote Siberia in a harrowing, violent journey. It is also a story of incredible courage and strength. Includes violence and cruelty. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
61034	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Between the lives Shirvington, Jessica	HarperCollins Australia	2013	9780732296261	Sabine is an eighteen year old caught between two lives. Her life in Wellesey is the almost perfect world, a place of glamorous friends, all you could want and a doting boyfriend. Her other life in Roxbury is less than perfect and here she is considered by many as a rebel, out of place. Every twenty-four hours on the stroke of midnight, Sabine moves between worlds. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
4213	☉ Beyond the bright sea Wolk, Lauren	Penguin	2017	9780552574303	Crow was just a baby when she was tied into a boat and pushed out to sea. When she washes up onto a tiny island, there are just 3 clues to her origin; a birthmark in the shape of a feather, a ruby ring and a sea-soaked letter with just a few cryptic words remaining. 12 years later, when a mysterious fire appears across the ocean, Crow starts to wonder who she is and where she came from. Crow will set out on a remarkable treasure hunt, and discover what it truly means to be a family. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
1158	☉ Big dry, The Davis, Tony	Angus & Robertson (HarperCollins)	2013	9780732297633	With each year of drought the heat became worse. The lawns and crops withered and died. Buildings began to crumble and collapse, and more people left the city. George and his little brother, Beeper, become worried when their father fails to return from a trip to town for food and fuel. Fear for the safety of their dad quickly becomes a fight for their own survival in the hot and brutal conditions. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
751053	☉ Bill Bailey's remarkable guide to happiness Bailey, Bill & Magee, Joe (ill)	Quercus Children's Books	2020	9781529412451	From paddle-boarding down the Thames in a Santa hat, to wild swimming in a glacial river, Bill considers the exhilaration of the outdoors, as well as the quieter pleasures of clearing out your moth-eaten grey t-shirts. He attempts to see beyond the mumbo-jumbo of the wellness industry and aims for the heart of real joy and contentment - and how we can all achieve it. This collection of funny, meditative and thoughtful essays seeks out simplicity and clarity as a corrective to the endless background noise of anxiety-inducing news chatter. Whether it's whooping aloud while cycling through a pine forest, putting pen to paper, or immersing yourself in music, Bill's guide to happiness is an antidote to the frenetic whirl of modern life. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
1023642	☉ Birdy Kernot, Sharon	Text Publishing Co	2024	9781922790606	Following a traumatic incident, Maddy is now mute. She has moved to a remote farmhouse, with her mother and brother, to rest and recuperate. With the help of a therapist, Maddy sets herself small goals each day - journal, smile, walk outside - to build her confidence. She meets Alice, who is still waiting for her own daughter, Birdy, to return home, 45 years after she disappeared. Maddy also meets a new friend, Levi, and she is drawn into the mystery of Birdy's disappearance. Can Maddy learn to trust her new friends, let go of her guilt and shame, and learn to speak again? Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
2793	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Bite of the mango Kamara, Mariatu & McClelland, Susan	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2009	9781741757750	By thirteen, Mariatu had experienced rape, genital mutilation, an unwanted pregnancy and witnessed the horrors of war in Sierra Leone. Both her hands were amputated when she was captured by rebel soldiers. Her honest and unembellished account of her life is inspiring with its hope for a better future and the great love that the survivors share. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
723896	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Black enough: stories of being young and black in America Zoboi, Ibi (ed)	Balzer & Bray	2020	9780062698735	Black is...sisters navigating their relationship at summer camp in Portland, Oregon, as written by Renee Watson. Black is... three friends walking back from the community pool talking about nothing and everything, in a story by Jason Reynolds. Black is... Nic Stone's high-class beauty dating a boy her momma would never approve of. Black is... two girls kissing in Justina Ireland's story set in Maryland. Black is urban and rural, wealthy and poor, mixed race, immigrants, and more -- because there are countless ways to be Black enough. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
8957	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Black Jack Anderson Forrestal, Elaine	Penguin	2008	9780143005940	The infamous Black Jack Anderson, Australia's most notorious pirate, was a towering black American holed up with his evil-doing gang in the treacherous seas and islands off the south west coast of Australia. The fascinating details of his life and times; his mistresses, the treachery, bloodshed and escapes are as compelling as his personality, with his resourcefulness, power and passion. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
751196	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Black Summer: Stories of loss, courage and community from the 2019-2020 bushfires Rowland, Michael (ed)	ABC Books	2021	9780733341328	The bushfire season of 2019 and 2020 was the most catastrophic on record and the loss of lives, homes, property, habitat and wildlife were unprecedented. ABC journalists were present during these crises and reported information and updates on the growing fires. They gathered the many stories which can help those in the future understand what happened with the hope that lessons can be learned. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
4586	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Black water Metzenthen, David	Penguin Books Australia	2007	9780143005612	When Farren's father goes missing at sea, all he wants is for his older brother to come home from the war in Gallipoli. But, when Danny returns, he has changed from the person Farren remembers. This is a story of two brothers' struggle to make their way in a difficult world. Mature themes and very strong language used in context throughout. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
5122	Blackout Pryor, Michael	Hodder Headline Australia Pty Ltd	2000	9780733611810	An intense, electromagnetic pulse strikes earth, grinding the world to a halt. Holly wakes in the wreckage of a smashed car, next to her unconscious older brother. She sets out on a dangerous and violent quest to bring order to a world gone mad. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
578988	Blakwork Whittaker, Alison	Magabala Books	2018	9781925360851	BLAKWORK is a powerful collection of memoir, reportage, fiction, satire and critique through which the themes of great loss and the desire for a different future, emerge. Through her innovative and powerful poetic voice, Whittaker merges her own personal experiences with her research into Australian history and political decisions, to create a fearless and unsparing portrayal of the Australia presented through other interpretations; a portrayal that challenges the readers' understanding and invites them to rethink the identity and place projected onto the traditional custodians of the land. Usually read by students in year 9, 10 and above.
8225	Blood for blood Graudin, Ryan	Orion	2016	9781780622057	In 1950s Germany, the war is over but, for the resistance, the fight continues. Death camp survivor, Yael, who has the power to skinshift, to change her appearance at will, is on the run after shooting and killing Hitler. But, the truth of what happened is far more complicated and the consequences are deadly. As Yael and her comrades move into enemy territory, trying to turn the tide against the New Order, dark secrets reveal dark truths. Sequel to Wolf by Wolf. Includes violence. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
36465	Blood red road Young, Moira	Simon & Schuster	2011	9781442429987	Saba and her brother, Lugh, have spent their whole lives in Silverlake, a dried-up wasteland ravaged by constant sandstorms. The Wrecker civilization has long been destroyed, leaving only landfills for Saba and her family to scavenge from. When a monster sandstorm and four cloaked horsemen arrive, Lugh is captured and Saba embarks on an epic quest, in the lawless, ugly world outside Silverlake, to get him back. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
1084283	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Blood traitor, The Noni, Lynette	Penguin	2023	9781760897550	She'd failed them. All of them. And now she was paying the price. Kiva thought she knew what she wanted - revenge. But feelings change, people change . . . everything has changed. After what happened at the palace, Kiva is desperate to know if her friends and family are safe, and whether those she wronged can ever forgive her. But with the kingdoms closer to the brink of war than they've ever been, and Kiva far away from the conflict, more is at stake than her own broken heart. A fresh start will mean a perilous quest, forcing mortal enemies and uneasy allies together in a race against the clock to save not just Evalon, but all of Wenderall. With her loyalties now set, Kiva can no longer just survive - she must fight for what she believes in. For who she believes in. But with danger coming from every side, and the lives of everyone she loves at risk, does she have what it takes to stand, or will she fall? Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.
846195	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Blood, sweat & steel McGrath, Curtis & Phelps, James	HarperCollins Australia	2021	9780733340789	In 2012, Combat Engineer Curtis McGrath was serving in the Australian Army in Afghanistan when, in the line of duty, he stepped on a land mine. Just months later, Curtis was up and walking on prosthetic legs, motivated by the opportunity to march with his unit in their welcome-home ceremony. Kayaking gave him a new sense of purpose and a year later, Curtis captained the Australian team at the inaugural Invictus Games in London, founded by Prince Harry for wounded, injured or ill veterans. Then, within four years of his injury, Curtis won gold at the Rio 2016 Paralympic Games. Now a ten-time world champion gold medallist, Curtis is passionate about the power of sport to transform lives, he's ready at last to share his extraordinary story, and how he has approached every setback and challenge with courage, resilience, humour and grit. Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.
52769	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Bloodthirsty Meaney, Flynn	HarperCollins Australia	2010	9780732292195	Awkward and allergic to the sun, sixteen year old Finbar never gets the girl. When he notices that the female students at his school are obsessed with a vampire romance novel, Finbar seizes the opportunity. He'll become a vampire. Or at least fake it. When he meets the one girl who just might like him for who he really is, he finds that his life as a pseudo-vampire is more complicated than he expected. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
ID 18998	Blue-eyed Aborigine, The Hayes, Rosemary	Frances Lincoln	2010	9781847800787	After the shipwreck of the Batavia off Western Australia in 1629, a cabin boy and a soldier were involved in a grisly, notorious mutiny. Most mutineers were hanged but the two men were marooned on the mainland, becoming Australia's first European settlers. No trace of them was ever found. Later European explorers reported seeing Aboriginal Australians with blue eyes. This novel suggests what might have happened in between. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
9217	Body and soul: a musical play Tulloch, Richard	Currency Press	1998	9780868195582	The atmosphere becomes very tense as relationships are tested among a diverse group of talented athletes at a training camp. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
18587	Body talk: a power guide for girls Reid Boyd, Elizabeth & Bray, Abigail	Hodder Headline Australia Pty Ltd	2005	9780733618604	A self-help book for teenage girls providing advice about coping with bullying, alcohol, drug use, depression and sexual relations. Some coarse language used by girls to describe their feelings. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
5034	Bombs that brought us together, The Conaghan, Brian	Bloomsbury	2016	9781408878415	Charlie has always lived in Little Town. It's home: the curfew, the Regime, the thugs, the poverty. He knows the rules. Then he meets Pavel. Scrawny and swears, he is a refugee from Old Country. The wrongest person in the whole place to choose as a friend. But when the bombs come, the rules of Little Town change. Right or wrong: Charlie must choose. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
23206	Bone sparrow, The Fraillon, Zana	Lothian Books	2016	9780734417138	Ten year old Subhi is a Rohingya asylum seeker, born in an Australian permanent detention centre, Life behind the fences is all he has ever known and Subhi needs the stories of others to build memories. One night, Jimmie appears from the other side of the wires, bringing a bone sparrow necklace and a notebook, written by her dead mother. As their tales unfold, Subhi and Jimmie might find a way to freedom but not until each of them has been braver than ever before. Usually read by Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
1075164	☉ Bone weaver Polydoros, Aden	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.
982995	☉ Bonesmith Preto, Nicki Pau	Hodder & Stoughton	2023	9781399722353	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. 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. Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.
47253	☉ Book of dust, The: La Belle Sauvage Pullman, Philip	Penguin Random House Australia	2017	9780857561084	Malcolm Polstead's life in the pub beside the Thames is safe and happy enough, if uneventful. But during a winter of unceasing rain the forces of science, religion and politics begin to clash, and as the weather rises to a pitch of ferocity, all of Malcolm's certainties are torn asunder. Finding himself linked to a baby by the name of Lyra, Malcolm is forced to undertake the challenge of his life and to make a dangerous journey that will change his and Lyra forever. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
1424015	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Book of dust, The: The rose field Pullman, Philip	Penguin	2025	9780241458709	Lyra: what will you do when you find this place in the desert, the opening to the world of the roses?' 'Defend it,' Lyra said. 'Die defending it.' When readers left Lyra in The Secret Commonwealth she was alone, in the ruins of a deserted city. Pantalaimon had run from her - part of himself - in search of her imagination, which he believed she had lost. Lyra travelled across the world from her Oxford home in search of her daemon. And Malcolm, loyal Malcolm, too journeyed far from home, towards the Silk Roads in search of Lyra. In The Rose Field, their quests converge in the most dangerous, breathtaking and world-changing ways. They must take help from spies and thieves, gryphons and witches, old friends and new, learning all the while the depth and surprising truths of the alethiometer. All around them, the world is aflame - made terrifying by fear, power and greed. As they move East, towards the red building that will reunite them and give them answers - on Dust, on the special roses, on imagination - so too does the Magisterium, at war against all that Lyra holds dear. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
18325	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Book of everything, The Kuijer, Guus	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2006	9781741147513	Thomas escapes from hypocrisy and domestic violence with wild imaginings and sightings of Jesus. A deeply moving story of a Dutch family, ruled by a violent, bible-wielding father, who survive because of a special child and some very, strong women. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
4212	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Book of whispers, The Starr, Kimberley	Text Publishing Co	2016	9781925355512	In Tuscany, 1096 AD, Luca sees demons. He keeps quiet about what he sees to avoid another exorcism. He also has dreams that sometimes predict the future. When Luca dreams his father's murder, he vows to stop it coming true. Suzan has dreams too. Consigned with her mute mother to a life in a convent, Suzan has a vision of a boy with an ancient book that holds some inscrutable power. He will take her on an adventure that leads to places beyond their understanding. Usually read by Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
687566	Book that made me, The Ridge, Judith (ed)	Walker Books	2016	9781922244888	The Book That Made Me is a celebration of the books that influenced some of the most acclaimed authors from Australia and the world. A perfect collection of personal stories from fantastic authors such as Markus Zusak, Jaclyn Moriarty, Shaun Tan, Mal Peet, Ambelin Kwaymullina, Simon French, Fiona Wood, Simmone Howell, Bernard Beckett, Ursula Dubosarsky, Rachael Crow, Sue Lawson, Felicity Castagna, Benjamin Law, Cath Crowley, Kate Constable, James Roy, Alison Croggon, Will Kostakis and Randa Abdel-Fattah. What stories inspired them, and made them who they are today? Read this book and find out! Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
77323	Book thief, The Zusak, Markus	Pan MacMillan	2008	9780330423304	It is 1939 in Nazi Germany. Death has never been busier and will become busier still. Liesel has just buried her brother when she picks up a book, partially hidden in the snow by his graveside. This is her first act of book thievery and the beginning of a love affair with books and words. When Liesel's foster family hides a Jewish man in their basement, Liesel's world is both opened up and closed down. A sombre theme that includes some violence. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
995953	Borderland Akhurst, Graham	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.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
660732	☉ Born a crime Noah, Trevor	Hachette Children's Books	2016	9780385689229	The compelling, inspiring, and comically sublime New York Times bestseller about one man's coming-of-age, set during the twilight of apartheid and the tumultuous days of freedom that followed. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
2835	☉ Boundless sublime, The Wilkinson, Lili	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2016	9781760113360	Ruby's younger brother has died and her family is torn apart. Ruby feels his death so personally that she has shut herself off from her usual world. When she meets Fox, an idiosyncratic but gentle loner, Ruby is drawn into his special, little community. Fox seems to understand what she's going through and offers her a chance to find peace. But, Ruby discovers that he lives in a terrifying, secretive cult community that is far from the ideal world she expected. Gripping, confronting read. Usually read by Years 9, 10 or above.
789575	☉ Boy from the Mish, The Lonesborough, Gary	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2021	9781760525880	It's a hot summer, and life's going all right for Jackson and his family on the Mish. It's almost Christmas, school's out, and he's hanging with his mates, teasing the visiting tourists, avoiding the racist boys in town. Just like every year, Jackson's Aunty and annoying little cousins visit from the city - but this time a mysterious boy with a troubled past comes with them. As their friendship evolves, Jackson must confront the changing shapes of his relationships with his friends, family and community. And he must face his darkest secret - a secret he thought he'd locked away for good. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
1277818	☉ Boy I love, The Hussey, William	Andersen Press Ltd	2025	9781839134821	1916. Returning to the Front after injury, 19 year old Stephen wonders what he's fighting for. Then he meets Private Danny McCormick, a smart, talented new recruit. From their first meeting, there's something undeniable between them. Something forbidden by both society and the army. As the summer ticks down to the Battle of the Somme, will their love save them or condemn them? Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
18674	☉ Boy in the burning house, The Wynne-Jones, Tim	Farrar, Straus and Giroux	2003	9780374408879	Ruth Rose, wild stepdaughter of the local preacher, believes he caused the disappearance of Jim Hawkin's father. Investigating the mystery puts both teenagers in mortal danger. A harrowing story with strong language in context. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
18452	☉ Boy in the striped pyjamas, The Boyne, John	David Fickling Books	2006	9780385609401	Bruno is the naive, nine year old son of the Commandant of Auschwitz concentration camp. Through his covert friendship with Shmuel, a young Jewish boy, Bruno becomes aware of the cruelty and suffering. A touching, disturbing story. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
1395132	Bram Stoker's Dracula: A retelling Landman, Tanya	Barrington Stoke	2025	9780008718343	Everything is going well for Jonathan Harker who is engaged to his beloved Mina and lands a new job with exciting opportunities for adventure and travel. He sets off to see the mysterious Count Dracula but soon finds himself in a world of trouble. Meanwhile, Mina is at home waiting to hear from her fiancé, while caring for her best friend Lucy who has been acting strangely. It is only once Jonathan is found in a hospital months later that the pieces of the puzzle fall into place. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.
58	Bridge to Wiseman's Cove, A Moloney, James	University of Queensland Press	1996	9780702228841	Karl and his wild young brother are taken in by their aunt, after their mother abandons them. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
3853	Bridge, The Higgins, Jane	Text Publishing Co	2011	9781921758331	The city is at war. Southside, the hostiles live in squalor and are hungry to cross the river. Cityside, ISIS is in charge, keeping the hostiles at bay. Nik has spent his life training to join ISIS but, when his college is blown up and his friend kidnapped, he must cross the bridge into hostile territory. Nik and his friends must choose their loyalties in a war that is not as clear as they were brought up to think. Some language in context. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
15386	Bridie's fire Murray, Kirsty	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2003	9781865087276	Bridie starts a new life in a new country, a young, orphaned, Irish girl sadly separated from her brother. Working in the theatre on the Australian goldfields is a very hard life. Bridie finds a way to use her talents and meets her true love. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.
123078	Brief candle Pennington, Kate	Hodder Children's Books (UK)	2004	9780340873700	Based on the adventures of the Bronte sisters, Charlotte and Emily, and their brother, Branwell. Cooped up inside the bleak parsonage in winter, they write adventures for the heroes of their secret worlds. One day, Emily escapes to the moor and finds a mysterious outcast, Heslington, whose story of lost love intrigues her. She resolves to help him. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
1424056	Brielle & Bear, Volume 1 Doku, Salomey	Random House Graphic	2025	9780593711170	First-year student Brielle, a daydreamy book lover, knows everything there is to know about fairy tales. Returning to the city of Rosebridge four years after moving away, she attends Once Upon a Time University, with the intention of living her fairy-tale dream. And when she meets Bear, shy vice-captain of the Princes rugby team, at the bookshop where she works, Brielle's dream is off to a good start. Determined to forget the past, and with an unexpected new relationship blossoming, Brielle feels she's finally living the dream. That is, until she discovers that she's not the only one hiding something. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.
4585	Bro Chebatte, Helen	Hardie Grant Egmont	2016	9781760125509	What happens when you mix teenage boys, a fight club and ethnic rivalries? You get war. Romeo Makhoulf knows the rules. Stick with your own kind. Don't dob on your mates or your enemies. Respect the family. But even unwritten rules are made for breaking. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
60	Bronte girls, The Kilworth, Gary	Egmont Childrens	1995	9780749726928	A father keeps his family locked in a time warp, away from the 20th century. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
568873	Brontide McPherson, Sue	Magabala Books	2018	9781925360929	Brontide is a coming of age story about four boys and their lot in life. Recounted through storytelling sessions at their school over a period of five days, these boys chronicle their lives. They are at times demanding, occasionally rude, always funny and unexpectedly profound. The boys like to challenge themselves and the rules, and soon realise that not everything goes to plan. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
7805	Buddy Jones, V M	HarperCollins NZ	2002	9781869504311	Josh appears a typical teenager, resentful of his parents' divorce and dad's new girlfriend. Despite a crippling fear of the water, he learns to swim so that he can take part in the Iron Kid Triathlon, Sensitive treatment of mental retardation. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
26551	Ⓞ Buried ark, The Bradley, James	Pan MacMillan	2018	9781743549902	Callie risked everything to try to save her sister Gracie from the Change, but she failed. Now she has to risk everything simply to stay alive in the Zone where the Change is everywhere and nothing is what it seems. Until she stumbles across a secret from her past that might hold the key to defeating the Change. Hunted and alone, she finds refuge in the most unexpected of places, only to find that she is in more danger than ever. This book is usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
708363	Ⓞ Burn Ness, Patrick	Walker Books	2020	9781406375503	Set in middle America in the 1950s, Sarah and her father have hired a belligerent dragon of Russian heritage to clear their land. His arrival signals the beginning of a destiny that spirals beyond anyone's control. This story explores race, sexuality, gender stereotypes and how dragon power can be used for good or for evil. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
587727	Ⓞ Busted Ciocca, Gina	Sourcebooks Inc	2017	9781492654292	Marisa catches her best friend's boyfriend cheating and, before she knows it, she's got another friend setting up a website for her to catch out love rats for a living. But life starts getting complicated when the boy she is spying on for one friend turns out to be everything she has ever looked for in a guy. To make matters even worse, she is then asked to spy on her ex by his new love interest! How could Marisa ever come out of this unscathed? Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.
807	Ⓞ Butter Lange, Erin	Bloomsbury	2013	9780571294404	Butter is overweight and he knows it. He is unpopular at school and sits alone at lunch. Then he decides to eat himself to death live over the net. Suddenly he is the centre of attention with the coolest group at school - he knows it is only because of his site but he is no longer alone. Will he go through with his dare and will his new found 'friends' let him or make him. Contains mature themes. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
3037	Ⓞ Butterfly heart, The Leyden, Paula	Walker Books	2011	9781406327922	In Zambia, time is running out as Bul-Boo and Madillo try to work out a way to save their friend, Winifred, from a terrifying fate. In desperation, they ask the advice of Ifwafwa, the snake man, who promises to think about the problem. Ifwafwa is wise and has a gift with snakes, but he does not like to hurry and Bul-Boo becomes impatient. Some adult themes. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
682622	☉ Butterfly yellow Lai, Thanhha	University of Queensland Press	2019	9780702262890	There are steps that must be done, and once done, another step awaits. The last step, after six years of minute planning by her grandmother, is a bus ride away. In A-ma-ri-lo her baby brother has to be waiting. In her imaginings, he is always waiting. Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.
68	☉ Came back to show you I could fly Klein, Robin	Puffin Australia	1998	9780140342543	Eleven year old Seymour meets Angie, who is older and beautiful, a dream girl. Seymour is unaware that Angie is a drug addict. Their friendship, and the revelation of this secret, changes both their lives. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
15418	☉ Camel rider Mason, Prue	Penguin Books Ltd, UK	2004	9780143300823	Set in the panic and confusion of a wartime attack, two boys from different cultures must rely on each other to survive in the desert. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.
69	☉ Can you keep a secret Pausacker, Jenny	Dutton Children's Books	2001	9780525458401	An historical, political thriller set in Melbourne during the Depression in the 1930s. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
70	☉ Candle for Saint Antony, A Spence, Eleanor	Hodder Headline Australia Pty Ltd	1993	9780340605479	An intense story about the developing, close relationship between Justin, an Australian boy, and Rudi, a sensitive boy from Austria. Their emotional interdependence causes trouble in their peer group as others question the nature of the relationship. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
846197	☉ Cane warriors Wheatle, Alex	Andersen Press Ltd	2020	9781839131127	Moa has spent his life toiling on the Frontier sugar cane plantation fearing the vicious whips the overseers. When he hears of an uprising, he is ready to be a cane warrior and fight to free his people. He is still only a boy and will have to confront terrifying tasks to survive and succeed. Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.
3797	☉ Caraval Garber, Stephanie	Hodder & Stoughton	2017	9781473629158	Scarlett has never left the tiny isle of Trisda, pining from afar for the wonder of Caraval, a once-a-year week-long performance where the audience participates in the show. Caraval is Magic. Mystery. Adventure. And for Scarlett and her beloved sister Tella it represents freedom and an escape from their ruthless, abusive father. When the sisters' long-awaited invitations to Caraval finally arrive, it seems their dreams have come true. But no sooner have they arrived than Tella vanishes, kidnapped by the show's mastermind organiser, Legend. Scarlett has been told that everything that happens during Caraval is only an elaborate performance. But nonetheless she quickly becomes enmeshed in a dangerous game of love, magic and heartbreak. And real or not, she must find Tella before the game is over, and her sister disappears forever. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
571642	☉ Carry on Rowell, Rainbow	Pan MacMillan	2016	9781250135025	Simon Snow might be the worst Chosen One ever, at least according to his roommate, Baz. And Baz might be evil and a vampire, but he could also be right. Most of the time, Simon can't make his wand work, he mostly can't find his mentor, and there's a magic-eating monster causing mayhem. Baz would be loving it, except he hasn't even bothered to come back to school for the final year. Carry On is a ghost story, a love story and a mystery. You think you've read this book before, but you haven't. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
1366471	☉ Cartographers, The Zhang, Amy	Greenwillow	2024	9780062383082	Seventeen-year-old Ocean Sun moves to New York City to start college, but she defers her enrolment, keeping it a secret from her immigrant mother, and instead uses the time to deal with her ambivalence about her place in the world. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
110684	☉ Cassandra's sister Bennett, Veronica	Walker Books	2006	9781844281473	In Austen's society, there are two outcomes to love. Either your heart is broken or your love is returned leading to a lifetime of child-bearing and preserve-making. Find out whether Jane Austen ever met her real life Mr Darcey. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
	Casson family series McKay, Hilary				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.
17205	☉ Catalyst, The Coggan, Helena	Hodder & Stoughton	2015	9781444794670	For eighteen years, the world has been divided into the magically Gifted and the non-magical Ashkind. Rose Elmsworth's identity is far more dangerous. At fifteen, she has earned herself a place alongside her father in the Department, a brutal law-enforcement organisation, run by the Gifted to control the Ashkind. But, an old enemy is threatening to start a catastrophic war and Rose faces a challenging choice and a test of her loyalties. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
1423925	Catch Brill, Sarah	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2025	9781761182037	<p>Sometimes people fall. It happens. Sometimes people are pushed. Sometimes people jump. And sometimes there's someone there to catch them. The summer Beth turns sixteen, she grows. She grows so fast her bones hurt and she feels like throwing up. Everyone - including Etienne, the boy who lives over the road - looks at her differently. Then she starts catching people. People who are falling out of trees or from tall buildings. Soon Beth discovers that helping strangers sometimes hurts. Sometimes it also hurts or annoys the people she loves. It isn't great for her school grades, either. Is there a way to balance family and friendship and basketball and romance and... catching? An extraordinary story about finding out who you are, and discovering who you want to be.</p> <p>Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.</p>
1078767	☉ Catch your death Guron, Ravena	Usborne Publishing Ltd	2023	9781803705422	<p>A classic whodunit thriller which follows three girls who are stuck at Bramble Estate during a snow storm and someone is poisoned. Devi, Lizzie and Jayne are trapped inside a house with a killer and must solve the mystery before it is too late!</p> <p>Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.</p>
581451	☉ Catching Teller Crow Kwaymullina, Ambelin & Kwaymullina, Ezekiel	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2018	9781760631628	<p>Nothing's been the same for Beth Teller since she died. Her dad, a detective, is the only one who can see and hear her - and he's drowning in grief. But now they have a mystery to solve together. Who is Isobel Catching, and what's her connection to the fire that killed a man? What happened to the people who haven't been seen since the fire? As Beth unravels the mystery, she finds a shocking story lurking beneath the surface of a small town, and a friendship that lasts beyond one life and into another. Told in two unforgettable voices, this gripping novel interweaves themes of grief, colonial history, violence, love and family. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.</p>

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
660694	☉ Catfishing on CatNet Kritzer, Naomi	Pan MacMillan	2019	9781250165084	I know quite a lot about people. Let's start with you. Obviously, I know where you live. I know where you are right now. I know where you buy your clothes and where you eat for lunch. I know what all your fandoms are, who your OTPs are and where you wish you could go on vacation. Lots of people have gadgets that pretend to be an AI. Those gadgets are listening all the time, day and night to everything people say around it. They're not really AIs. But if they listen to you, then so can I. I know you all so well. And sometimes... Sometimes I wish somebody knew me. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
599697	☉ Catwoman: Soulstealer Maas, Sarah J	Penguin	2018	9780141386898	When the Bat's away, the Cat will play. It's time to see how many lives this cat really has . . . Two years after escaping Gotham City's slums, Selina Kyle returns as the mysterious and wealthy Holly Vanderhees. She quickly discovers that with Batman off on a vital mission, Batwing is left to hold back the tide of notorious criminals. Gotham City is ripe for the taking. Meanwhile, Luke Fox wants to prove he has what it takes to help people in his role as Batwing. He targets a new thief on the prowl who seems cleverer than most. She has teamed up with Poison Ivy and Harley Quinn, and together they are wreaking havoc. This Catwoman may be Batwing's undoing. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
779490	☉ Cemetery boys Thomas, Aiden	Swoon Reads	2020	9781250250469	When his traditional Latinx family has problems accepting his true gender, Yadriel becomes determined to prove himself a real brujo. With the help of his cousin and best friend Maritza, he performs the ritual himself, and then sets out to find the ghost of his murdered cousin and set it free. However, the ghost he summons is actually Julian Diaz, the school's resident bad boy, and Julian is not about to go quietly into death. He's determined to find out what happened and tie off some loose ends before he leaves. Left with no choice, Yadriel agrees to help Julian, so that they can both get what they want. But the longer Yadriel spends with Julian, the less he wants to let him leave. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
2228	☉ Chains Anderson, Laurie Halse	Bloomsbury	2008	9780747598657	This story follows two very different battles for independence, that of slave girl, Isabel, and the American War of Independence. Presents a realistic view of prejudice and slavery in 18th century America and includes some violence. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
88507	Chalkline Mitchell, Jane	Walker Books	2009	9781406315172	It's an ordinary morning at school in rural Kashmir when the silence of dawn prayers is ripped apart by gunfire. Freedom Fighters are raiding his village and Rafiq is the first boy to cross the chalkline into a life of brutality and violence. Rafiq's memory of his family has been all but obliterated by his forced training, indoctrination and terrorist actions and is unrecognisable as the boy who left the village. Includes violence. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
77	Champion & other stories, The Sykes, Helen (ed)	Phoenix Education	2003	9781875695621	Helen Sykes has combined a selection of stories by some of Australia's best-known authors. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
79	Changeover, The Mahy, Margaret	HarperCollins Australia	2003	9780007155019	Laura has premonitions and senses what is about to happen. She is encouraged to 'change over' and become a witch so that she can help save her brother from an evil spirit. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
5593	Changing gear Gardner, Scot	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2018	9781760631468	Merrick Hilton has done a runner. On his postie bike. With his swag and a need to clear his head before the HSC. He plays his parents and hits the road. But there's no telling how he'll handle life's potholes when things don't go as planned. Thankfully Victor - an old bloke he meets on the road - knows a bit about broken postie bikes, and broken hearts. Will Victor, Merrick, and the dog survive road-kill, the kindness of strangers, a rave, mindless violence and unexpected romance? There's only one way to find out. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
	Chanters of Tremaris series Constable, Kate				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.
56355	Chat room Biggs, Barbara	Micklind enterprises	2006	9780764228230	Sam is thirteen and has recently moved from Sydney to Melbourne with her high powered, busy parents. She has started at a new school and feels lonely and isolated. Sam logs onto chat rooms for company and begins a friendship with Chatman, a charming seventeen year old. But, Chatman is not what he seems and the developing friendship takes a sinister turn. Addresses contemporary problems associated with the anonymity of chat rooms and internet predators. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
5443	Children of blood and bone Adeyemi, Tomi	MacMillan	2018	9781509871353	Under the orders of a ruthless king, anyone with powers was targeted and killed, leaving Zelig without a mother and her people without hope. Only a few people remain with the power to use magic, and they must remain hidden. Zelig is one such person. Now she has a chance to bring back magic to her people and strike against the monarchy. With the help of a rogue princess, Zelig must learn to harness her powers and outrun the crown prince, who is hell-bent on eradicating magic for good. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
85	Children's house of Belsen, The Verolme, Hetty	Fremantle Press	2001	9781863682527	A true account of the author's time spent as a prisoner in Belsen concentration camp, 1943-1945. The fear and uncertainty of the time are depicted simply, focusing on the positives not just the horrors associated with this period and place. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
723884	Chosen ones Roth, Veronica	Hachette Australia	2020	9781529330243	What happens when you've saved the world and now you have to go back to being an ordinary person? What happens if saving the world has left you with significant trauma and you find ordinary life hard to live? What happens if 15 years after saving the world the evil reappears and you are called upon once more to be the hero? Can you do it all again? Are you strong enough? Are you sane enough? Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
	Chronicles of Vladimir Tod series Brewer, Heather				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.
62419	City, The Greder, Armin	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2010	9781742371429	A woman takes her only child to live in seclusion so that he should be spared the terrible things that happen in life. She cares for him and is happy. But, one moonless night she dies. The art is sombre but highly original. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
2784	Clancy of the Undertow Currie, Christopher	Text Publishing Co	2016	9781925240405	In a dead-end town like Barwen, sixteen year old Clancy feels like a freak. She has a dysfunctional family, a real interest in Nature Club and a big crush on the local hot girl. Then, her dad is involved in a smash that kills two teenagers and the family must deal with the hostile town. Clancy meets someone who might become a friend and Sasha starts to show what may be a romantic interest. This is the summer when Clancy has to figure out just who she is. Adult themes, language. Usually read by years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
751931	Clap when you land Acevedo, Elizabeth	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.
2419	Cola's journey Bilkuei, Cola	MacMillan	2008	9781405038416	In 1987, Cola Bilkuei, a young boy from Sudan, was forcibly recruited into the Sudan People's Liberation Army. In a military training camp, Cola and hundreds of other children were systematically brutalised to turn them into child soldiers to fight a savage civil war. The book recounts his harrowing, fourteen year journey through seven African countries to reach Australia as a refugee. Some strong language in context. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
846240	Coming up for air Daley, Tom	HarperCollins Publishers Ltd, UK	2021	9780008217914	Tom Daley captured the hearts of the nation with his unforgettable medal-winning performance in the London 2012 Olympics. At the 2020 Games in Tokyo, he triumphed to win gold and became the most decorated British diver of all time. In this deeply personal book, Tom explores the experiences that have shaped him and the qualities to which he owes his contentment and success; from the resilience he developed competing at world-class level, to the courage he discovered while reclaiming the narrative around his identity, and the perspective that family life has brought him. Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above
19914	Cooking with Hamlet and other solo dramas Murray, Sue	Macmillan Education Australia Pty Ltd	2008	9781420212389	A collection of fifteen monologues, written for students to be able to use in solo performances. Each monologue quickly establishes character, mood and themes relevant to students. In turn funny, confronting, surprising and touching. Some language and adult concepts. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
751204	Ⓞ Courtyard children, The Poljak, Marija	Rhiza Press	2020	9781925563962	Mileva's family tree includes resistance fighters and patriots, and she was raised on the values of brotherhood and unity. Marko was born into a family where love is earned, not given, and was branded early on as a troublemaker and a lost cause. Despite their differences, the two grow to become best friends. Yet as the 1990s approach, Yugoslavia begins to crumble and ethnic tensions arise. No longer inseparable, their different cultural backgrounds force Mileva and Marko apart. Through tragic events Mileva struggles to make sense of her identity as she attempts to salvage all that is left of the life and love she once had. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
787944	Ⓞ Cousins, The McManus, Karen M.	Penguin Books Ltd, UK	2020	9780241376959	The Storys are the envy of their neighbours: owners of the largest property on their East Coast island, they are rich, beautiful, and close. Until it all falls apart. The four children are suddenly dropped by their mother with a single sentence: You know what you did. They never hear from her again. Years later, when 18-year-old cousins Aubrey, Milly and Jonah Story receive a mysterious invitation to spend the summer at their grandmother's resort, they have no choice but to follow their curiosity and meet the woman who's been such an enigma their entire lives. This entire family is built on secrets, right? It's the Story legacy. This summer, the teenagers are determined to discover the truth at the heart of their family. But some secrets are better left alone. Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.
40861	Ⓞ Creforce: the Anzacs and the battle of Crete Tzobanakis, Stella	Black Dog Books	2010	9780646815763	In 1941, Germany launched an airborne invasion of Crete, expecting to meet little resistance from the Allies. But, they were mistaken. Australian, New Zealand and Greek soldiers, and the people of Crete, battled for ten days and the bonds between the Anzac and the Cretans have lasted for generations. War violence included. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
4374	Ⓞ Crongton knights Wheatle, Alex	Little, Brown & Co	2016	9780349002323	For McKay, living on the South Crongton council estate has become even tougher since his mum died. His dad is working all hours, his brother rides the streets at night, tempting trouble. And, after an heroic but misguided mission to help a girl, McKay is facing a crazy ex-boyfriend, power-tripping hood-rats and a violent gangster. He never asked for trouble. During one mad night of adventure and danger, McKay will find out who his true friends are and what it means to stick with family. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
95	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Crossfire Moloney, James	University of Queensland Press	1992	9780702223846	Luke is interested in guns and hunting but it is the emotional crossfire between his divorced parents that has him trapped. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
1294684	<input type="radio"/> Cruel is the light Clark, Sophie	Penguin	2025	9781761340512	
678711	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Cruel prince, The Black, Holly	Hot Key Books	2018	9781471407277	How do you go from living a perfectly normal suburban life with your family to finding out your mother was once married to a powerful and violent warlord fairy and your sister is half fairy too? What happens when you are taken away to live with this man's family in the fairy world - how do you survive when you have no fairy powers or qualities to protect you. What happens when you meet the dangerous and cruel Prince of Fairies who seems to particularly resent you living in his world? And can you ever grow to love the man who is your father in the fairy world. Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.
855793	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Cult of romance, The Ayoub, Sarah	HarperCollins Australia	2022	9781460758946	Natalie is living proof that love is a scam. She's traumatised by her parents' failed marriage and overwhelmed by her grandmother's expectations of good Lebanese girls - marriage, motherhood and exceptional tabouli-making skills. When her best friend decides to get hitched to a guy in the motherland, Nat's not exactly thrilled by the mammoth task before her: juggling cultural traditions, extra bridesmaid dresses and super-judgemental relatives. And to top it off there's the annoyingly good-looking best man and his constant need to mansplain all of the things. Natalie is in for the trip of her life. But can she save her friend from the cult of romance, without falling in love herself? Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
80827	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Cupid's arrow Merlin, Isabelle	Random House Australia Pty Ltd	2009	9781741664379	Fleur's recurring nightmare is being hunted through a dark forest by a sinister archer. When her mother inherits a fabulous book collection, they travel to France together. They are in the heart of King Arthur country, steeped with mystery and hidden wealth. Fleur meets Remy, the boy of her dreams, and it's love at first sight. But, Fleur's nightmare is just about to begin. Strong language in context and mature themes. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
660432	Curious: life hacks through maths Serna, Lily	Pan MacMillan	2019	9781760781156	How can maths help you to kick the perfect penalty goal, win an argument, impress your friends and spot fake news? With easy-to-understand maths logic, simple psychology and engaging anecdotes from her own life, mathematician Lily Serna shows us that maths can unlock the secrets of the universe. She wants to help all of us - especially the maths phobic - embrace the maths that surrounds us and solve the most common problems of modern living - all without making us learn a single formula. Well, maybe just one or two friendly ones . . . Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
998662	Cytonic Sanderson, Brandon	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 Delves. 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. "
846182	Damned, The Ahdieh, Renee	Penguin USA	2021	9781529368376	Fleeing Paris for a new start in New Orleans, Celine Rousseau hoped it would be a safe place. Before long she was drawn into the dark underbelly of the city and the La Cour des Lions. As she struggles with her memories and an uneasy feeling there is something she needs to recall, Celine's dreams are troubled. While Sebastien, cursed and changed forever, struggles with his own new identity and what he has lost because of it. Broken treaties and new truths bring danger to this pair and their future. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
750990	☉Dance with fate, A Marillier, Juliet	MacMillan	2020	9781760784225	Despite her brother leaving for the Otherworld, Liobhan, a young warrior bard is determined to complete her training as an elite fighter on Swan Island. She is devastated when her comrade Dau is injured and loses his sight in a training bout. Blamed by Dau's family, she agrees to accompany him home to Oakhill as a bondservant for one year. But Oakhill is a place of dark secrets. Dau battles demons of despair whilst the vicious Crow Folk threaten both worlds. It will take a great deal of skill and a touch of the uncanny to give them hope of survival. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
901576	☉Dancing barefoot Boyle, Alice	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.
20123	Dark dreams: Australian refugee stories Dechian, Sonja (ed) & Millar, Heather (ed) & Sallis, Eva (ed)	Wakefield Press	2004	9781862546295	Australian refugee stories is a unique anthology of essays, interviews, and stories written by children and young adults. The stories are the finest of hundreds collected through a nationwide schools competition in 2002. The essays and stories represent many different countries and themes. Some focus on survival, some on horrors, some on the experiences and alienation of a new world. This book is usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above, and contains stories featuring difficult and potentially confronting subjects and experiences.
1423939	☉Dark forgetting, A Ciccarelli, Kristen	Magpie Books GB	2025	9780008794750	When her grandfather goes missing, 17 year old Emeline is forced to venture into the woods to save him. There, Hawthorne Fell, a handsome and brooding tithe collector, brutally tries to dissuade her from searching, even as a magnetic spark ignites between them. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
1019755	Dark Heir Pacat, C.S.	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.
846063	Dark rise Pacat, C S	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2021	9781760875749	The ancient world of magic is no more. Its heroes are dead, its halls are in ruins and its great battles between Light and Dark are forgotten. Only the Stewards remember. For centuries they have kept vigil, sworn to protect humanity if the Dark King ever returns. Sixteen-year-old dock boy Will is on the run in London, pursued by the men who killed his mother. When an old servant urges him to seek out the Stewards, Will is ushered into a secret world, where he must train to fight for the Light in the oncoming war. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
885973	Darkening, The Mara, Sunya	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.
660385	Daughter of the burning city Foody, Amanda	Harlequin	2017	9781489242068	Sorina is 16 and lives in the travelling city of Gomorrah - famous for it's talent shows, jynx-workers and criminality. She's the daughter of the 'Proprietor' and therefore due to inherit control over the city. This inheritance takes a deadly turn when members of her 'illusion' family start dying. Will Sorina find the killer before more of her illusions are taken from her and what will she do when she discovers the truth of how close to her the killer is? Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.

PRC	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
ID 91685	☉ Daughter of the flames Marriott, Zoe	Walker Books	2008	9781406308617	A sweeping fantasy chronicling a courageous girl's sometimes violent fight for freedom in a world ravaged by war and religious fanaticism. Tackles themes such as religion and terrorism as well as unconventional love. Usually read by students in Year 10 and above.
10797	☉ Dead I know, The Gardner, Scot	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2011	9781742373843	Aaron has left school and is starting a job as assistant to a funeral director. Although uncommunicative, Aaron is a willing and capable worker. But, his home life is fraught. Aaron lives at a caravan park and is the sole carer of his guardian, who's on the verge of dementia. And, Aaron is frightened. He walks in his sleep and has nightmares he can't explain and memories he can't recover. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
32367	☉ Dear Jack Sauer, Tammi	Futuretrack Australia	2007	9781876603144	Laney Curtis is in Year 8 when her mother develops breast cancer rejecting chemotherapy because she is pregnant. This touching story describes Laney's struggle with the possibility that her mother may die. Also, Laney develops a plan to snare Andy Carter, a student at her school. Best suited to mature readers. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.
8761	☉ Death: the horror of the plague, The Braxton-Smith, Ananda	Black Dog Books	2009	9781742030739	Thomas Timewell is sixteen, living in England in 1828, where body-snatching is rife, cut-throats are about and terrible novelists are absorbing the lives of wealthy women with nothing better to do. Contains some horror and mature themes. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.
660546	☉ Deathless girls, The Millwood Hargrave, Kim	Orion	2019	9781510106918	They say the thirst of blood is like a madness - they must sate it. Even with their own kin. On the eve of her divining, the day she'll discover her fate, seventeen-year-old Lil and her twin sister Kizzy are captured and enslaved by the cruel Boyar Valcar, taken far away from their beloved traveller community. Forced to work in the harsh and unwelcoming castle kitchens, Lil is comforted when she meets Mira, a fellow slave who she feels drawn to in a way she doesn't understand. But she also learns about the Dragon, a mysterious and terrifying figure of myth and legend who takes girls as gifts. They may not have had their divining day, but the girls will still discover their fate... Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
1080662	Deep is the fen Wilkinson, Lili	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2024	9781761066863	<p>Merry doesn't need a happily-ever-after. Her life in the charming, idyllic town of Candlecott is fine just as it is. Simple, happy, and with absolutely no magic. Magic only ever leads to trouble.</p> <p>But Merry's best friend, Teddy, is joining the Toadmen -- a secret society who specialize in backward thinking and suspiciously supernatural traditions --and Merry is determined to stop him. Even if it means teaming up with the person she hates most: her academic archnemesis, Caraway Boswell, an ice-cold snob who hides his true face under a glamour.</p> <p>An ancient Toad ritual is being held in the sinister Deeping Fen, and if Merry doesn't rescue Teddy before it's finished, she'll lose him forever. But the Toadmen have been keeping dangerous secrets, and so has Caraway. The farther Merry travels into Deeping Fen's foul waters, the more she wonders if she's truly come to save her friend... or if she's walking straight into a trap.</p> <p>Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.</p>
1019799	Defiant Sanderson, Brandon	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 Delves, 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>
12377	Define normal Peters, Julie Anne	Little, Brown & Co		9780316734899	<p>Two very different girls, the punk and the goody-goody, are forced together in a peer-counselling situation at their school. Surprisingly, they find they have some things in common.</p> <p>Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.</p>

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
663555	Defy the sun Fleck, Jessika	Swoon Reads	2020	9781250154774	Civil war has come to the island of Bellona. Veda has joined the underground revolutionaries and they are determined to overthrow the ruling Imperi and find justice for their people. Nico is one of those ruling Imperi and has just been named heir to the most powerful man aboveground. Nico and Veda are childhood friends and possibly more but their people are at war with each other. Veda becomes a hostage. The whole island will burn unless Nico and Veda can come together and rip everything apart. Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.
	Deucalion trilogy series Caswell, Brian				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.
4880	Diary of William Shakespeare gentleman French, Jackie	Angus & Robertson (HarperCollins)	2016	9781460750575	The world knows the name William Shakespeare, but what of the man behind the name- the husband, lover, son and poet? Was he happy with his riches? Who was the woman he truly loved? And could the acclaimed playwright put down his pen forever to become a gentleman? Written by Australian Children's Laureate Jackie French and based on new documentary evidence, this story is a fascinating glimpse into a life that might have been and a story that has never been told. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
106	Different life, A Keith, Lois	The Women's Press	1999	9780704349469	A swim in the sea results in Libby catching an infection which paralyses her legs and leads to a different life. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
660383	Disasters, The England, MK	HarperCollins US	2019	9780062909817	Just when Nax - a hotshot pilot with dreams of becoming a member of the Ellis Station Academy - thought things couldn't get any worse, the entire galaxy turns against him. After being kicked out of Ellis Academy's training program in under 24hrs, he and three other washouts are framed for a deadly terrorist attack. After escaping (barely) with their lives, Nax and his fellow failures are living life on the run when they uncover a terrible plot with galaxy-wide implications. They may not always get along, but they're the only ones left to step up and fight. Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
108	Displaced person Harding, Lee	Puffin USA	1990	9780140327960	Graeme starts to feel as if he is alienated from the rest of the human race. A psychological thriller that deals with schizophrenia. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
5746	Disturbed girl's dictionary, The Ramos, Nonieqa	Carolrhoda Books	2018	9781512439762	Macy Cashmere lives with her mother, but her mother doesn't really know how to be a proper, caring parent. Her school has classified her as "disturbed" and she is in a special class due to her behaviours and her learning difficulties. Macy has only one good friend, Alma, but she has offended her. Macy will do anything to win Alma's affection again. Macy's brother has been taken by Child Protection Services and if Macy is to avoid the same fate, her mother needs to shape up and get a real job. Macy's world is fraught with danger and all she wants is to belong. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
1019883	Divine rivals Ross, Rebecca	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.
18827	Doctor Who: Time Lord fairy tales Richards, Justin & Wardle, David (ill)	Puffin UK	2015	9781405920025	WE ARE ALL STORIES, IN THE END... Fifteen tales of ancient wonder and mystery, passed down through generations of Time Lords. Dark, beautiful and twisted, these stories are filled with nightmarish terrors and heroic triumphs, from across all of time and space. Usually read by students in year 9, 10 and above.
17170	Does my head look big in this? Abdel-Fattah, Randa	Pan MacMillan	2005	9780330421850	Amal is a typical sixteen year old. When she decides to wear a head scarf to school, her Islamic faith, personal strength and friendships are tested. An insight into contemporary Australian ethnic and religious issues. Strong language in context. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.
4663	Door that led to where, The Gardner, Sally	Hot Key Books	2015	9781471401114	AJ Flynn is seen as a lost cause but he still manages to get a job in a lawyer's office. In the office records, he finds a key, mysteriously labelled with his name and date of birth. He is determined to find the door that fits the key. An amazing journey back in time not only helps solve the mystery of the key but helps solve a series of crimes, including murder, in Victorian London. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
	Dorothy must die series Paige, Danielle				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.
660485	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Dr Karl's random road trip through science Kruszelnicki, Dr Karl	HarperCollins Australia	2019	9780733340321	Dr Karl is on a mission to track down Awe and Wonder in the Universe. Why do wombats poo cubes? Do fish drink water? What nearly destroyed humanity on Halloween 2015? How do you use an incinerating toilet? Find out why we've sent a spacecraft with Dr Karl's name on it to kiss the Sun, whether cannibalism is nutritious, how birds fly when they're asleep and much more. So strap in and get ready for a random ride through everything, from atoms to rogue planets and everything in between, including the Big Question - why does spaghetti always break into three parts? Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
751129	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Dr Karl's surfing safari through science Kruszelnicki, Dr Karl	HarperCollins Australia	2020	9780733340338	Dr Karl is surfing the Universe for all that's gnarly, awesome, weird and wonderful. Why is sharpening a pencil in space a risky business? What makes a sunset red and not blue? How far would the Earth's viruses reach if you laid them end to end? Which animal grows an anus every time it needs to poo? Find out how spiders can fly and count, whether 5G networks are safe, why we're running out of sand, and the answer to the Question on Everyone's Lips - how to make the best coffee. Plus loads more, including pop-up Karl holograms! So take a surfing safari with Dr Karl and get ready to Hang Ten - or wipe out. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
689221	Dragon hoops Luen Yang, Gene	Pan MacMillan	2020	9781626720794	From small steps to great leaps ... Gene understands stories - comic book stories, in particular. Big action. Bigger thrills. And the hero always wins. But Gene doesn't get sports. As a kid, his friends called him "Stick" and every basketball game he played ended in pain. He lost interest in basketball long ago, but at the high school where he now teaches, it's all anyone can talk about. The men's varsity team, the Dragons, is having a phenomenal season that's been decades in the making. Each victory brings them closer to their ultimate goal: the California State Championships. Once Gene gets to know these young all-stars, he realizes that their story is just as thrilling as anything he's seen on a comic book page. He knows he has to follow this epic to its end. What he doesn't know yet is that this season is not only going to change the Dragons's lives, but his own life as well. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 or above.
4308	Dream walker, The Carless, Victoria	Hachette Children's Books	2017	9780734417473	A wonderful work of magical realism from a debut Australian Author. The Dream Walker is the story of Lucy, 16 years old and desperate to escape her life in her small impoverished fishing village. But the year ahead will change not only Lucy but reshape her entire world. Framed by the stunning Northern Queensland setting this magical tale, equally sad and optimistic, with remarkably believable characters is a joy to read and a book that is difficult to forget. Contains mature themes, usually read by student in Years 9,10 or above.
846152	Dreams from my father (adapted for young adults) Obama, Barack	Text Publishing Co	2021	9781922458445	Barack Obama was the 44th President of the United States and the first African-American president. This memoir has been adapted for young adults and explores family, race and identity. It is a revealing portrait of a young Black man asking questions about self discovery and belonging, long before he became one of the most important voices in America. The son of a white American mother and a Black Kenyan father, Obama was born in Hawaii, where he lived until he was six when he moved with his mother and stepfather to Indonesia. At twelve he returned to Hawaii to live with his Grandparents. Obama explores the challenges of high school and college, living in New York, becoming a community organiser in Chigago and travelling to Kenya. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
5978	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Dreamwalker Carmody, Isobelle & Woolman, Steven (ill)	Thomas C Lothian Pty Ltd	2001	9780734403902	Ken's ambition was to be a comic-book artist using lifelike drawings and real stories. When he wakes from a dream, one of his characters claims to have imagined him. Ken must find who is the dreamer and who was the dream. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
589990	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Dumplin' Murphy, Julie	HarperCollins Children's Books	2017	9780062327192	Self-proclaimed fat girl Willowdean Dickson has always been at home in her own skin. Her thoughts on having the ultimate bikini body? Put a bikini on your body. When until Will takes a job at the local fast food joint, she meets Private School Bo -- a hot former jock. Will is unsurprised to find herself attracted to Bo. But she is surprised when he seems to like her back. Instead of finding new heights of self-assurance in her relationship with Bo, Will starts to doubt herself. So she sets out to take back her confidence by doing the most horrifying thing she can imagine: entering the Miss Clover City beauty pageant -- along with several other unlikely candidates -- to show the world that she deserves to be up there as much as any twiggy girl does. Along the way, she'll shock the hell out of Clover City -- and maybe herself most of all. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
926	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Dust Bongers, Christine	Random House Australia Pty Ltd	2009	9781741664461	Cecilia grew up on a farm, with her six brothers, in rural Queensland. She despised her neighbours, the Kapernicky girls. When Cecilia returns as an adult, secrets which were deeply buried come to the surface. Contains adult themes. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.
29073	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Eagle of the east Lawrence, L S	Omnibus Books	2007	9781862917071	Ardavan is a young Parthian soldier whose mother was a Roman. After the disastrous Battle of Carrhae, many Roman soldiers lie dead on the battlefield and the survivors must serve Parthia as mercenaries. Able to communicate with both sides, Ardavan is raised to a special position where he and the beautiful Shara must survive in a world of intrigue and plots. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
	Earthsea series, The Le Guin, Ursula				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.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
7725	⊙ Eat the sky, drink the ocean Murray, Kirsty (ed) & Dhar, Payal (ed) & Anita Roy (ed)	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2015	9781743319789	A collection of science fiction and fantasy writing, including six graphic stories, showcasing twenty exciting writers and artists from India and Australia. Dive into these stories and see how girls cope with the dangers of worlds gone mad. Every story is a journey and each story has its own magic. Includes some violence. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
566578	⊙ Echo after echo Capetta, Amy Rose	Candlewick Press	2017	9780763691646	Zara Evans has come to the Aurelia Theater, home to the visionary director Leopold Henneman, to play her dream role in Echo and Ariston, the Greek tragedy that taught her everything she knows about love. When the director asks Zara to promise that she will have no outside commitments, no distractions, it's easy to say yes. But it's hard not to be distracted when there's a death at the theater, and then another, especially when Zara doesn't know if they're accidents, or murder, or a curse that always comes in threes. It's hard not to be distracted when assistant lighting director Eli Vasquez, a girl made of tattoos and abrupt laughs and every form of light, looks at Zara. It's hard not to fall in love. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
7320	⊙ Eleanor and Park Rowell, Rainbow	Orion	2014	9781409157250	Eleanor is new in town. And she stands out instead of fitting in, with her mismatched clothes, her wild red hair and her chaotic home life. The day she sits in the seat next to Park on the bus, impossibly cool Park, she starts to learn what it means to fall in love. Set over the course of one school year, Eleanor and Park fall in love thanks to late-night conversations and a stack of mix tapes. They have nothing and everything to lose. They are more real than any other character you will ever meet. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
60125	⊙ Elite, The Cass, Kiera	HarperCollins US	2013	9780007466702	America is the strong competition for Maxon's heart, to leave her life and live the world of luxury as a One. But the violence of the rebels and her feelings for an ex-boyfriend means nothing is a certainty. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
18513	⊙ Ella mental and the good sense guide Deckers, Amber	Orchard Books	2005	9781843627272	Ella is very good at providing advice to her friends. But, when her group begins to fall apart, Ella discovers that perhaps she is not as 'together' as she thought. Contains minor references to smoking and alcohol. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
116	⊙ Elli: coming of age in the Holocaust Jackson, Livia Bitton	Random House Australia Pty Ltd	1983	9780812963274	Ellie's recount of harrowing experiences in a concentration camp. Taken at thirteen years of age, from her beautiful home and imprisoned in Auschwitz and Dachau as part of Hitler's final solution, she emerges a year later, looking like a sixty year old. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
18682	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Elsewhere Zevin, Gabrielle	Farrar, Straus and Giroux	2005	9780374320911	Killed in an accident, 15 year old Liz is sent to Elsewhere. She struggles to understand what has happened and how family and friends continue without her. But, in Elsewhere, Liz meets the grandmother she never knew, makes friends and falls in love. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
	Embassy Row series Carter, Ally				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.
1592	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Emma Austen, Jane	Penguin	2009	9780141192475	Beautiful, clever, rich and single, Emma Woodhouse is perfectly content with her life and sees no need for either love or marriage. Nothing, however, delights her more than interfering in the romantic lives of others. But, when she attempts to arrange a suitable match for her protegee, Harriet Smith, her carefully laid plans soon unravel and they have consequences that she never expected. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
660370	<input checked="" type="radio"/> En pointe Bayliss, Chloe	Pantera Press	2019	9781925700756	En Pointe is the real-life story of how an aspiring ballerina became an inspiring young actor after overcoming a life-threatening illness. Miracles really can happen, even if they're not the ones you asked for. This book contains references to medical procedures and mental health themes, and is usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
660475	<input checked="" type="radio"/> End and other beginnings, The: Stories from the future Roth, Veronica	HarperCollins US	2019	9780008347772	Within this masterful collection, each setting is more strange and wonderful than the last, brimming with new technologies. Yet for all of the advances in these futuristic lands, the people must still confront deeply human problems. In these six short stories, Veronica Roth reaches into the unknown and draws forth something startlingly familiar and profoundly beautiful. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
5403	Endsister, The Russon, Penni	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2018	9781741750652	Meet the Outhwaite children. There's teenage Else, the violinist who abandons her violin. There's nature-loving Clancy. There's the inseparable twins, Oscar-and-Finn, Finn-and-Oscar. And then there is Sibbi, the baby of the family. They all live contentedly squabbling in a cottage surrounded by trees and possums...until a letter arrives to say they have inherited the old family home in London. Outhwaite House is full of old shadows and new possibilities. The boys quickly find their feet in London, and Else is hoping to reinvent herself. But Sibbi is misbehaving, growing thinner and paler by the day, and she won't stop talking about the mysterious endsister. Meanwhile Almost Annie and Hardly Alice, the resident ghosts, are tied to the house for reasons they have long forgotten, watching the world around them change, but never leaving. The one thing they all agree on - the living and the dead - is never, ever to open the attic door...Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
1395121	Enemy's daughter, The Poett, Melissa	HarperCollins Publishers Ltd, UK	2025	9780008716561	It's been thirty-seven years since the Republic was destroyed. Now two settlements - the five clans and the Kingsland - fight for control of the untainted land. Though the five clans are outnumbered, they've finally struck, killing Kingsland's brutal leader. In the war that follows, Isadora, an eighteen-year-old healer, risks her life to help injured soldiers. But when she stops an attack from Tristan, a Kingsland assassin, his soldiers shoot her with a poisoned arrow. As Isadora lies dying, Tristan does the unimaginable: He offers to save her life using a rare magic. In choosing to live, Isadora is unknowingly bound to the mysterious Tristan. Worse, even acknowledging the attraction between them allows him to glean fragments of her memories and the very knowledge he needs to destroy the five clans. But their magical connection works both ways. So to save her people, Isadora will have to open her heart to her most cunning enemy. Because in a race for ultimate survival, she'll need to destroy Tristan and his people first. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
25919	Eon Goodman, Alison	Viking Children's	2008	9780670062270	Eon has been studying the ancient art of Dragon Magic to become an apprentice to one of the twelve energy dragons of good fortune. But, he has a dark secret, living a dangerous lie for the chance to become a Dragoneye. When Eon is catapulted into the treacherous world of the Imperial court, he makes a powerful enemy, Lord Ido. Some violence and adult themes. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
58464	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Eona Goodman, Alison	Angus & Robertson (HarperCollins)	2011	9780732284947	Once she was Eon, a girl disguised as a boy, risking her life for the chance to become a Dragoneye apprentice. Now she is Eona, thrust into the role of her country's saviour. Eona must find the strength to walk a deadly line between truth and justice, friendship and duty, and, most of all, her feelings for the king and Rat Dragoneye. Some violence and adult themes. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
750975	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Erasure initiative, The Wilkinson, Lili	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2020	9781760525057	A girl wakes up on a bus, but has no memory of how she got there and what she's doing there. There are other passengers too and it soon becomes obvious that they don't have any memories either. Then begins a series of tests where the passengers decide the outcome. At first the tests seem harmless enough but soon it becomes obvious the passengers are doing more than making judgements on imagined scenarios - in fact the tests become a case of life or death. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10, or above.
54045	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Escape by sea Lawrence, L S	Omnibus Books	2008	9781862917699	Sara, a strong and resourceful young woman, escapes with her father from Carthage by sea to face the hostile Roman navy and pirates. The naval tactics, medicine and international relations of the third century, and the insights into trades such as jewellery and sword-making, are an exciting backdrop to their perilous voyage and the political intrigue they encounter. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
660552	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Euphoria kids Evans, Alison	Echo Publishing	2019	9781760685850	Ever since the witch cursed Babs, she turns invisible sometimes. She has her mum and her dog, but teachers and classmates barely notice her. Then, one day, Iris can see her. And Iris likes what they see. Babs is made of fire. Iris grew from a seed in the ground. They have friends, but not human ones. Not until they meet Babs. The two of them have a lot in common: they speak to dryads and faeries, and they're connected to the magic that's all around them. There's a new boy at school, a boy who's like them and who hasn't yet found his real name. Soon the three of them are hanging out and trying spellwork together. Magic can be dangerous, though. Witches and fae can be cruel. Something is happening in the other realm, and despite being warned to stay away, the three friends have to figure out how to deal with it on their own terms. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
885702	Evacuation Road Waugh, HM	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.
13398	Eventual poppy day Hathorn, Libby	Angus & Robertson (HarperCollins)	2015	9780732299514	Living one hundred years apart, two seventeen year old men are artists and share a love of painting. In 1915, Maurice enlists to fight in World War I and his story allows us to see the brutality and futility of war, as well as the friendship and loyalty that develops. A century later, it is Maurice's diary, preserved in a tin box, that saves his deeply-troubled nephew, Oliver, from entering a downward spiral. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.
6301	Ever Levine, Gail Carson	HarperCollins US	2009	9780061229626	When Kezi's mother's life is threatened, her father bargains with Admat, god of oaths, to spare her. He is unprepared for the consequences, that he must sacrifice Kezi, instead. Kezi finds hope in Olus, the Akkan god of the wind, who loves her and determines to save her. Together, they face seemingly insurmountable trials but, if both succeed, they will become immortal. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
1395103	Every spiral of fate Mafi, Tahereh	electric monkey	2025	9780008629243	At long last, the wedding day of the Jinn queen to the enigmatic ruler of Tulan has arrived. Cyrus, tethered by a blood oath to the bride-to-be he's falling in love with, can find nothing to celebrate in this union, knowing it will result in his death at Alizeh's hand. Sworn to an ancient, unbreakable magic, Alizeh has no choice but to end her marriage in murder in order to free her people. Alizeh has been hunted all her life by insidious forces determined to keep the Jinn suppressed, and her imminent victory has disrupted the balance of power. To prepare for war and protect her people, Alizeh must finally discover her magic--and outrun the enemies trying to stop her. Every allegiance will be tested, every darkness uncovered, and when the shattering secrets of the Tulanian king are finally revealed... Nothing, and no one, will be the same. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.
3815	Everything, everything Yoon, Nicola & Yoon, David (ill)	Corgi Books	2015	9780552574235	Maddy is allergic to the world. She hasn't left her house in seventeen years. Olly is the boy next door. He's determined to reach her. A story about the crazy risks we take for love. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
34160	Excalibur, the legend of King Arthur (graphic novel) Lee, Tony & Hart, Sam (ill)	Walker Books	2011	9781406321593	Arthur Pendragon frees the enchanted sword, Cliburn, from its rocky sheath and fights to save his kingdom from King Ulric. When Arthur marries Guinevere, Merlin the magician, agrees to help Arthur forget his true love, Vivianne, the Lady of the Lake. The legend of King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table unfolds dramatically in this action-packed, graphic novel. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
35567	Exchange of heart Groth, Darren	Penguin Random House Australia	2017	9780143781578	Since the death of his sister, Evie, Munro Maddux has been stuck. Flashbacks. Anger. Chest pains. A constant ache in his right hand. And a taunting voice he calls the Coyote. In an act of desperation, Munro heads off on a student exchange to Australia - the country of Evie's dreams. Forced by his new school to join a volunteer program, Munro discovers the Coyote is silenced in one place: Fair Go, an assisted-living residence in Brisbane's west. Munro gets to know his team of residents: designer Bernie; sleeping refugee Shah; would-be wedded couple Blake and Dale; comic creator Iggy; and self-defence tutor Florence. As this unlikely group shows Munro the sights, Munro's notion of what it means to be a big brother begins to change. But the burden Munro carries is not so easily cast aside. Will the Coyote triumph? Or can Munro find the fortitude necessary to mend his heart? Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
15942	Exposure Peet, Mal	Walker Books	2008	9781406306491	The controversial marriage of Otello, black football star, and Desmerelda, socialite and white pop icon, attracts jealousy and betrayal. The poor, street kids like Bush fight just as desperately for their family to survive. Realistic street language and drug references. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
751215	Extraordinaries, The Klune, T J	Hodder & Stoughton	2020	9781473693050	In Nova City, there are the Extraordinaries - Shadow Star: a protector who can manipulate darkness in his quest to protect those who cannot protect themselves. His arch-nemesis is Pyro Storm: an Extraordinary capable of controlling fire who is bent on bringing Nova City to its knees. And then there's 16 year old Nicholas Bell: who isn't Extraordinary in the slightest. He's Shadow Star's number one fan, writing fan fiction of their adventures together. Too bad ADHD isn't a superpower, otherwise Nick would be golden. Instead of stopping villains, Nick must contend with starting his junior year, a father who doesn't trust him, and a best friend named Seth, who may or may not be the love of Nick's short, uneventful life. It should be enough. And it is...until a fateful encounter with Shadow Star forces Nick to realize his true destiny. He's tired of being ordinary, and he'll do whatever it takes to become something more. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
26951	Extraordinary and unusual adventures of Horatio Lyle, The Webb, Catherine	Time Warner	2006	9781904233787	Set in Victorian London, a former Special Constable who loves science and inventions must solve a case for her Majesty's government. Mystery, conspiracy and even a touch of the supernatural. Blasphemous language may offend some readers. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
1174839	Extraordinary disappointments of Leopold Berry, The Riggs, Ransom	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2024	9781761181474	There it was, beside a big brass lever: a coin slot. Pale blue light pulsed dimly within. Leopold refused to overthink it. Steadying the slight tremor in his hand, he lifted the token to the slot and let it drop plunging him and his best pal, Emmet, into a parallel world of weird familiarity and terrifying unreality. Ransome Riggs weaves the familiar with the peculiar in a stunning tale of loss, triumph, friendship, and magic, reminding everyone everywhere that when you're not the chosen one, sometimes you have to choose yourself. Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.
23942	Eye of minds, The Dashner, James	Corgi Books	2014	9780552569736	The government needs Michael to track down a rogue gamer, but the risk is enormous and the line between game and reality could be blurred forever. Includes some violence. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
122	Eye to eye Jinks, Catherine	Penguin	1997	9780140384444	Jansi, a feral boy, and the computerised intelligence of a crashed spaceship make an unlikely pair in this story, set after the apocalypse. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
960018	F Team, The Arja, Rawah	Giramondo	2020	9781925818543	Meet Tariq Nader, leader of 'The Wolf Pack' at Punchbowl High, who has been commanded by the new principal to join a football competition with his mates in order to rehabilitate the public image of their school. When the team is formed, Tariq learns there's a major catch - half of the team is made up of white boys from Cronulla, aka enemy territory - and he must compete with their strongest player for captancy of the team. At school, Tariq thinks he has life all figured out until he falls for a new girl called Jamila, who challenges everything he thought he knew. At home, his outspoken ways have brought him into conflict with his family. Now, with complications on all fronts, he has to dig deep to control his anger, and find what it takes to be a leader. In confronting and often hilarious situations, Tariq's relationships with his extended Lebanese family and his friends are tested like never before, and he comes to learn that his choices can have serious consequences. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.
6985	Fairest Levine, Gail Carson	HarperCollins US	2008	9780060734107	Aza must save the kingdom of Ayortha and hopefully, win the love of the handsome prince. Possessed with a beautiful singing voice and an unusual gift, but bereft of popular beauty, Aza has been hidden in the shadows until she is drawn into palace intrigue by a jealous, insecure queen. An important lesson in true beauty and self-acceptance with all the treachery of Snow White. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
1062	Fairytales for Wilde Girls Near, Allyse	Random House Australia Pty Ltd	2013	9781742758510	Isola Wilde sees lots of things others don't. But when a dead girl appears at Isola's window, full of threats, Isola needs help. Can her real-life friends and her brother-princes - magical creatures seemingly lifted from the pages of the French fairytales Isola idolises - protect her. Isola needs to uncover the truth behind the dead girl's demise... before the ghost steals Isola's last breath. Explores concepts for older readers. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
7733	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Faking it Tozer, Gabrielle	Angus & Robertson (HarperCollins)	2015	9780732297060	Things are looking up for Josie Browning. Her boyfriend, James, is crazy about her, and she's scored a writing job at indi. Now the pressure is on for Josie to prove she's got what it takes to help plan indi's launch. Plus, she's battling with flatmates, frenemies and confusing feelings for travel writer Alex. High on the perks at indi, Josie's doing a pretty good job of faking her way in the industry - even though she still hasn't mastered her hair straightener. But when Josie is invited to a media junket, she accidentally sets off a string of lies that threaten to ruin her reputation, love life and career forever. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
35603	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Falling Provoost, Anne	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2017	9781760293925	Lucas' grandfather has died and his mother decides they should stick with their plan to spend summer in his home, even though he is no longer there to enjoy their visit. A chance encounter with Caitlin from next door, a girl he only vaguely remembers from his childhood summer visits, reveals the stark truth that his grandfather's past is a mystery he may wish he hadn't revealed. And when he and Caitlin are faced with a life or death situation, Lucas finds himself being compared to his grandfather for all the wrong reasons. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.
18647	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Falling from Grace Godwin, Jane	Penguin	2006	9780143302414	A fruitless search is mounted for Grace. Kip, the last person to see her on the beach before her disappearance, may have harmed her or a dark and sinister stranger could be involved. Adult themes with strong and coarse language in context. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
124	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Family: a collection of short stories Nieuwenhuizen, Agnes	Hodder Headline Australia Pty Ltd	1994	9781863303019	Sixteen stories, which centre round family life, are written by well-known and unknown writers. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
566595	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Fat Angie Charlton-Trujillo, E. E.	Candlewick Press	2014	9780763680190	Angie is broken - by her can't-be-bothered mother, by her high-school tormenters, and by being the only one who thinks her varsity-athlete-turned-war-hero sister is still alive. Hiding under a mountain of junk food hasn't kept the pain (or the shouts of "crazy mad cow!") away. Having failed to kill herself - in front of a gym full of kids - she's back at high school just trying to make it through each day. That is, until the arrival of KC Romance, the kind of girl who doesn't exist in Dryfalls, Ohio. A girl who is one hundred and ninety-nine percent wow! A girl who never sees her as Fat Angie, and who knows too well that the package doesn't always match what's inside. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
128	⊙ Fat man, The Gee, Maurice	Puffin Australia	2000	9780141310176	Colin is pleased when an old school friend of his father appears in their small New Zealand town, as the man offers his dad a job. It seems, however, that the man has a mysterious hold over Colin's family. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
4020	⊙ Fault in our stars, The Green, John	HarperCollins Publishers Ltd, UK	2013	9780143567592	Despite the tumour-shrinking medical miracle that has bought her a few years, Hazel has never been anything but terminal, her final chapter inscribed upon diagnosis. But, when a gorgeous plot twist named Augustus Waters suddenly appears at Cancer Kid Support Group, Hazel's story is about to be completely rewritten. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
38511	⊙ Fearless Lott, Tim	Walker Books	2007	9781406308624	Powerful story of innocent, persecuted children, estranged from society. One special messianic child never gives up hope that they will be rescued. When mass conformity and degeneration replace hope and humanity, what would it take to overcome the absolute power of the oppressor? An allegory for the experiences of the Jewish people in Nazi Germany. Strong language used in context. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
588169	⊙ Fierce fragile hearts Barnard, Sara	MacMillan	2019	9781509852888	Two years after a downward spiral took her as low as you can possibly go, Suzanne is starting again. Again. She's back in Brighton, the only place she felt she belonged, back with her best friends Caddy and Rosie. But they're about to leave for university. When your friends have been your light in the darkness, what happens when you're the one left behind? Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 & above.
5736	⊙ Fifth quest, The Oswald, Debra	Penguin	2002	9780143300014	Rosie flirts with the value of friendship and the need to resist the surreal world of television. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
43463	⊙ Fifth room, The Rushby, A.J.	Scholastic Australia	2017	9781742762548	What if there was a secret organisation of the leading medical experts that allowed young medical students to carry human experiments out - on themselves? This is the premise of this psychological thriller. Miri is a gifted 17 year old medical student who is willing to test her theories on herself. But, who really is in control? What is Miri up against, and what has she got to lose? Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
751166	⊙ Fight for Planet A Reucassel, Craig	ABC Books	2020	9780733341335	Most Australians know that climate change is real, but many don't know what to do about it and feel powerless. In Fight For Planet A, Reucassel shows it isn't as scary as we think, and we can make a difference to help protect the world for future generations. Learn how to reduce your carbon footprint, with practical day-to-day changes. Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.
7400	⊙ Find me a river Blake, Bronwyn	Thomas C Lothian Pty Ltd	2005	9780734402615	A story that focuses on the common and shared history of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people, and how many individuals are personally coming to terms with this history. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
582929	⊙ Finder, The Hendrick, Kate	Text Publishing Co	2018	9781925603811	Since the disappearance of her identical twin sister nine years ago, 16-year-old Frankie has kept her distance from everyone. Despite the years that have passed, she spends her days scanning and searching for her sister. When the police fail to find an 11-year-old runaway, Frankie takes it upon herself to find her. Despite her best attempts to stay out of the public eye, this earns her a reputation as a 'finder'. Enter Elias - an extrovert with an extravagant sense of fashion and endless enthusiasm, who is looking for his birth mother. When Elias offers to employ a cash-strapped Frankie to track down his birth mother, she reluctantly agrees. What follows next is a journey of self-discovery as both Frankie and Elias uncover the things that truly define them. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
58486	⊙ Finding Freia Lockhart Said, Aimee	Walker Books Australia Pty Ltd	2010	9781921529153	Freia is part of a group at school but she feels she really doesn't belong. Somehow, Freia finds herself helping, as a lighting assistant, with the school production, something she never thought she would do. Freia must try to be brave enough to make more changes in her life and let loose the real Freia Lockhart. Adult themes. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.
1424018	Finding her edge Iacopelli, Jennifer	Hachette Australia	2025	9781444983951	Adriana Russo's dream is to conquer the figure skating Junior World Championships. But with her family's ice skating rink facing financial ruin, allowing cameras to film their every move is the only thing keeping that dream alive. Then her new dance partner, Brayden, sparks an idea that could turn them into stars; let the world believe their on-ice chemistry is real. But as Adriana begins to fall for Brayden, Freddie- her former partner and first crush - skates back into her life. Will Adriana claim her place on the podium, or will she follow her heart? Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
737784	Fire never goes out, The Stevenson, Noelle	HarperCollins Australia	2020	9780062278272	The autobiographical highs and lows of a creative human's life in the world are captured in a collection of personal comics. Go on a journey of self discovery and appreciation with Noelle Stevenson. Usually read by students in year 9, 10 and above.
992532	Fireflies in flight Jakobsen, Mette	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.
1078521	Five dark fates Blake, Kendare	Quill Tree Books	2021	9780062686190	While Arsinoe searches for a cure to Jules's legion curse, Mirabella abandons the rebel army for Katharine, but the dead queens urge caution in trusting her, and as allegiances switch, the fate of Fennbirn Island will be determined. Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.
820937	Flawed Ahern, Cecelia	HarperCollins Publishers Ltd, UK	2025	9780008758707	In Celestine North's world, perfection is paramount and mistakes are punished. So Celestine lives a perfect life, as a model daughter, student and girlfriend. But then Celestine breaks a rule and faces life-changing repercussions. She could be imprisoned. Branded. Found flawed. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
5297	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Flywheel, The Gough, Erin	Hardie Grant Egmont	2015	9781742978178	<p>17 year old Delilah's crazy life is about to get crazier. Ever since her father took off overseas, she's been struggling to run the family's cafe without him and survive high school. But after a misjudged crush on one of the cool girls, she's become the school punchline. With all that's on her plate she barely has time for her favourite distraction - spying on the beautiful Rosa, who dances flamenco at the tapas bar across the road.</p> <p>Only her best friend Charlie knows how she feels about Rosa, but he has romantic problems of his own. When his plan to win an older woman's heart goes horribly wrong, Del is the only one who can help him. All this leaves Del grappling with some seriously curly questions. Is it okay to break the law to help a friend? How can a girl tell another girl she likes her without it ending in humiliation and heartbreak? And - the big one - is it ever truly possible to dance in public without falling over? Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.</p>
1304864	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Foal in the wire, The Coburn, Robbie	Hachette Australia	2025	9780734423603	<p>Sam, a teenager, lives on a farm with his mother and emotionally distant father, a horse trainer. Haunted by trauma and depression, struggling with school and disillusioned with his home life following the death of his older brother, Sam's life changes when he finds a wounded foal tangled in barbed wire in one of the paddocks at the edge of their property. In the course of rescuing and caring for the foal he becomes close with Julia, a troubled girl from the next property.</p> <p>Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.</p> <p>LISTEN ON BOOK BITES! You can listen to Robbie Coburn read the first chapter of this book on the PRC's Book bites podcast on Spotify, Apple Podcasts or The Arts Unit website!</p> <p>Copy and paste this URL into your browser to start listening! https://artsunit.nsw.edu.au/listen-the-arts-unit/literature-and-language-arts/book-bites/9plus-book-list#the-foal-in-the-wire-robbie-coburn</p>
649009	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Follow after me Marlow Paterson, Allison	Big Sky Publishing	2019	9781925675580	<p>Two young women a century apart are mysteriously connected. While 21st century Lizzie abandons old friends and makes reckless choices, 20th century Evie's dreams are torn apart by WW1. Lizzie and Evie will discover strength and courage from unexpected places. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.</p>

PRC	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
ID 5505	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Foolish hearts Mills, Emma	Henry Holt & Co	2017	9781627799379	When Claudia accidentally eavesdrops on the epic breakup of Paige and Iris, the it-couple at her school, she finds herself in hot water with prickly, difficult Iris. Thrown together against their will into a class production of A Midsummer Night's Dream, along with the goofiest, cutest boy Claudia has ever known, Iris and Claudia are in for an eye-opening senior year. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
1289184	<input checked="" type="radio"/> For she is wrath Varga, Emily	Pan MacMillan	2024	9781035055289	Betrayed by her ex-lover and falsely imprisoned for a crime she didn't commit, Dania counts down the days until she can exact her revenge. When a fellow prisoner offers a chance at escape and the keys to a dangerous Jinn magic, Dania seizes the opportunity and, armed with a brand-new identity and all the power she could want, enacts a plan to bring down those who betrayed her and her family. But the one person standing in her way is the very man who signed her life away in the first place, and retribution becomes a complicated game of cat and mouse. Because sometimes betrayal isn't as simple as it seems and revenge certainly isn't as easy -- not when your heart is involved. Usually read by students in years 9, 10, and above.
579449	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Found Ferris, Fleur	Penguin Random House Australia	2018	9780143784326	Beth Millar has always lived in Deni. In a small rural town. Her biggest problem is telling her over protective and fiercely private father that she has a boy friend. When her father disappears into thin air, Beth discovers that he's not who she thought he was, in fact nothing is what she thought. Her family's secret past has caught up with them and now someone wants them all dead. Beth has been training for this moment her whole life without even knowing, but will it be enough to keep ahead of her hunters? Usually read by students in Year 9, 10 and above.
587903	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Four dead queens Scholte, Astrid	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2019	9781760524418	Seventeen-year-old Keralie Corrington is one of Quadara's most skilled thieves, but when she steals an unexpectedly valuable package from a messenger she is soon entangled in a conspiracy that leads to all four of Quadara's queens being murdered. With no other choices and on the run from her former employer, Keralie teams up with Varin Bollt, the Eonist messenger she stole from, and together they race to discover who has killed the queens. But when dark secrets threaten their reluctant partnership and put everything at stake, Keralie and Varin must use all their daring to stay alive and untangle the mysteries behind the nation's four dead queens. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
1780	Frankenstein Shelley, Mary	Penguin	1818	9780141045115	The epic battle between man and monster reaches its greatest pitch in the famous story of Frankenstein. In trying to create life, the young student Victor Frankenstein unleashes forces beyond his control, setting into motion a long and tragic chain of events that brings Victor himself to the very brink. How he tries to destroy his creation, as it destroys everything Victor loves, is a powerful story of love, friendship... and horror. Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.
4773	Frankie and Joely Weetman, Nova	University of Queensland Press	2015	9780702253638	Frankie and Joely are best friends. It's summer and they escape the city and their mums for a country holiday. But, when Joely introduces Frankie to Thommo and Mack, her country cousins, it's soon clear that more than the heat is getting under their skins. Simmering jealousies and festering secrets test their friendship. Local boy Rory stirs things up even more and secrets start to blister. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
567936	Freya Laurence, Matthew	St Martin's	2018	9781250144188	Sara Vanadi, AKA Freya, the Norse goddess of love, beauty, war and death, finds herself combating the evil corporation, Finemdi, who are trying to entice the ancient gods and goddesses, seduce them with new powers and then use their godly strengths to achieve greatness in a modern world. Sara dedicates herself to fighting the evil company but she has to learn the ways of the new world first. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 & above.
653225	From Twinkle, with love Menon, Sandhya	Hodder & Stoughton	2018	9781473678736	Aspiring filmmaker and wallflower Twinkle Mehra has stories she wants to tell and universes she wants to explore, if only the world would listen. So when fellow film geek Sahil Roy approaches her to direct a movie for the upcoming Summer Festival, Twinkle is all over it. The chance to publicly showcase her voice as a director? Dream come true. The fact that it gets her closer to longtime crush, Neil Roy-aka Sahil's twin brother? Dream come true x 2. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above. When mystery man 'N' begins emailing her, Twinkle is sure it's Neil, finally ready to begin their happily-ever-after. The only slightly inconvenient problem is that, in the course of movie-making, she's fallen in love with the irresistibly adorkable Sahil. Twinkle soon realizes that resistance is futile: The romance she's got is not the one she scripted. But will it be enough? Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
146	From your friend Disher, Garry	Hodder Headline Australia Pty Ltd	2000	9780733605277	Louis has to adapt to moving from the city to a country, coastal town as well as dealing with the Year 8 bullies and the tragic Tilly. His dad's shop hasn't sold a single thing, his mum's lost her job and Louis wants to return to the city. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
3978	Fromelles: Australia's bloodiest day at war Wilkinson, Carole	Black Dog Books	2011	9781742031767	The first shots were fired at eleven am on 19 July 1916. The Battle of Fromelles lasted less than twenty-four hours and, when it was over, more than five thousand Australian soldiers had been killed, wounded or taken prisoner. More soldiers died at Fromelles than in the Boer, Korean and Vietnam wars combined. Almost a century later, the attention of the world has once again turned to Fromelles. Usually read by students in Years 9,10 or above.
864712	Gallant Schwab, V E	Titan Books	2022	9781803360355	Sixteen-year-old Olivia Prior is missing three things: a mother, a father and a voice. Her only companions are the ghouls she sees and her mother's journal, which captured a mind in turmoil. Until she receives a letter from an uncle she's never met, summoning her to his estate - Gallant. But when she arrives, she discovers her uncle is dead and the estate is empty, save for her cousin Matthew and the servants. Gallant is a house of secrets. Olivia searches for answers about her family, her past, she discovers a dark reflection of everything she knew, an ancient realm where ghosts take form and the dark master sits waiting for her... Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
796720	Game changer Shusterman, Neal	Walker Books	2021	9781406398632	Ash is used to taking hits on the field for his high school football team - until he takes one that doesn't just impact his body, but his whole reality. It starts with one small shift, but with every game, every hit, Ash finds himself pushed through a succession of universes almost-but-not-really like his own, until the small shifts in reality become significant shifts in Ash's own identity. As Ash experiences life from other perspectives, he starts to question the world he thought he knew, as well as the ones he finds himself catapulted into. For better or worse, the one thing Ash knows is that he's got to find a way to put things back.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
45264	Game theory Jonsberg, Barry	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2016	9781760290153	Jamie is a sixteen year old maths whiz. His wild, older sister, Summerlee, has dropped out of school. Tensions at home run high. With Jamie's help, Summerlee wins millions in a lottery and cuts all ties with the family. But, money can cause big trouble. When their younger sister is kidnapped for a ransom, Jamie thinks he can use game theory, the strategy of predicting an opponent's actions, to outfox the kidnapper and get Phoebe back. It's a very risky strategy. Mature themes and language. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
832843	Gaps, The Hall, Leane	Text Publishing Co	2021	9781922330482	When sixteen-year-old Yin Mitchell is abducted, the news reverberates through the whole Year Ten class at Balmoral Ladies College. As the hours tick by, the girls know the chance of Yin being found alive is becoming smaller and smaller. Everyone is affected by Yin's disappearance - even scholarship student Chloe, who usually stays out of Balmoral dramas, is drawn into the maelstrom. And when she begins to form an uneasy alliance with Natalia, the queen of Year Ten, things get even more complicated. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
20250	Genesis Reichs, Brendan	Pan MacMillan	2018	9781509869992	A thrilling sci-fi in which Noah, and sixty-four members of his class are trapped in a computer simulation called Project Nemesis. There are no rules, except survival. The desperate survivors form into groups as the world rapidly descends into chaos and violence. Min and Noah, former friends, are now adversaries in the most deadly of games, where the consequences are more real than any of them know. Usually read by students in Year 9, 10 and above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
660418	Ghost bird Fuller, Lisa	University of Queensland Press	2019	9780702260230	Stacey and Laney are twins - mirror images of each other - and yet they're as different as the sun and moon. Stacey works hard at school, determined to get out of their small town. Laney skips school and sneaks out of the house to meet her boyfriend. But when Laney disappears one night, Stacey can't believe she's just run off without telling her. As the days pass and Laney doesn't return, Stacey starts dreaming of her twin. The dreams are dark and terrifying, difficult to understand and hard to shake, but at least they tell Stacey one key thing - Laney is alive. It's hard for Stacey to know what's real and what's imagined and even harder to know who to trust. All she knows for sure is that Laney needs her help. Stacey is the only one who can find her sister. Will she find her in time? Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
5101	Ghost byte Larkin, John	Random House Australia Pty Ltd	2000	9780091829407	Brendan finds himself accompanied by a ghost who communicates through his computer, further complicating his adolescent life. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
660733	Ghost flight Grylls, Bear	Orion	2016	9781409156826	An aeroplane is discovered in the Amazon jungle. Will Jaeger; The Hunter, lead's a team of elite special forces on a desperate race which uncovers secrets and a conspiracy from Nazi Germany during World War Two. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
15402	Gifts Le Guin, Ursula	Orion	2004	9781842551073	Orrec discovers he has inherited a power that he cannot control. It is the gift of undoing. His best friend Gry has the gift of calling animals. This is a story of friendship and problem-solving in an exciting and imaginary land. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.
155	Gilbert's ghost train Metzenthen, David	Scholastic Australia	2002	9781865044590	Is Gilbert real or a ghost? Martin doesn't much care - at least he is helping to distract his brother from his illness. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
850746	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Gilded cage, The Noni, Lynette	Hodder & Stoughton	2021	9781529360431	Kiva Meridan is a survivor. She survived not only Zalindov prison, but also the deadly Trial by Ordeal. Now Kiva's purpose goes beyond survival to vengeance. For the past ten years, her only goal has been to reunite with her family and destroy the people responsible for ruining their lives. But now that she has escaped Zalindov, her mission has become more complicated than ever. As Kiva settles into her new life in the capital, she discovers she wasn't the only one who suffered while she was in Zalindov-her siblings and their beliefs have changed too. Soon it's not just her enemies she's keeping secrets from, but her own family as well. Outside the city walls, tensions are brewing from the rebels, along with whispers of a growing threat from the northern kingdoms. Kiva's allegiances are more important than ever, but she's beginning to question where they truly lie. Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.
9334	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Girl from the sea, The Aldridge, James	Penguin	2002	9780143001126	An intriguing summer adventure where thirteen year old Beau meets wild, irrepressible Lelee, a girl from the sea. Together with Beau's younger sister, they search in their boat for a box believed to contain a fortune, but smugglers are looking too. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
608377	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Girl king, The Yu, Mimi	Orion	2019	9781473223110	Lu and Minyi have always known their places as princesses of the empire - Lu, her father's favourite, is destined to be the first female emperor, while Minyi, her mother's favourite, is resigned to live in her shadow. When their father names their male cousin Set as heir, their lives will never be the same again. Betrayal, manipulation and unlikely alliances plague the royal sisters. While Lu fights to reclaim her birthright, Minyi's hidden powers are awakened. The effect could be cataclysmic. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
14684	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Girl like me, A Matthews, Penny	Penguin Books Australia	2010	9780143011484	In a Victorian farming community, Emmie's mother takes on Bertha to help with the chores and the two girls become friends. Emmie discovers Bertha's terrible secrets and their lives intertwine. Based on true events and containing adult themes. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
3068	⊙ Glass collector, The Perera, Anna	Angus & Robertson (HarperCollins)	2011	9780732291532	In Cairo, fifteen year old Aaron makes a living gathering garbage. But, Aaron has dreams of a better life, which includes Rachel who looks after the ponies that pull the stinking garbage carts. Aaron's skill at sorting glass is the only thing that keeps him alive. His mother is dead and his stepfather and stepbrother bully him. Aaron makes a choice that changes his life. Usually read by students in Years 9,10 or above.
10974	⊙ Glass sword Aveyard, Victoria	Orion	2016	9781409159353	Mare Barrow has Silver ability, the power to control lightning. As she makes her escape from Maven, the prince and friend who betrayed her, Mare discovers she is not the only one of her kind. Pursued by Maven, Mare sets out to recruit other Red-and-Silver fighters to join in the struggle against her oppressors. But, Mare finds herself on a deadly path, at risk of becoming the kind of monster she is trying to defeat. Sequel to The red queen. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
903291	⊙ Gleanings Shusterman, Neal	Walker Books	2022	9781529509540	In a future world where death and illness have become eliminated by a benevolent AI, the only death which the human race knows comes through the order of Scythes. Highly trained and held to a high moral code, these men and women have few boundaries. However, they are still human and are susceptible to corruption and ego. This is a collection of stories about the various Scythes and their good, bad, and absurd moments as bringers of death.
18555	⊙ Glory garage, The Jamal, Nadia & Chandab, Taghred	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2005	9781741146493	A collection of stories about young women's experiences and dilemmas growing up as Lebanese Muslims in Australia. Humorous and empathetic insight into one of our diverse cultural groups, explaining customs and breaking down stereotypes. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
9712	⊙ Going solo Dahl, Roald & Blake, Quentin (ill)	Penguin	2016	9780141365558	Following on from Dahl's childhood experiences, explored in his autobiography, Boy, this book tells the hilarious and true stories of his experiences working for Shell Oil in Africa and becoming a fighter pilot during World War II. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
18271	⊙ Gold Hill, David	Random House Australia Pty Ltd	2010	9781741669251	Australia's gold rushes of the nineteenth century produced tremendous wealth and population growth for the struggling Australian colonies. People from all walks of life made the perilous journey to the goldfields, returning either fabulously wealthy or demoralised and broke. It was a time of huge political, social and cultural change. Includes diaries, journals, letters, official reports, newspaper articles of the time. A challenging read. Usually read by students in Years 9,10 or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
1329946	Goldens, The Wilson, Lauren	HarperCollins Publishers Ltd, UK	2025	9780008687526	Chloe has always dreamed of becoming a bestselling writer. Then she meets enigmatic influencer Clara Holland, and at last, Chloe has something to write about. They bond instantly, and Chloe moves into Claras mansion. But as Claras fame skyrockets, she starts behaving strangely, hosting increasingly wild parties, complete with bonfire rituals and moonlit river baptisms. Clara opens up her home to other girls desperate to live like her. The media call it a cult, and soon Chloe begins to hear unsettling rumours from Clara's past. After one spectacular party, a girl goes missing and the rumours take on a sinister new meaning. If Chloe cant escape Claras influence, she may be next... Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.
78863	Goldsmith's daughter, The Landman, Tanya	Walker Books	2008	9781406307078	As an Aztec maiden, Itacate is destined to a lifetime of submission and domestic drudgery until the Spanish invaders come and violently turn her world of savage blood sacrifices and cultural boundaries upside down. Her strength of character, great skill in her father's profession and her love for a young invader help her endure tragedy and hardship in a harsh adult world. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
759605	Good girl's guide to murder, A Jackson, Holly	electric monkey	2019	9781405293181	Five years ago, schoolgirl Andie Bell was murdered by Sal Singh. The police know he did it. Everyone in town knows he did it. But having grown up in the same small town that was consumed by the crime, Pippa Fitz-Amobi isn't so sure. When she chooses the case as the topic for her final project, she starts to uncover secrets that someone in town desperately wants to stay hidden. And if the real killer is still out there, how far will they go to keep Pip from the truth? Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
759608	Good Girl, Bad Blood Jackson, Holly	electric monkey	2020	9781405297752	Pippa and Ravi Singh have released a true crime podcast and are insistent their detecting days are behind them until a local boy goes missing. Jackson ensnares readers in another highly addictive web, woven from the dark shadows of small-town secrets. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.
186	Goodbye and hello Corcoran, Clodagh & Tyrrell, Margot (ed.)	Penguin	1993	9780140360578	Diverse stories about family ties and personal experiences, written by Australian and Irish authors. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
569134	Grace and fury Banghart, Tracy	Hachette Children's Books	2018	9781444941951	In a world where women have no rights, sisters Serina and Nomi face two very different fates: one in the palace, the other on an island prison where women must fight to survive. Serina has spent her whole life preparing to become a Grace - selected to stand by the heir to the throne as a shining example of the perfect woman. But her headstrong and rebellious younger sister has a dangerous secret, and one wrong move could cost both sisters everything. Can Serina fight? And will Nomi win? Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
5092	Gracey Moloney, James	University of Queensland Press	2009	9780702237072	It's school holidays and Gracey is coming home to Cunningham, a remote country town. Everything looks different, even frightening. When her brother, Dougy, finds three aboriginal bones, a chain of events causes Gracey to reconnect with her Aboriginal heritage. Includes coarse language and adult themes. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.
64682	Graffiti moon Crowley, Cath	Pan MacMillan	2010	9780330425780	Lucy is in love with Shadow, a mysterious graffiti artist. Ed thought he was in love with Lucy, until she broke his nose. Dylan loves Daisy, but throwing eggs at her probably wasn't the best way to show it. An intense and exhilarating twenty-four hours in the lives of four teenagers on the verge of adulthood and of finding out just who they are, and who they want to be. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
109595	Great Gatsby, The: graphic novel Greenberg, Nicki	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2009	9781741757309	Nicki Greenberg's adaptation of The Great Gatsby brings to life the grand and crumpled dreams of F. Scott Fitzgerald's unforgettable characters. In the exquisitely realised setting of 1920s New York, a throng of fantastical creatures play out the drama, the wry humour and the tragedy of the novel. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
894020	⓪ Greatest thing, The Searle, Sarah Winifred	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2022	9781761067655	It's the first day of Grade Ten, and Winifred is going to reinvent herself. Now that her two best (and only) friends have transferred to a private school, Win must navigate high school on her own. Luckily, she isn't alone for long. In art class, she meets Oscar and April. They don't look or act like the typical teenagers in her town: they're creative, a little rebellious and seem comfortable in their own skin in a way that Win can only dream of. But even though Winifred is breaking out of her shell, there's one secret she can't bear to admit to April and Oscar, or even to herself - and this lie threatens everything. Win needs to face her own truths, but she doesn't need to do it alone. Through the healing power of clandestine sleepovers, op-shopping and zine publishing, Win finds and accepts what it means to be herself. Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.
5924	⓪ Green monkey dreams Carmody, Isobelle	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2012	9781742379470	Within this series of short stories you will never be sure where reality ends and imagination begins. Paths are travelled by a variety of seekers, a boy searches for his true name, a beast discovers hope and a group of pilgrims is led by a song on an ancient journey. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
846102	Green rising James, Lauren	Walker Books	2021	9781406384673	Hester, Theo and Gabrielle have absolutely nothing in common. Their families come from completely different walks of life. But when Gabrielle develops the ability to grow plants from her skin, the three find themselves thrown together as part of the global "Greenfingers" project. Together they have to fight the corporations who want to harness these powers for money and work together to create a Green Rising.
4452	⓪ Green valentine Wilkinson, Lili	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2015	9781760110277	Astrid is popular, clever and an environmental activist. Hiro is rude, resentful, and doesn't see the point of school. When they meet, Hiro's wrangling shopping trolleys and doesn't recognise Astrid, who's wearing a lobster suit to highlight a threatened species. She wants to change the world, he wants to survive it. But, ultimately, both believe that the world needs to be saved from itself. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.
174	⓪ Greylands Carmody, Isobelle	Penguin	1997	9780140387490	A boy writes a story about a symbolic Greylands to explain his mother's mental illness and her eventual death. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
622492	⊙ Growing up Aboriginal in Australia Heiss, Anita (ed)	Black Inc	2018	9781863959810	What is it like to grow up Aboriginal in Australia? This anthology, compiled by award-winning author Anita Heiss, attempts to showcase as many diverse voices, experiences and stories as possible in order to answer that question. Each account reveals, to some degree, the impacts of invasion and colonisation - on language, on country, on ways of life, and on how people are treated daily in the community, the education system, the workplace and friendship groups. Accounts from well-known authors and high-profile identities sit alongside newly discovered voices of all ages, with experiences spanning coastal and desert regions, cities and remote communities. All of them speak to the heart - sometimes calling for empathy, oftentimes challenging stereotypes, always demanding respect. This groundbreaking anthology aims to enlighten, inspire and educate about the lives of Aboriginal people in Australia today. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
641039	⊙ Growing up African in Australia Beneba Clarke, Maxine & Yussuf, Ahmed & Magan, Magan (eds)	Black Ink Press	2019	9781760640934	People of African descent have been in Australia for at least 200 years, having arrived here in many different ways- directly from the continent; via the Caribbean, the Americas and the United Kingdom; making the journey to Australia over one generation, or several. What is it like to grow up African in Australia? This anthology showcases diverse voices, experiences and stories in order to answer that question. Accounts from well-known authors and high-profile cultural and sporting identities sit alongside newly discovered voices of all ages, with experiences spanning regions, cities and generations. All of the pieces call for understanding, oftentimes challenging stereotypes, always demanding respect. Growing Up African aims to defy, question or shed light on the many stereotypes that currently exist about the vibrant extended African community in Australia. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
1209685	⊙ Grown-up's guide to picture books, The Cain Gray, Lara & Ide, Timothy (ill) & Carrington, Lorena (ill)	MidnightSun Publishing	2024	9781922858504	An A-Z guide to help you to level up your picture book knowledge. Discover the tricks about titles, the science of page layouts, the purpose of illustrations and why some books live on in our hearts and minds long after we've read them. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
5603	Guantanamo boy Perera, Anna	Angus & Robertson (HarperCollins)	2009	9780732288952	Fifteen year old Khalid isn't too excited about visiting his family in Pakistan but his Mum and Dad want him to go with them. For Khalid, a living nightmare begins. He is kidnapped and forced to go to a place no teenager should ever see, a place where torture and terror are considered normal. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
1355847	Guide to falling off the map, A Arnot, Zanni L	Hachette Australia	2025	9780734423597	Vinnie Smith has her post-grad life in NYC all planned out with her best friend Lilah, using future dreams to distract from her mums battle with MS. Meanwhile, her childhood friend Roo Carpenter has dropped out of school and taken a shady job to support his struggling family. When Vinnies plans fall apart, she impulsively takes Roo on a road trip across inland Australia in her mums old Kombi, hoping to fix his life instead of facing her own pain. But as grief, worsening headaches, and confusing feelings between them bubble up, both are forced to confront more than they expected, especially the risk of losing their friendship to something more. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.
179	Handles Mark, Jan & Parkins, David	Viking Children's	1987	9780143015871	A girl, who is mad about motor bikes, finds happiness in a run-down bike shop. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
8518	Handmaid's Tale, The Atwood, Margaret	Penguin	2010	9780099511663	Offred is a Handmaid in the Republic of Gilead. She has only one function: to breed. If she deviates, she will, like dissenters, be hanged at the wall or sent out to die slowly of radiation sickness. But even a repressive state cannot obliterate desire - neither Offred's nor that of the two men on which her future hangs. This book contains potentially confronting mature themes and content, and is usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.
788043	Happiest man on Earth, The Jaku, Eddie	HarperCollins Australia	2020	9781760980085	Eddie Jaku always considered himself a German first, a Jew second. He was proud of his country. But all of that changed in November 1938, when he was beaten, arrested and taken to a concentration camp. Over the next seven years, Eddie faced unimaginable horrors every day, first in Buchenwald, then in Auschwitz, then on a Nazi death march. He lost family, friends, his country. Because he survived, Eddie made the vow to smile every day. He pays tribute to those who were lost by telling his story, sharing his wisdom and living his best possible life. He now believes he is the 'happiest man on earth'. Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
11994	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Happiest refugee, The Do, Anh	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2010	9781742372389	Anh Do, comedian and television personality, arrived in Australia as a baby in a boat full of desperate family members who suffered the perils of the sea. A mother's sacrifice, a father's heroism and their adventures in a new land are inspiring. Some strong language used in context. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.
728150	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Harp of kings, The Marillier, Juliet	Pan MacMillan	2019	9781760783297	Liobhan has always dreamed of being a Swan Island warrior. She is a talented musician with exceptional strength and fighting skills which make her the perfect candidate to be a warrior bard and spy. Whilst posing as travelling musicians, Liobhan and her brother Brocc, must find a precious harp that is an ancient symbol of kingship. If the harp is not played at the upcoming coronation the heir will not be accepted and the kingdom will be thrown into turmoil. They can trust no one. Is there a political plot to stop the prince from becoming King or is there something else, something otherworldly at work here? Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
4511	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Harper effect, The Bashford, Taryn	Pan MacMillan	2017	9781760552091	Harper Hunter doesn't know how it came to this. Her tennis dreams are collapsing: her coach says she doesn't have what it takes to make it in the world of professional tennis. Her new doubles partner is moody, mysterious and angry at the world. What is he hiding? She is in love with Jacob, but he is her sister's boyfriend. Or, he was. Harper could never betray Aria with Jacob, could she? As Harper's heart and dreams pull her in different directions, she has to figure out exactly what she wants. And just how hard she's willing to fight to get it. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
9799	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Harry's war Heffernan, John	Scholastic Australia	2011	9781862919273	A mystery surrounds Harry's late father, a Vietnam veteran. Grandfather knows but he won't say, and no-one in Harry's family wants to have anything to do with Grandpa. Harry spends a lot of time recording Grandpa's memories of heroic action in World War II. After Grandpa addresses Harry's class at school, the mystery is solved, leaving Harry devastated. Some adult themes and coarse language in context. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
57007	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Hate is such a strong word Ayoub, Sarah	HarperCollins Australia	2013	9780732296841	Seventeen-year-old Sophie hates Monday mornings, socks worn with sandals, and having to strategise like she's a battle sergeant every time she asks her parents if she can go out. But she especially hates being stereotyped because she's Lebanese. When New Guy, Shehadie Goldsmith, is alienated at her Lebanese school because his dad's Australian, she hates the way it makes her feel. Like she's just as prejudiced as everyone else. Like she could make a difference if she stopped pretending she's invisible. Like the attraction between them might be too strong to fight... But hate is such a strong word... Can Sophie find the strength to speak out - even if it means going against everything she's been brought up to believe? Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
2799	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Hate race, The Beneba Clarke, Maxine	Hachette Children's Books	2016	9780733632280	Suburban Australia. Sweltering heat. A three bedroom blonde-brick house, a family of five with a beaten-up Ford Falcon. Vegemite on toast. Maxine Beneba Clarke's life is just like all the other Aussie kids on her street. Except for one, glaring, inescapably obvious thing. A challenging read. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
7116	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Hate u give, The Thomas, Angie	Walker Books	2018	9781406387933	Sixteen-year-old Starr lives in two worlds: the poor neighbourhood where she was born and raised and her posh high school in the suburbs. The uneasy balance between them is shattered when Starr is the only witness to the fatal shooting of her unarmed best friend, Khalil, by a police officer. Now what Starr says could destroy her community. It could also get her killed. Inspired by the Black Lives Matter movement, this is a powerful and gripping YA novel about one girl's struggle for justice. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
7945	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Havoc Higgins, Jane	Text Publishing Co	2015	9781922147295	The city is split in two by warring factions, either side of the river. When Nik saves a stranger from the debris, she keeps repeating the word 'havoc'. As he delves further, Nik uncovers a complex web of power, fear and betrayal that enwraps the city. He also learns more about his parents, finds out who he can trust and is forced to make an impossible choice. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
2130	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Head book, The Marsden, John	Pan MacMillan	2001	9780330363211	A quick-fix guide to general knowledge and trivia. Everything you needed to know, and maybe didn't even know to ask, explained with wit and clarity. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
ID 16791	Headgames Lever, Casey	Random House Australia Pty Ltd	2010	9781741663532	Steven's obsession with Avery leads him into what seems to be a childish game. It is, in fact, a very dangerous game. The players include Steven's unsuspecting friend, Tala, Connor, who is rumoured to have been in juvenile detention and may be a dealer, and his sister, Jade, a very hostile goth, and Avery. Their journey of self-realisation has unexpected outcomes. Mature themes and strong language in context. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.
5745	Heart forger, The Chupeco, Rin	Sourcebooks Inc	2018	9781492635857	Tea, a bone witch who can resurrect the dead, is done with her self-imposed exile. She now possesses all seven bezoars she needs to revive the powerful daeva. With the help of these terrible monsters, she can finally enact her revenge against the royals who wronged her and took the life of her one true love. Alliances and allegiances are shifting, and danger lurks in and out of the kingdom. But Tea's heart is set on vengeance, even if it turns her against her now-estranged brother, who supports her enemies. War is brewing, and when dark magic is at play, no one is safe. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
1174864	Heart of the world, The Kaufman, Amie	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2024	9781761067389	When Selly and Leander began their treacherous voyage to the Isles of the Gods, the captain's daughter and the playboy prince were strangers. But amid talk of war and a deadly attack on their ship, the unthinkable happened. They fell in love. Leander's ritual at the island temple was meant to prevent a war between the gods. Instead, it nearly cost him his life, and drew the goddess Barrica back from exile. Now, as her Messenger, Leander is imbued with her deadly magic, and only Selly's presence can stop it from consuming him. But Barrica wasn't the only immortal roused from sleep. The God of Risk, Macean, was awakened by an enemy all thought dead, and across the sea he's calling for war. The fight to save their world will take Selly and Leander from the gilded ballroom of the royal palace to the hallowed halls of an ancient library. Battle lines will be drawn, and bonds will break. Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
1132915	Hearts still beating Archer, Brooke	Putnam	2024	9780593698327	<p>Mara is dead - mostly. Infected with a virus that broke the world and turned her into a monster, Mara awakens in a facility to learn a treatment has been found. No longer a Tick, Mara is placed in an experimental relocation program. But she's sent to live with the best friend she hasn't seen since the world ended. Since their first and only kiss.</p> <p>Rory is alive - barely. And her nightmares are as vicious as the Ticks that infected Mara and permanently injured Rory. Even after the Island - one of the surviving communities - rebuilds itself, Rory fears a tick attack from the mainland at any time. But the Ticks that show up are treated, almost normal - not quite themselves but no longer raging monsters - and among them is the first girl Rory ever loved. And never expected to see alive.</p> <p>Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.</p>
	Heartstopper series Oseman, Alice				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.
660193	Heartstream Pollock, Tom	Walker Books	2019	9781406378184	<p>Heartstream: The app that allows you to feel everything. Amy Becker is a star. She's used Heartstream to broadcast every moment of her mother's illness. It's the realest, rawest reality TV imaginable, and it's everywhere.</p> <p>On the day of her mother's funeral, she goes home to find a fan of hers in the kitchen. The woman has rigged the house, and herself with explosives - and she's been waiting to talk to Amy for a very long time. Amy is about to discover just how far true obsession can go.</p> <p>Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.</p>
505	Helicopter man Fensham, Elizabeth	Bloomsbury	2005	9780747575498	Pete and his dad are running from the secret service. Pete is confused about his life and his dad's behaviour but knows they must hide when they hear a helicopter. A sensitive and empathetic story of mental illness. Adult themes and strong language. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
707973	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Hell ship Veitch, Michael	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2018	9781760630843	<p>For more than a century and a half, a grim tale has passed down through Michael Veitch's family: the story of the Ticonderoga, a clipper ship that sailed from Liverpool in August 1852, crammed with poor but hopeful emigrants - mostly Scottish victims of the clearances and the potato famine. Hoping for a better life in Australia. Three months later, a ghost ship crept into Port Phillip Bay flying the dreaded yellow flag of contagion. Deadly typhus had erupted, killing a quarter of the passengers and leaving many more desperately ill. Sharks followed the ship.</p> <p>Panic stuck Melbourne. James William Henry Veitch was the ship's assistant surgeon, on his first appointment to sea. Annie Morrison was a volunteer who helped him. Michael Veitch is their great-great grandson and Hell Ship is a well researched narrative which brings to life the hardships and horrors endured by those who came by sea to seek a new life in Australia.</p> <p>Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.</p>
770571	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Here the whole time Martins, Vitor	Hodder Children's Books (Australia)	2020	9781444958492	<p>Felipe is fat. And he doesn't need anyone to remind him, which is, of course, what everyone does. He's been waiting for summer: a break from the classmates who tease him incessantly. His plans include catching up on TV, finishing his TBR pile, and watching YouTube tutorials.</p> <p>But then Felipe's mom invites Caio, the neighbour kid from apartment 57, to spend 15 days with them while his parents are on vacation. Felipe is distraught because A) he's had a crush on Caio since, well, for ever, and B) Felipe has a list of body image insecurities and absolutely NO idea how he's going to entertain his neighbour for two full weeks.</p> <p>Suddenly, the days ahead of him that once promised rest and relaxation end up bringing a whirlwind of feelings, forcing Felipe to dive head-first into every unresolved issue he has had with himself - but maybe, just maybe, he'll manage to win over Caio, too.</p> <p>Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.</p>

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
815677	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Heroes next door Johnson, Samuel & Hinton, Hilde	Hachette Australia	2020	9780733646362	Samuel Johnson and Hilde Hinton, along with their late sister, Connie, have raised more than ten million dollars for cancer research. In this book, they have written a collection of simple stories about ordinary Australians who have faced extraordinary circumstances. All of these regular people, people you would meet on the street, have found reasons to stay positive and focused on believing in the power of kindness and positive thinking. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
65776	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Heroes of Tobruk Mulligan, David	Scholastic Australia	2008	9781741690774	When World War II is declared in 1939, Peter and his friend, Tony, put their ages up and enlist in the Australian army. Written as diary entries, giving a gripping and informative insight into their experiences in the Middle East, particularly at Tobruk. Provides a clear picture of the challenges and horrors of war. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.
187	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Heroic lives of Al Capsella, The Clarke, Judith	University of Queensland Press	2000	9780702230615	A witty and dry account of a teenage boy's struggle to get by in his teenage years and his quest for normalcy. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
1259632	Hey, Zazou! Thompson, Tony	Ford Street Publishing	2025	9781922696410	Charlie Martin has three problems. He cannot stand another day of school and would rather be a musician, the Nazis have occupied his city, and he seems to have fallen in love with someone who may be more than he can handle. This is Paris during World War II; Gestapo agents, resistance fighters and the proto-punk Zazou gang who regularly battle it out with German soldiers in illegal dancehalls. When Charlie meets Eddie, a young Zazou who plays sax, they decide to start a band. For Charlie, his dreams seem to be coming true, but nothing is ever as it appears in the occupied city. Something big is brewing and 15-year-old Charlie might be at the centre of it.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
886450	Hidden girl, The Bassett, Louise	Walker Books	2022	9781760654788	When Melati Nelson wins a scholarship to an elite Melbourne high school, she buries her bad girl past. But after the school unfairly punishes her, a defiant Mel steals a diary from the school counsellor's office, only to discover a coded cry for help. The diary belongs to Devi, a young Indonesian girl who is being held by traffickers. Mel races against the clock, in a desperate journey that takes her from Melbourne to Java, to work out Devi's identity and where she's being held. Before long the pieces fall into place and Mel must put her own life on the line to save a girl she's never met. A gripping and original novel that explores privilege, responsibility, and the difficult and dangerous choices we are sometimes forced to make.
97681	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Hit list Heath, Jack	Pan MacMillan	2010	9780330425841	Ash and Benjamin are thieves. They find stolen artefacts and return them to their owners. When they try to rescue Alice B from the only place in the world who know more than the CIA, they encounter assassins, huge swimming pools and Ghosts. Includes violence. Usually read by students in years 9,10 and above.
	Hitchhiker's guide to the galaxy series Adams, Douglas				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.
195	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Homelands and frontiers Tucker, Alan	Scholastic Australia	1999	9781862913875	Tracing the clashes between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, and the Europeans who tried to move them from their land. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
846234	⊙Hometown haunts Nwosu, Poppy (ed)	Wakefield Press	2021	9781743058640	This #LoveOzYA anthology - the first to focus entirely on horror - unites a stellar cast of Australia's finest YA authors with talented new and emerging voices, including two graphic artists. The stories in this wide-ranging collection dig deep and go hard. While some are straight-up terrifying rollercoaster rides, others are psychologically rooted in our society's deepest fears and concerns: acceptance and fitting in, love and loss, desire and temptation, and the terror of a world threatened by catastrophic change -- and even collapse. From body horror to the supernatural, hauntings to transformations, and the everyday evil of humans to menacing outside forces, Hometown Haunts will have you glued to your chair... until you leap out of it! Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
596678	⊙Honeyman and the hunter, The Grant, Neil	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2019	9781760631871	Rudra is an Indian-Australian boy at a crossroads, poised to step into the world of adulthood and to discover his cultural heritage and how that might truly define him. A wonderful exploration of dual heritage, cultural identity, family and the power of storytelling. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
18556	⊙Hope Bay Pluss, Nicole	Puffin Australia	2005	9780143301523	A friendship between a young adolescent girl called Possum and Olga, a Dutch World War II refugee, reveals past and present histories, connections and relationships. Grief and loss are sensitively handled and resolved. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
49947	⊙Horses for King Arthur Lawrence, L S	Scholastic Australia	2011	9781862919198	Alexa, the headstrong teenage daughter of a landowning family in 475 England, dreams of breeding fine horses. When she meets Artorius, a boy who dreams of victory, fighting the barbarians from horseback, Alexa finds allies to help extricate herself from her mother's plans. She finds herself in an uncertain, bloodthirsty world, where life has little value when measured against power and wealth. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
26458	⊙Hostage Tayleur, Karen	Black Dog Books	2009	9781742031026	The thing I remember is that the chemist floor had a large, black scuff near the counter. I don't remember the knife. I remember something cold on my neck, which could have been a knife, or it could just have been his long, cold fingers. But it was the scuff I remember best. Adult themes require a mature reader. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
2252	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Hound of the Baskervilles, The Doyle, Sir Arthur Conan	Penguin	2009	9780141192437	The sudden death of Sir Charles Baskerville is blamed on a fearsome, ghostly hound that has haunted his family for generations. When the famed detective, Sherlock Holmes, is engaged to ensure the safety of the Baskerville heir, Dr Watson is surprised that his friend is dismissive of the matter. Watson is dispatched alone to the wild moors and, in the cold night, a savage and bestial howl can be heard. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
197	<input checked="" type="radio"/> House guest, The Nilsson, Eleanor	Puffin Australia	1997	9780140386011	A gang of children robs houses. Gunna, a member of the gang, finds that one of the houses draws him back and that it is for a reason. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
723786	<input checked="" type="radio"/> House in the cerulean sea, The Klune, T J	Pan MacMillan	2020	9781250217318	Linus Baker leads a quiet, solitary life. As a Case Worker at the Department in Charge Of Magical Youth, he spends his days overseeing the well-being of children in government-sanctioned orphanages. When Linus is summoned by Extremely Upper Management he's given a curious and highly classified assignment: travel to Marsyas Island Orphanage, where six dangerous children reside: a gnome, a sprite, a wyvern, an unidentifiable green blob, a were-Pomeranian, and the Antichrist. Linus must set aside his fears and determine whether or not they're likely to bring about the end of days. But the children aren't the only secret the island keeps. Their caretaker is the charming and enigmatic Arthur Parnassus, who will do anything to keep his wards safe. As Arthur and Linus grow closer, long-held secrets are exposed, and Linus must make a choice: destroy a home or watch the world burn. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
1209883	House of rural realness, The Campbell, Curtis	University of Queensland Press	2025	9780702268885	Peter Thompkin needs a public image overhaul after his vicious clapback against the most popular gay in school goes viral. When his best friend Alan, aka teen drag queen Aggie Culture, announces the first public drag performance by The House of Rural Realness, Peter steps forward as their producer. It might be the only way he can restore his reputation. Peter leads the queens as they survive bigoted backlash-and one another. But will Mason County's Drag Extravaganza drop dead before they make their first death drop? And will Peter and Alan's friendship even survive past curtain call?

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
1424016	House Saphir, The Meyer, Marissa	Penguin	2025	9781761357602	Trust your heart. But trust no one else. Welcome to the House Saphir. Some claim that to this day the sinister laughter of ghost Monsieur Le Bleu, can be heard echoing through the halls of his mansion. And every year, on the anniversary of his death, the fountain where he was killed runs red with blood. His evil spirit lingers and is hungry to kill again. Can Mallory Fontaine, daughter of a witch, solve a murder and banish the ghost? Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
2359	House that was Eureka, The Wheatley, Nadia	Text Publishing Co	2013	9781922147189	Two tales twist together at 203 Liberty Street, Newtown. In 1985, sixteen year old Evie and her family move into a new home, which appears to be haunted. Evie dreams of running footsteps, shouting voices and loud banging. Fifty years previously, during the Great Depression, Lizzie and her family live at number 203. Her family faces eviction and the local communist movement barricades the house. The final chapters reveal the connections between the past and the present. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
751114	How it all blew up Ahmadi, Arwin	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2020	9781471409929	Eighteen-year-old Amir Azadi always knew that coming out to his Muslim family would be messy, but he wasn't expecting it to end in an airport interrogation room. Now, he's telling his side of the story to the stern-faced officer. Amir has to explain why he ran away to Rome (boys, bullies, blackmail) and what he was doing there for a month (dates in the Sistine Chapel, friends who helped him accept who he is, and, of course, drama) . . . all while his mum, dad and little sister are being interrogated in the room next door. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
642939	How it feels to float Fox, Helena	Pan MacMillan	2019	9781760783303	Biz knows how to float. She has her people, posse, her mum and the twins. She has Grace. And she has her dad, who tells her about the little kid she was, and who shouldn't be here but is. So Biz doesn't tell anyone anything. Not about her dark, runaway thoughts, not about kissing Grace or noticing Jasper, the new boy. And she doesn't tell anyone about her dad. Because her dad died when she was seven. And Biz knows how to float, right there on the surface - normal okay regular fine. This book explores issues of mental health. It is usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
1232870	How to be normal Crawford, Ange	Walker Books Australia Pty Ltd	2025	9781760659752	<p>Astrid is about to start her last year at high school. And her first. When her dad loses his job, Astrid's homeschooling comes to an end. Until now, she has lived within the confines of a tightly controlled, contracted world where there's no room for anything, except following her father's rules and pretending that everything is normal. As Astrid, and her mum, tentatively expand their world, they struggle to break free of their ingrained wariness and self-doubt. But with hope, new friends, and the strength of a promise, Astrid has a chance to find out what she wants, who she loves, and who she really is.</p> <p>Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.</p> <p>LISTEN ON BOOK BITES! You can listen to Ange Crawford read the first chapter of this book on the PRC's Book bites podcast on Spotify, Apple Podcasts or The Arts Unit website!</p> <p>Copy and paste this URL into your browser to start listening! https://artsunit.nsw.edu.au/listen-the-arts-unit/literature-and-language-arts/book-bites/9plus-book-list#how-to-be-normal-ange-crawford</p>
689551	<input checked="" type="radio"/> How to grow a family tree Henry Jones, Eliza	HarperCollins Australia	2020	9781460754955	<p>Stella may only be seventeen, but having read every self-help book she can find means she knows a thing or two about helping people. She sure wasn't expecting to be the one in need of help, though.</p> <p>Thanks to her father's gambling addiction, Stella and her family now find themselves living at Fairyland Caravan Park. And hiding this truth from her friends is hard enough without dealing with another secret. Stella's birth mother has sent her a letter.</p> <p>As Stella deals with the chaos of her family, she must also confront the secrets and past of her 'other' family. But Stella is stronger than she realises.</p> <p>Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.</p>
640245	<input checked="" type="radio"/> How to make friends with the dark Glasgow, Kathleen	HarperCollins Australia	2019	9781460751060	<p>It's the brightest day of summer and it's dark outside. It's dark in your house, dark in your room, and dark in your heart. You feel like the darkness is going to split you apart. This book deals with issues of grief, suicide and healing. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.</p>

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
846121	<input checked="" type="radio"/> How to repaint a life Herrick, Steven	University of Queensland Press	2021	9780702263156	With every step down the road, and every bus stop he passes, Isaac moves further from his father and a life of fear. When he is given a chance by a kind cafe owner, Isaac feels he may have a chance at a new life. He decides that he will trade kindness for kindness with those he encounters as a way forward from the cruelty he has left behind. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
	Hunger Games series Collins, Suzanne				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.
967407	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Hunger of Thorns, A Wilkinson, Lili	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2023	9781760526948	<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.</p>

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
569333	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Hungry Swain, H A	MacMillan	2018	9781250063083	In Thalia's world, there is no more food and no need for food, as everyone takes medication to ward off hunger. Her parents both work for the company that developed the drugs society consumes to quell any food cravings, and they live a life of privilege as a result. When Thalia meets a boy who is part of an underground movement to bring food back, she realizes that there is an entire world outside her own. She also starts to feel hunger, and so does the boy. Are the meds no longer working? Together, they set out to find the only thing that will quell their hunger: real food. It's a journey that will change everything Thalia thought she knew. But can a "privy" like her ever truly be part of a revolution? Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
903367	<input checked="" type="radio"/> I am not Starfire Tamaki, Mariko, Yoshitani, Yoshi (ill)	Random House Children's Books	2021	9781779501264	Seventeen-year-old Mandy, daughter of Starfire, is NOT like her mother. Starfire is gorgeous, tall, sparkly, and a hero. Mandy is NOT a sparkly superhero. Mandy has no powers, is a kid who dyes her hair black and hates everyone but her best friend Lincoln. To Starfire, who is from another planet, Mandy seems like an alien, like some distant angry light years away moon. Everyone thinks Mandy needs to go to college and become whoever you become at college, but Mandy has other plans. Mandy's big plan is that she's going to move to France and...do whatever people do in France. But then everything changes when she gets partnered with Claire for a school project. Mandy likes Claire (even if she denies it, heartily and intensely). A lot. How do you become the person you're supposed to be when you don't know what that is? How do you become the person you're supposed to be when the only thing you're sure of is what you're not? Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
1026284	I hope this doesn't find you Liang, Ann	Penguin Books Australia	2024	9781761049811	<p>Sadie Wen is perfect on paper: school captain, valedictorian, and a "pleasure to have in class." It's not easy, but she channels all her frustrations into her email drafts. She'd never send them of course - she'd rather die than hurt anyone's feelings - but it's a relief to let loose on her power-hungry English teacher or a freeloading classmate taking credit for Sadie's work.</p> <p>All her most vehemently worded emails are directed at her infuriating cocaptain, Julius Gong, whose arrogance and competitive streak have irked Sadie since they were kids. Sadie doesn't have to hold back in her emails, because nobody will ever read them... that is, until they're accidentally sent out.</p> <p>It's her worst nightmare - now everyone at school knows what she really thinks of them, and they're not afraid to tell her what they really think of her either. But amidst the chaos, there's one person growing to appreciate the "real" Sadie - Julius, the only boy she's sworn to hate...</p>
1423821	I killed the king Mix, Rebecca & Hannah, Andrea	HarperCollins Publishers Ltd, UK	2025	9780008782146	<p>After a decade of war, the kingdoms of Avendell and Istellia have finally agreed to peace. As nobles and magic wielders from both countries arrive at remote Castle Avendell for a historic all-night masquerade to celebrate, King Costis summons an unlikely group to his the crown prince, his Istellian bride-to-be, his personal guard, a wild beast teamer, and the palace's questionable new healer. But before Costis can reveal why he has gathered them, the castle goes dark.</p> <p>When the lights come back, the king is dead-murdered with the princess's knife, in a weak spot only his guard knew of, and with venom from one of the beast tamer's monsters lacing the blade.</p> <p>With no clear killer-and everyone a suspect-they make a risky decision to tell no one until the treaty is signed. But when a winter storm seals everyone inside and someone aware of the king's untimely death begins to pick off guests one by one, the six suspects must work together to discover who killed the king... before one of them is next.</p> <p>Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.</p>

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
830346	<input checked="" type="radio"/> I was born for this Oseman, Alice	HarperCollins Children's Books	2018	9781338830934	The Ark's fandom has given her everything she loves - her friend Juliet, her dreams, her place in the world. Her Muslim family doesn't understand the band's allure, but Angel feels there are things about her they'll never understand. Jimmy Kaga-Ricci owes everything to The Ark. He's their frontman, and playing in a band with his mates is all he ever dreamed of doing, even it only amplifies his anxiety. The fans are very accepting that he's trans, but they also keep shipping with him with his longtime friend and bandmate, Rowan. But Jimmy and Rowan are just friends, and Rowan has a secret girlfriend the fans can never know about. Dreams don't always turn out the way you think and when Jimmy and Angel are unexpectedly thrust together, they find out how strange and surprising facing up to reality can be. This book explores issues of mental health. It is usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
487	<input checked="" type="radio"/> I will plant you a lilac tree Hillman, Laura	Simon & Schuster	2005	9781416910626	The harrowing, true story of Laura Wolff, a survivor of the holocaust and one of Schindler's women, who lost all her family but found love and friendship during her terrible experience in German concentration camps. Contains adult themes. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
1111999	<input checked="" type="radio"/> I'll be waiting for you Turk, Mariko	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2024	9781760526603	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. Then, Imogen suddenly passes away from an undiagnosed heart condition, and Natalie is left to take on the summer before senior year alone. 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. But when strange things start happening at the Harlow, Natalie wonders, could there really be something to these ghosts after all? Usually read by students in years 9, 10, and above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
571391	⊙ Ida Evans, Alison	Echo Publishing	2017	9781760404383	How do people decide on a path, and find the drive to pursue what they want? Ida struggles more than other young people to work this out. She can shift between parallel universes, allowing her to follow alternative paths. One day Ida sees a shadowy, see-through doppelganger of herself on the train. She starts to wonder if she's actually in control of her ability, and whether there are effects far beyond what she has considered. How can she know, anyway, whether one universe is ultimately better than another? And what if the continual shifting causes her to lose what is most important to her, just as she is discovering what that is, and she can never find her way back? Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
846194	⊙ Idol gossip Young, Alexandra Leigh	Walker Books	2021	9781536225662	Every Friday after school, seventeen-year-old Alice Choy and her little sister, Olivia, head to Myeongdong to sing karaoke. Since their diplomat mom moved them to Seoul, her only musical outlet is letting loose in a private karaoke booth to an audience of one: her loyal sister. Then a scout for Top10 Entertainment, one of the biggest K-pop companies, hears her and offers her a spot at their Star Academy. Can Alice navigate the culture clashes, egos, and extreme training practices of K-pop to lead her group onstage before a stadium of 50,000 chanting fans-and just maybe strike K-pop gold? Not if a certain influential blogger and the anti-fans get their way. Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.
582928	⊙ If I tell you Tuckerman, Alicia	Pantera Press	2018	9780646961255	Life and love don't wait until you're ready, but what if finding yourself means losing everything you've ever known? Seventeen-year-old Alex Summers lives with a secret and the constant fear someone will find out. But when a new family moves to town, they bring with them their teenage daughter Phoenix Stone. When Alex falls for Phoenix, there is no warning. In a small town with small minds, girls don't go out with other girls, even if they want to. In fear there is bravery - you can either cling to the edge or have the courage to jump. But what do you do when you're left spiralling through the freefall? Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
	Illuminae files series Kaufman, Amie & Kristoff, Jay				Any two 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.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
855829	Impossible Walker, Stan	HarperCollins Australia	2022	9781775541882	Stan Walker is one of Aotearoa's most famous singers. But nothing ever came easy for Stan. What were the chances of success for a kid whose parents had both been in jail? Whose world had been filled with drugs and violence and things no kid should even know about? In this young readers' edition of his bestselling autobiography, follow Stan's journey of overcoming impossible odds to achieve his dreams and make peace with his past. Usually read by students in years 9, 10, and above.
2581	Impossible knife of memory, The Anderson, Laurie Halse	Text Publishing Co	2014	9781922182227	For the past five years, Hayley has been home schooled on the road by her father, a veteran of the Iraq war who has Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. When they settle down for her final year at school, Hayley has to deal with her father's random behaviour and learn how to have a trusting relationship with a boy, who is hiding secrets of his own. Challenging read, some violence. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
643274	Impossible music Williams, Sean	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2019	9781760637156	Simon's life revolves around his love of music. He listens to it, he plays it, he writes it, and performs it. When he wakes up one morning completely deaf after a ministroke, his world nearly falls apart. Angry and confused, he refuses help, refuses to learn to sign, and tries desperately to hold on to music. It is only when he meets G, a girl his own age suffering from a different form of deafness caused by severe tinnitus, that he begins to seriously consider a full life, even a life with music. Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.
6530	Impostors Westerfeld, Scott	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2018	9781760528249	Frey was raised to take a bullet. She's the body double for her twin sister Rafia - the precious heir of the first family of Shreve - and her existence is a closely guarded secret. So while Rafi was schooled in poise and diplomacy, Frey was drilled in weapons and combat. Her purpose: to protect her sister from their tyrannical father's many enemies. When Frey is sent in Rafi's place as collateral in a precarious business deal, she becomes the perfect impostor - as elegant and charming as her sister. But Col Palafox, the son of a rival leader, is getting close enough to spot the killer inside her. As layers of deceit peel away, can Frey become her own person, and risk everything in a rebellion? Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
3	<input checked="" type="radio"/> In lane three, Alex Archer Duder, Tessa	Puffin NZ	1998	9780141301280	I have always known that in another life I was-or will be-a dolphin. I am a pink human, caught in a net of ambition and years of hard work. In a few minutes I will dive into artificially turquoise water waiting at my feet. A minute later I'll either be ecstatic or a failure. Fifteen-year-old swimming champ Alex Archer has her mind set on one goal-competing in the Olympic Games in Rome. Alex has been training hard for six years--but so has her archrival, Maggie Benton. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
1423814	<input checked="" type="radio"/> In the company of killers Cook, Elora	Hodder Children's Books (UK)	2025	9781444979343	<p>Inside the tony suburb of Scarsdale is New York's worst-kept secret: The mob runs everything, and the Nicastro family is at the centre. Seventeen-year-old Tasha Nicastro lives a life of glitz and glamour, but she has no idea her family harbours a dark truth. Tasha might look like your classic high school mean girl, but behind the designer clothes is a sharpshooter who knows how to bring anyone to their knees. The only person who has ever gotten under her skin is her former best friend, Leo Danesi, the youngest son of the Nicastro family's rivals. After Leo returns to New York older and more handsome, Tasha thinks he'll be the worst of her problems -- until the life she thought she knew takes a violent, shocking turn. When her father and beloved older sister are murdered before her eyes, Tasha learns the dark truth: Her family runs the most powerful Mafia branch in New York, and now she's set to inherit it all. Tasha vows vengeance on the mysterious new mob behind the hit, but she can't do it alone. She needs someone who already knows the underground world to help track them down. And that person is none other than Leo, the heir to his own family's dangerous empire. But Tasha is a Nicastro. She's been raised in the company of killers, and there's absolutely nothing she won't do to avenge her family. That is, if the enemy doesn't put her in gold chains first.</p> <p>Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.</p>

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
14397	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Incredible adventures of cinnamon girl, The Keil, Melissa	Hardie Grant Egmont	2014	9781742978307	Year 12 is finished. Some students can't wait to escape their small town, others don't want to leave. Alba is unsure whether to pursue her drawing talents or stay working in the bakery. When Domsday enthusiasts flock to the town to survive an apocalypse, Alba's childhood heartthrob, Daniel, arrives. Compared to figuring out her heart, Armageddon might be the least of her problems. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
	Infernal devices series Clare, Cassandra				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.
1209755	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Inferno's Heir Wang, Tiffany	Hachette Children's Books	2024	9781444980608	Teia is an outcast princess in her own kingdom. She has survived several assassination attempts all by her half brother. Teia must fight for her rights before her brother is crowned king! Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.
751107	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Infinite noise, The Shippen, Lauren	Tor Books	2019	9781250297518	Caleb is an Atypical, an individual with enhanced abilities. Which sounds pretty cool except Caleb's ability is extreme empathy-he feels the emotions of everyone around him. Being an empath in high school would be hard enough, but Caleb's life becomes even more complicated when he keeps getting pulled into the emotional orbit of one of his classmates, Adam. Adam's feelings are big and all-consuming, but they fit together with Caleb's feelings in a way that he can't quite understand. Caleb's therapist, Dr. Bright, encourages Caleb to explore this connection by befriending Adam. As he and Adam grow closer, Caleb learns more about his ability, himself, his therapist-who seems to know a lot more than she lets on-and just how dangerous being an Atypical can be. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
977767	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Inkflower Zail, Suzy	Walker Books	2023	9781760653736	<p>Inspired by a true story.</p> <p>I shouldn't be kissing Adam Winter but it's my best chance of forgetting. When I kiss him, I'm not a girl whose father is dying; I'm just a girl, kissing a boy.</p> <p>Lisa's father has six months to live. And a story to tell about a boy sent to Auschwitz. A boy who lost everything and started again. A story he has kept hidden - until now.</p> <p>But Lisa doesn't want to hear it, because she has secrets too. No one at school knows she is Jewish or that her dad is sick. Not even her boyfriend.</p> <p>But that's all about to change ... And so is she.</p> <p>Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.</p>
	Inkheart series Funke, Cornelia & Bell, Anthea (trans)				<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>
578986	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Inside the tiger Lawrence, Hayley	Penguin	2018	9780143788959	<p>When she is asked to get involved in a social issue of her own choice, as part of a school project, Bel chooses to write to an Australian boy who is a prisoner on death row in Thailand. When he writes back, she learns more about the controversial issue of capital punishment but her involvement puts her at odds with her politician father and everyone else who loves her. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.</p>
846059	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Instructions for a teenage Armageddon Day, Rosie	Hachette Children's Books	2021	9781526364319	<p>Teenage years can sometimes feel like a battleground. There are so many confronting issues from fears of failure, confidence, self-worth or identity to the inevitable friendship challenges. This survival guide from 32 influential and witty women will include advice you will need to survive the battle.</p> <p>Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.</p>

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
18601	Intern, The Tozer, Gabrielle	Angus & Robertson (HarperCollins)	2014	9780732297053	Josie Browning dreams of having it all. A stellar academic record, an amazing journalism career, and for her current crush to realise she actually exists. The only problem? Josie can't get through twenty-four hours without embarrassing her sister Kat or her best friend Angel, let alone herself. Josie's luck changes though when she lands an internship at the glossy fashion magazine Sash. A coveted columnist job is up for grabs, but Josie's got some tough competition in the form of two other interns. Battle lines are drawn and Josie quickly learns that the magazine industry is far from easy, especially under the reign of powerful editor, Rae Swanson. From the lows of coffee-fetching and working 10-hour days, to the highs of mingling with celebrities, scoring endless free beauty products (plus falling for her cousin's seriously gorgeous flatmate James) this is one year Josie will never forget. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
25101	Ironbark Jonsberg, Barry	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2008	9781741149555	A sixteen year old boy struggles with a serious condition, his sudden and violent temper triggered by situations of conflict or frustration in every day life. To avoid gaol, he must engage in strategies for anger management, including going to stay with his grandfather in an isolated Tasmanian forest. The road is hard and not always successful but the bond between them grows. Contains coarse language that may offend some readers. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
	Ishmael series Bauer, Michael Gerard				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.
571055	Island, The Bennett, M. A.	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2018	9781471407536	Link has experienced three years of bullying at the exclusive Osney School in London before he decides enough is enough. However, he agrees to stay on for one more team building activity on a desert island at the request of his parents before being allowed to leave. Things go from bad to worse however, when the plane goes down and Link is alone with his worst tormentors and no adults to modify their predatory behaviour. With no practical experience, Link must rely on nothing but the knowledge of how to survive, gleaned from novels and pop culture, to try to turn everything around and rescue himself from the bottom of a brutal teenage hierarchy. Usually read by students in Year 9, 10 and above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
774007	Island, The Taylor, C L	HarperCollins Publishers Ltd, UK	2021	9780008240592	Welcome to the Island. Where your worst fears are about to come true. A week-long trip for six teenage friends on a remote tropical island is supposed to be the perfect holiday. When their guide dies of a stroke leaving them stranded, this trip turns into a nightmare because someone on the island knows each of the group's worst fears. One by one they are becoming a reality. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
944682	Isles of the Gods, The Kaufman, Amie	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2023	9781761180064	Selly has saltwater in her veins. So when her father leaves her high and dry in the port of Kirkpool, she has no intention of riding out the winter at home while he sails to adventure in the north seas. But any plans to follow him are dashed when a handsome stranger with tell-tale magician's marks on his arms commandeers her ship under cover of darkness: He is Prince Leander of Alinor, and he needs to cross the Crescent Sea without detection so he can complete a ritual on the sacred Isles of the Gods. Selly has no desire to escort a spoiled prince anywhere, and no time for his entitled demands or his good looks. But what starts as a leisure cruise will lead to acts of treason and sheer terror on the high seas, bringing two countries to the brink of war, two strangers closer than they ever thought possible and two dangerous gods stirring from centuries of slumber... Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.
6514	It's about love Camden, Steven	HarperCollins Publishers Ltd, UK	2015	9780007511242	He's Luke. She's Leia. Just like in Star Wars. Just like they're made for each other. Only this isn't a film, this is real life. This is where monsters from the past come back to take revenge. This is where you are sometimes the monster. And, where, the things we build to protect us can end up doing the most harm. Mature read. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
132126	Ivy Hearn, Julie	Simon & Schuster	2008	9780192754318	Ivy, a common, laudanum addict living with thieves and scoundrels, is a stunner, a term for an artist's model and beauty. After embarking on a life of crime in London, she is sold out by her adopted family and falls victim to a pre-Raphaelite painter's jealous mother. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.
214	Jacob have I loved Paterson, Katherine	HarperTrophy	2003	9780064403689	Louise is overshadowed by her talented twin, Caroline, and she has to struggle with her own identity throughout her life. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
18514	Jacob's ladder Keaney, Brian	Orchard Books	2006	9781843627210	Jacob wakes up in a field unable to remember anything but his name. Why is he there, how can he get home? An intriguing story, raising issues about life after death, hopes and dreams. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
578994	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Jinxed McCulloch, Amy	Simon & Schuster	2018	9781471169960	Lacey Chu dreams of working for the company behind the revolutionary 'baku' a customisable smart pet that replaces the mobile phone but functions as a pet. To fulfil her dream she must be accepted into the Profectus Academy but her financial situation and family background seem to be standing in her way. That is, until she comes across Jinx; an incredibly advanced cat baku who goes beyond the functions of normal baku to forge an extraordinary bond with Lacey and paves the way to the possibility of her dreams coming true. Until Jinx misbehaves that is...Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
2055	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Jonathan Swift's Gulliver Jenkins, Martin & Riddell, Chris (ill)	Walker Books	2006	9781406301748	A retelling of Gulliver's imaginative and wickedly funny voyages to unusual lands. This edition of the classic has detailed, historical information and beautiful illustrations. Occasional distasteful themes are true to the original text. Also see Gulliver's travels by Jonathan Swift, PRC ID 36630. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
	Juno of Tavis series Beale, Fleur				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.
1209772	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Just another story: Graphic migration account, A Saade, Ernesto	Graphic Universe	2024	9798765623367	When Carlos was nineteen years old, his mother decided to leave her life in El Salvador for a new start in the United States. Carlos joined her on the journey north and during their trip through Mexico and into the US, they experienced many risks and fears. This stirring and thoughtful graphic work goes beyond headlines and statistics to provide a powerful individual account of migration. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
1124926	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Katie goes to KL Tan, Su-May	Penguin Books Australia	2023	9789815127812	<p>16 year old Katie, finds out her dead mother is not dead after all and her father has been lying to her since she was 7.</p> <p>This story begins its journey in Australia, where Katie immigrated with her father when she was four. She travels to modern day Kuala Lumpur (KL) for her grandmother's death. This is where the adventures and contentions begin when Katie's quest to reconnect with her mother and discover her roots against a backdrop of rising political tension between the Chinese and the Malays. When Katie discovers that her mother is Malay, she finds herself caught between her Chinese cousins and her mother's conservative Muslim community, the Wira group. As Katie bonds with her cousins through KL's underground music scene, she is forced to define her loyalties. Which community should she support and where does she belong?</p> <p>Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.</p>
1423803	<input type="radio"/> Keep your friends close Murphy, Cynthia	Penguin Books Ltd, UK	2025	9780241712788	<p>Chloe Roberts is on top of the world at Morton Academy. She's a shoe-in for Head Girl and the lead spot in the school's secret society: Jewel and Bone. But then her best friend, Nikhita Patel, betrays her, and life comes crashing down. Things take a darker turn when Chloe stumbles upon the Book of Crime and Punishment - a record of every misdeed committed by Morton students and the fitting penalty. And it's not long before entries in the book start to match up with murders of Jewel and Bone members. Anyone could be a suspect. Can Chloe get to the bottom of this twisted game before she's next on the killer's hit list?</p> <p>Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.</p>
483	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Keeper Peet, Mal	Walker Books	2006	9781406304107	<p>El Gato, one of the world's greatest football players, tells the story of his life growing up in the forest in South America and of the ghostly keeper who taught him how to play soccer. Some adult themes. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.</p>

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
751117	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Key to fear, The Cast, Kristin	Head of Zeus	2020	9781838933999	After a pandemic wiped out most of the human race, The Key took power. Under their rules, touching is forbidden, and books are banned. Break the laws, and face execution. Elodie, a young nurse, has been brought up to believe that The Key govern to keep people safe. Elodie obeys the rules she trusts the system. At least, Elodie used to - Aiden, a constant rebel, knows there is another side to The Key, a truth beneath the surface. Aiden wants to be free but freedom means questioning their motives. Aiden is on his last chance - When Elodie and Aiden's lives collide, the fallout will be devastating. Especially when they realise that rather than playing protector, The Key are playing God. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
5344	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Kids like us Reyl, Hilary	Text Publishing Co	2017	9781925498912	Kids Like Us is the delightful, heartwarming story of Martin, a teenager on the autism spectrum, who falls for Gilberte-Alice, a 'normal' French girl. While spending summer in the French countryside with his mother, Martin mistakes Gilberte for a character in a novel he is obsessed with - Marcel Proust's masterpiece In Search of Lost Time. He gradually realises she is not Gilberte, the fantasy girl, but a real person named Alice. Falling in love, in all its unpredictability, teaches Martin that he can in fact connect, and can get out of his bubble. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
15460	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Kill the possum Moloney, James	Penguin Books Australia	2008	9780143004202	Dylan Kane has never met his father. But, he has met Kirsty Beale's step-father, a brute of a man, a bully, a living-room thug. Kirsty's family is tormented by his cruelty and she is desperate to live a normal life. Dylan and Kirsty's brother hatch a plan to make him stop. A gripping and powerfully moving story of a family stretched to breaking point and a portrait of a killer. A confronting, controversial topic with inherent violence. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
903246	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Killing code, The Marney, Ellie	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>
2342	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Killing woods, The Christopher, Lucy	Chicken House	2013	9781906427726	<p>Emily's dad is accused of killing a teenage girl in the woods. He has admitted to manslaughter, believing he was in a flashback from his army days. Emily is convinced of his innocence as she tries to untangle the events of that night. Things become even more uncertain when she comes into contact with Damon, the boyfriend of the dead girl. What really had been happening in the woods at night, what dangerous games had they been playing? Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.</p>
815756	Kindred Saunders, Kirli	Magabala Books	2019	9781925768893	<p>This is the breaking, the shattering, the smattering of every limit ever accepted or imposed...</p> <p>Kindred, Kirli Saunders debut poetry collection, is a pleasure to lose yourself in. Kirli has a keen eye for observation, humour and big themes that surround Love/Connection/Loss in an engaging style, complemented by evocative and poignant imagery. It talks to identity, culture, community and the role of Earth as healer. Kindred has the ability to grab hold of the personal in the universal and reflect this back to the reader.</p> <p>Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.</p>

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
628030	Kindred: 12 queer #loveozya stories Earp, Michael (ed)	Walker Books	2019	9781760651039	What does it mean to be queer? What does it mean to be human? In this powerful #LoveOzYA collection, twelve of Australia's finest writers from the LGBTQ+ community explore the stories of family, friends, lovers and strangers, and the connections that form us. This inclusive and intersectional #OwnVoices anthology for teen readers features work from writers of diverse genders, sexualities and identities, including writers who identify as First Nations, people of colour or disabled. With short stories by bestsellers, award winners and newcomers to young adult fiction including Jax Jacki Brown, Claire G Coleman, Michael Earp, Alison Evans, Erin Gough, Benjamin Law, Omar Sakr, Christos Tsiolkas, Ellen van Neerven, Marlee Jane Ward, Jen Wilde and Nevo Zisin. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
13711	King Lear Shakespeare, William & Hinds, Gareth (adapt & ill)	Candlewick Press	2009	9780763643447	An exciting graphic novel version of William Shakespeare's great tragedy that faithfully follows the original play. The use of Shakespeare's original language, some violence and adult concepts require mature readers. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.
1154375	King of nothing Lessore, Nathanael	Hot Key Books	2024	9781471413247	Anton and his friends are King of Year 9. They're used to ruling the school and Anton wears the crown. The other kids run away when he's about but that's the way he wants it - he's got a reputation to live up to after all. So when he gets into serious trouble at school, he doesn't really care, but his mum most definitely does. She decides it's time for Anton to make some new friends and join the Happy Campers, a local activity group. Anton would quite literally rather do anything else, especially when he finds out Matthew, the biggest loser in school, is also a member. But after Matthew unexpectedly saves Anton's life, Anton figures maybe this kid is worth a shot. As the boys strike up an unlikely friendship, Anton finds himself questioning everything he thought was important. Does he want ruling the school to be his crowning glory or should he set his sights on better things? Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.

PRC	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
ID 1228275	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Kirby's lessons for falling (in love) Gao, Laura	HarperCollins US	2025	9780063067790	Once dubbed the Queen of Balance as her school's top rock climber, Kirby Tan suffers an injury that sidelines her for the rest of the season. Now she's forced to join the newspaper club for some desperately needed extra credit. Worse, she's recruited by crystal-wearing, tarot-reading Bex Santos for her astrology-based love advice column. As Kirby reluctantly agrees to orchestrate matches made in heaven with Bex, she begins to wonder if their own stars could be aligned. But loving who she wants isn't so easy when her family and church community are on the line. Can Kirby pull off her greatest balancing act yet? Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
1352194	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Lady's Knight Kaufman, Amie & Spooner, Meagan	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2025	9781761069284	<p>Gwen has spent the past several years manning the blacksmith's in place of her father, an open secret in the village in which she lives. A much more covert secret, however, is that she knows not only how to craft but also how to wield a sword, and an incognito stunt at the local jousting tournament manages to catch the eye of the wily Lady Isobelle.</p> <p>Isobelle has secret dreams too, but she's been promised in marriage to the winner of the whole stupid tournament, which means an end to any freedom or choices for her. Desperate to avoid this fate, when she connects the newcomer knight to the female smithy she saw earlier that day, she begins to hatch a scheme ...</p> <p>Petty knights. Backstabbing noblemen. A prison breakout. Cheesecake on a stick. One particularly large and angry dragon.</p> <p>Will our ladies survive the night? And can our knight save the day?</p> <p>Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.</p> <p>LISTEN ON BOOK BITES! You can listen to Amie Kaufman and Meagan Spooner read the first chapter of this book on the PRC's Book bites podcast on Spotify, Apple Podcasts or The Arts Unit website!</p> <p>Copy and paste this URL into your browser to start listening! https://artsunit.nsw.edu.au/listen-the-arts-unit/literature-and-language-arts/book-bites/9plus-book-list#lady-s-knight-amie-kaufman-and-meagan-spooner</p>

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
5330	⓪ Last days of us, The Nicholas, Beck	Harlequin	2017	9781489220493	Six months ago, Zoey's life went off the rails. After the tragic loss of her brother, she partied her way to oblivion, estranged her best friend, Cass, and pushed away her now ex, Finn. But when her destructive behaviour reaches dangerous heights, Zoey realises she needs to pull herself together and get her old life back, including her ex. There's just one complication: Finn is now dating Cass. Now, it's the last week of summer and Zoey, Cass and Finn are setting out on the road trip of a lifetime to see their favourite musician, Gray, perform live, joined by Finn's infuriatingly attractive bad-boy cousin Luc and his vibrant younger sister Jolie. Zoey thinks this is her chance to put things to rights and convince Finn they should get back together. But she wasn't counting on her friends' lingering resentment, Luc's disarming sincerity, and Jolie's infectious love for life to turn her plans upside down. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
1423811	Last letters from Villa Clara, The Steele, Sarah	Headline Review	2025	9781035413027	1939. Europe is on the brink of change and in the fear and chaos of pre-war Italy, a painting disappears and is never seen again. 1963. London is on the cusp of change in the swinging 60s. Nightclubs are in their heyday, as are the art thieves of the East End underworld. But when a lowly boarding-house landlady attempts to take on the upper-crust establishment, and is accused of spying for the Russians, she can save only one thing - her reputation, or the love of her life. 1989. Phoebe Cato is on the verge of losing her Museum, which houses Bruce Cato's collection of masterful reproductions, and worse than that, her beloved uncle Bruce himself. With only months to live, Phoebe may not be able to save Bruce's life, but little does she know that he had planned on saving hers all along. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.
15424	⓪ Last muster, The Norrington, Leonie	Scholastic Australia	2004	9781862915787	Shane's family lives on a remote station. Most of the Aboriginal people have been driven off but Red and her grandfather remain. All risk losing their homes when a big company wants to combine five stations. Strong language used in context. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.
2554	⓪ Last refuge, The Bates, Dianne	Hodder Headline Australia Pty Ltd	1996	9780733603181	A realistic and harrowing story of children's courage in the face of domestic violence, with a positive outcome. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
7737	☉ Last time we say goodbye, The Hand, Cynthia	HarperCollins US	2015	9780732299002	The last time Lex was happy, it was before. When her family was whole. and friends didn't look at her as if she might break down. Now, she's just the girl whose brother killed himself. Lex tries to block out the night Tyler died but regret and their last goodbye haunt her. As Lex learns to grieve and recover, she discovers that a ghost doesn't have to be real to keep you from moving on. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
855833	☉ League of liars Scholte, Astrid	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.
664339	☉ Leah on the offbeat Albertalli, Becky	Penguin	2018	9780241331057	When it comes to drumming, Leah Burke is usually on beat - but real life isn't always so rhythmic. An anomaly in her friend group, she's the only child of a young, single mum, and her life is decidedly less privileged. And even though her mom knows she's bisexual, she hasn't mustered the courage to tell her friends - not even her openly gay BFF, Simon. With some messy dynamics emerging in this once tight-knit group of friends, senior year suddenly gets even more complicated for Leah, as she realises she's falling not for the guy who's taking her to prom, but for the girl who's dating her best friend. Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
1277866	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Leap Popescu, Simina	Roaring Book Press	2024	9781250838292	Ana has been studying contemporary dance since she was little, but her heart isn't in it anymore. Instead her focus is on Carina - a beautiful, ambitious ballerina whose fear of being outed keeps Ana in the closet and their fragile relationship from seeing the light of day. Risking her own career, Ana gives up more and more in order to fit into the shadows of Carina's life. Sara, on the other hand, is fielding whispers she may be the best dancer their school has produced in years. Much of that is thanks to her mentor and instructor, Marlana, who plucked Sara from the classical track and encouraged her to blossom as a contemporary dancer. Sara has always been in awe of Marlana, but recently, that admiration has sparked into something more, and Sara's not sure what to do about it. As junior year at their performing arts school begins, Ana and Sara are assigned as roommates. What starts off as a tentative friendship soon becomes a much-needed anchor. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.
5563	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Learning curves of Vanessa Partridge, The Strahan, Clare	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2018	9781760296797	Vanessa Partidge lives with her dad, her brother and her ex-babysitter. Who just happens to be her dad's new wife. Her mother has disappeared with only sporadic contact. Vanessa isn't sure who she is and as she embarks on her usual family summer holiday at the beach, she starts to discover her own limits. Through a growing relationship with environmental activist Bodhi and a crush on her brother's best friend, Vanessa explores her sense of self. Usually read by students in Year 9, 10 & above.
2566	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Leaving it to you Orr, Wendy	HarperCollins Publishers Ltd, UK	1992	9780207175923	A story for more mature readers about the tentative friendship between Linda and old Mrs Pugh in the nursing home. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
751075	Left-handed booksellers of London, The Nix, Garth	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2020	9781760631246	Eighteen-year-old art student Susan Arkshaw arrives in London in search of her father. But before she can question crime boss Frank Thringley he's turned to dust by the prick of a silver hatpin in the hands of the outrageously attractive Merlin. Merlin is one of the youngest members of a secret society of booksellers with magical powers who police the mythic Old World wherever it impinges on the New World - in addition to running several bookshops, of course! Merlin also has a quest of his own: to find the Old World entity who arranged the murder of his mother. Soon they become involved in an even more urgent task to recover the grail that is the source of the left-handed booksellers' power, before it is used to destroy the booksellers and rouse the hordes of the mythic past. As the search for the grail becomes strangely intertwined with both their quests, they start to wonder... Is Susan's long-lost father a bookseller, or something altogether more mysterious?
1423802	Lessons in power Barnes, Jennifer Lynn	Penguin Books Ltd, UK	2025	9780241763124	For Tess Kendrick, a student at the elite Hardwicke School, making problems disappear runs in the family. However, she has another legacy, too - one that involves power and the making of political dynasties. When Tess is asked to run a classmate's campaign for student council, she agrees. But at a school like Hardwicke, even a class election can have life-shattering consequences. When friendly competition turns into a deadly struggle for control, Tess discovers that no one can be trusted and power always comes at a price. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.
4912	Letters to Leonardo White, Dee	Walker Books	2009	9781921150883	It's Matt's fifteenth birthday and he receives a card from his mother, whom he grew up believing to be dead. Feeling betrayed by both his parents, he begins writing letters to Leonardo da Vinci to help sort out the mess in his head. Through the connections he makes between his own life and that of Leonardo, Matt unravels the mystery and discovers his mother's secrets. Includes complex issues about mental health. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
ID 5065	Letters to the lost Kemmerer, Brigid	Bloomsbury	2017	9781408883525	Juliet Young always writes letters to her mother, a world-traveling photojournalist. Even after her mother's death, she leaves letters at her grave. It's the only way Juliet can cope. Declan Murphy isn't the sort of guy you want to cross. In the midst of his court-ordered community service at the local cemetery, he's trying to escape the demons of his past. When Declan reads a haunting letter left beside a grave, he can't resist writing back. Soon, he's opening up to a perfect stranger, and their connection is immediate. But neither Declan nor Juliet knows that they're not actually strangers. When life at school interferes with their secret life of letters, sparks will fly as Juliet and Declan discover truths that might tear them apart. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
4839	Liana's dance Hawke, Rosanne	Rhiza Press	2017	9781925139907	Sixteen-year-old Lianna Bedford lives in constant fear. Political tensions in Pakistan are rising. Terrorist attacks are becoming an everyday norm. As a Pakistani-Australian, she could be the next target. When her school friends are taken hostage by terrorists, Lianna's world disappears overnight. Alongside her music teacher, Mr Kimberley, she must journey through rural Pakistan in a bid to find them and bring them home. But Mr Kimberley has a secret, and to save him and her friends, Lianna must overcome her fears. And dance for her life. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
1096841	Liar's test Kwaymullina, Ambelin	Text Publishing Co	2024	9781922790873	Bell Silverleaf is a liar. It's how she's survived. it's how all Treesingers have survived since they were invaded by the Risen and their fickle gods. But now Bell is in the Queen's Test - she's one of seven girls competing in deadly challenges to determine who will rule for the next twenty-five years. If Bell wins, she'll have the power to help her people and take revenge on the Risen. But first she has to make it through the challenges alive. She doesn't know how much she's been lied to, or where she fits in a bigger story, a mystery stretching back generations. And she's facing much bigger dangers than the Queen's Test. She's up against the gods themselves. Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
606170	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Librarian of Auschwitz, The Iturbe, Antonio	Henry Holt & Co	2017	9781627796187	Based on the experience of real-life Auschwitz prisoner Dita Kraus, this is the incredible story of a girl who risked her life to keep the magic of books alive during the Holocaust. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
5239	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Liclle Bit Wheatle, Alex	Atom Publishing	2015	9780349001999	Venetia King is the coolest girl at school. Too bad Lemar is the second shortest guy in his year. Everyone calls him Liclle Bit. Things aren't much better at home. His mum is permanently hassled, his sister a frustrated single mum and his dad moved out years ago. Liclle Bit wishes he could do something to make life better. Even a new phone would be good. When a gang war breaks out, Liclle Bit somehow finds himself running errands for Crongton's notorious gang leader. But, when he hears about a killing on the estate, Liclle is forced to question his choices. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
5376	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Life of a teenage body-snatcher, The MacLeod, Doug	Penguin Books Australia	2010	9780143203919	Thomas Timewell is sixteen, living in England in 1828, where body-snatching is rife, cut-throats are about and terrible novelists are absorbing the lives of wealthy women with nothing better to do. Contains some horror and mature themes. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.
50144	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Life of Pi Martel, Yann	Random House Australia Pty Ltd	2001	9780156027328	The son of a zookeeper, Pi Patel has an encyclopedic knowledge of animal behavior and a fervent love of stories. When Pi is sixteen, his family emigrates from India to North America aboard a Japanese cargo ship, along with their zoo animals bound for new homes. The ship sinks. Pi finds himself alone in a lifeboat, his only companions a hyena, an orangutan, a wounded zebra, and Richard Parker, a 450-pound Bengal tiger. Soon the tiger has dispatched all but Pi, whose fear, knowledge, and cunning allow him to coexist with Richard Parker for 227 days while lost at sea. When they finally reach the coast of Mexico, Richard Parker flees to the jungle, never to be seen again. The Japanese authorities who interrogate Pi refuse to believe his story and press him to tell them "the truth." After hours of coercion, Pi tells a second story, a story much less fantastical, much more conventional--but is it more true? Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
	Lifel1k3 series Kristoff, Jay				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.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
1424092	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Lila Mackay is very misunderstood Sims, Gill	electric monkey	2025	9780008513788	Fourteen-year-old Emily is stuck in the country with no tech, no BFF and no chance of the gorgeous Toby asking her out. No one understands her, least of all her mum. But when she finds an old diary, Emily is stunned to discover that her mum was once a teenager too. A nineties teenager called Lila Mackay. Lila's world is a long-forgotten era of weird fashions, odd TV shows and strange music. There are boys too. Perhaps Emily and her mum are not so different after all... Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
228	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Lion and the lamb, The Harlen, Jonathan	Hodder Headline Australia Pty Ltd	2002	9780733616518	Themes of bullying and prejudice interweave in this story of gentle Hector and two neighbouring boys. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
1356336	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Listen closely Egan, Leon	HarperCollins Children's Books	2025	9780008626600	When Jude and Aiden are paired up together for an internship at a local radio station, things are awkward. Jude is quiet, withdrawn, has one friend, and is suspicious of everyone. Aiden is charming, outgoing, and popular, with a seemingly easy confidence and golden retriever energy. But after they discover a shared love of podcast dramas, Jude and Aiden realise that they have more in common than they first realised - especially after Aiden reveals that he is a huge fan of Jude's own podcast, The Night Merchant. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.
751179	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Listen, Layla Abdel-Magied, Yassmin	Penguin	2021	9781760896065	Layla has ended the school year on a high and can't wait to spend the holidays hanging out with her friends and designing a prize-winning Grand Designs Turismo invention. But Layla's plans are interrupted when her grandmother in Sudan falls ill and the family rush to be with her. The last time Layla went to Sudan she was only a young child. Now she feels torn between her Sudanese and Australian identities. As political tensions in Sudan erupt, so too do tensions between Layla and her family. Layla is determined not to lose her place in the invention team, but will she go against her parents' wishes? What would a Kandaka do? Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
24023	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Little paradise Wang, Gabrielle	Penguin Books Australia	2010	9780143011477	In Melbourne, in 1943, Mirabel is seventeen. She's leaving school, designing dresses and falling in love. Then, fate intervenes, her forbidden affair is discovered and JJ is posted back to China where a civil war is raging. Despite all warnings, Mirabel sets off for Shanghai and travels through great danger to find her true love. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
41719	Little piece of ground, A Laird, Elizabeth	MacMillan	2003	9780330437431	Karim and his seventeen year old brother, Jamal, live with their family in Ramallah, Palestine under Israeli military occupation. During the war, Karim meets Hopper, a teenager living in a refugee situation and, together, they fight to claim a little piece of ground for their sporting matches. Yet, even this is claimed by Israeli tanks and the boys experience a fight for their lives. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
52353	Little sister Said, Aimee	Walker Books	2011	9781921529214	Al Miller wishes she was an only child. Al Miller is counting down the days until her over-achieving older sister Larrie finishes Year Twelve and leaves Whitlam High School for ever. Then, Al is certain, people will finally see her as more than just 'Larrie's little sister'. But when a rumour about Larrie spreads around school, Al finds herself in the spotlight for all the wrong reasons. Who's behind the rumour? And will it kill Al's chances with school hunk, Josh Turner? Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
4409	Living on Hope Street Divaroren, Demet	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2017	9781760292096	Living on Hope Street is a glimpse of modern day Australia through the lens of a single street and the families that make their lives along it. Kane will do everything he can to save his mother and his little brother Sam from the violence of his father, even if it means becoming a monster himself. Mrs Aslan will protect the boys no matter what, even though her own family is in pieces. Ada wants a family she can count on, while she faces new questions about herself. Mr Bailey is afraid of the refugees next door, but his worst fear will take another form. And Gugulethu is just trying to make a life away from terror. On this street, everyone comes from different places, but to find peace they will have to discover what unites them. A deeply moving, unflinching portrait of modern Australian suburban life. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
723904	Living on stolen land Kwaymullina, Ambelin	Magabala Books	2020	9781925936247	Living on Stolen Land is a prose-styled look at our colonial-settler present. A perceptive and thoughtful examination of the colonial contextual history of Australia. It pulls apart the myths at the heart of our nationhood, and challenges Australia to come to terms with its own past and its place within and on Indigenous Countries. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
713769	Long way down Reynolds, Jason	Faber & Faber	2018	9780571335121	Will's brother was shot last night. This morning, he steps onto the elevator, on his way to get revenge. But as the elevator doors open on each floor on the way down to the lobby, ghosts from his past join him. What will he decide to do when he gets to the end of his journey? A powerful verse novel, Long Way Down deals with gun violence and the impact of a cycle of generational trauma. It is usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
794372	Long way down graphic novel Reynolds, Jason	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2021	9780571366019	Will's brother was shot last night. This morning, he steps onto the elevator, on his way to get revenge. But as the elevator doors open on each floor on the way down to the lobby, ghosts from his past join him. What will he decide to do when he gets to the end of his journey? This graphic novel version of Reynold's Long Way Down deals with gun violence and the impact of a cycle of generational trauma. It is usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
236	Longest war, The Antle, Nancy	Penguin	1999	9780141303246	Told from the perspective of the elder of two daughters, this novel deals with the emotional struggle of an ex-Vietnam War nurse, and the ongoing impact of the war on her family. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
237	Looking for Alibrandi Marchetta, Melina	Penguin	2000	9780140293500	Josephine, a second generation Australian from an Italian family, seeks to find her way during her HSC year. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
18662	Loop Caswell, Brian	University of Queensland Press	2006	9780702235894	Sophisticated, simply well-written short stories that would appeal to both boys and girls dealing with mature themes including life choices, complex relationships and even time travel. Some strong language in context, may offend some readers. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
828985	Lost in the Never Woods Thomas, Aiden	Swoon Reads	2021	9781250313973	It's been five years since Wendy and her two brothers went missing in the woods, but when the town's children start to disappear, the questions surrounding her brothers' mysterious circumstances are brought back into the light. Attempting to flee her past, Wendy almost runs over an unconscious boy lying in the middle of the road . . . Peter, a boy she thought lived only in her stories, asks for Wendy's help to rescue the missing kids. But, in order to find them, Wendy must confront what's waiting for her in the woods. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
18624	☉ Lost property Moloney, James	Penguin	2005	9780670029433	Josh feels lost in his rapidly coming adult world. His family are haunted by the disappearance of his older brother, Michael. Josh's relationship with his girlfriend is full of teenage angst and tension. His holiday job in the lost property department with the philosophical Clive reveals that adult emotions are just as complex. Josh decides he must bring Michael home no matter what. Some strong language used in context. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
601799	☉ Louis undercover: graphic novel Britt, Fanny & Arsenault, Isabelle (ill)	Walker Books	2019	9781406378429	Louis, is a young boy who shuttles between his mum's home in the city and his dad's house in the country, with his little brother, Truffle who loves to sing James Brown songs. While coming to terms with the sadness and complexities of his divorced parents' relationship, Louis - with the help of his best friend, Boris - is also trying to summon up the courage to speak to his true love, Billie. A thoughtful and stunning graphic novel. Usually read by students in Year 9, 10 and above.
903282	☉ Love & other natural disasters Sugiura, Misa	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.
774234	☉ Love in English Andrew, Maria E	Balzer & Bray	2021	9780063083080	Sixteen-year-old Ana is a poet and a lover of language. Except that since she moved to New Jersey from Argentina, she can barely find the words to express how she feels. At first Ana just wants to return home. Then she meets Harrison, the very cute, very American boy in her math class, and discovers the universal language of racing hearts. But when she begins to spend time with Neo, the Greek Cypriot boy from ESL, Ana wonders how figuring out what her heart wants can be even more confusing than the grammar they're both trying to master. After all, the rules of English may be confounding, but there are no rules when it comes to love. Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.
820988	☉ Love is for losers Brueggemann, Wibke	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.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
37085	Love, Aubrey LaFleur, Suzanne	Penguin Books Australia	2009	9780141327129	After her father and younger sister die in a car accident, Aubrey's mother can't cope and abandons her. Aubrey goes to live with her grandmother in Vermont and finds solace in gran's love. When her mother reappears, Aubrey must decide whether to return home or stay. Highly emotive, requiring a mature reader. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.
1209866	Lovely and the lost, The Barnes, Jennifer Lynn	Penguin Books Ltd, UK	2025	9780241763094	Kira has a great respect for the family she has been adopted into who are skilful search and rescue workers. This is a story about the training and dedication of 4 teens Kira, Jude, Free and Ash, their dogs Silver and Saskia. Mum Cady Bennett gives her tender family the kind of strength and fearlessness that is needed to both deal with searches in the wilderness and the ultimate truths of rescue. Kira's past keeps being a mess, what happened when 11 years earlier as a little girl found in the wilderness, memories almost erased. A dramatic, tough and gritty story. Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.
1151649	Lover birds Egan, Leanne	Farshore	2024	9780008626570	Isabel Williams moves to a new school and she meets Eloise. Isabel criticizes everything about Eloise but why does she make her pulse race? A uplifting story about acceptance and finding yourself and the power of friendship. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
7342	Loving Richard Feynman Tangey, Penny	University of Queensland Press	2009	9780702237256	Richard Feynman was a Nobel Prize-winning physicist. Catherine is a science-loving, fifteen year old, just trying to survive school. When Catherine's father gives her a photo of the gifted scientist, she develops a crush on him. Eventually, Catherine has to deal with betrayal by both her father and her idol. Some teenage drinking and strong language, used in context. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.
20286	Lullaby Beckett, Bernard	Text Publishing Co	2016	9781922182753	Following an accident, Rene's twin brother, Theo, lies unconscious, with massively disrupted brain function. An experimental procedure, risky, scientifically exciting and ethically questionable, could allow Theo to gain a new life. Only Rene can give the required consent. But, first, there is the question of Rene's capacity to make the decision and this is where the real story begins. Challenging read, usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
985948	☉Luminaries, The Dennard, Susan	Pan MacMillan	2022	9781250194046	<p>Ever since her father was exposed as a witch and a traitor, Winnie and her family have been shunned. But on her sixteenth birthday, she can take the deadly Luminary hunter trials and prove herself true and loyal -- and restore her family's good name. Or die trying.</p> <p>But in order to survive, Winnie enlists the help of the one person who can help her train: Jay Friday, resident bad boy and Winnie's ex-best friend. While Jay might be the most promising new hunter in Hemlock Falls, he also seems to know more about the nightmares of the forest than he should. Together, he and Winnie will discover a danger lurking in the forest no one in Hemlock Falls is prepared for.</p> <p>Not all monsters can be slain, and not all nightmares are confined to the dark. Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.</p>
846160	☉Macbeth graphic novel Punter, Russell & Longo, Massimiliano (ill) & Forlini, Valentino (ill)	Usborne Publishing Ltd	2020	9781474948128	<p>As a battle ends and a storm rages, three witches predict that Macbeth will become King of Scotland, and he decides to take fate into his own hands in an attempt to gain the throne. This graphic novel provides an excellent introduction to Shakespeare's play, using illustrations and simplified language. It maintains all of the mystery, drama and suspense of the original while bringing the play to life for new readers. Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.</p>
22453	☉Magic of reality, The Dawkins, Richard & McKean, Dave (ill)	Bantam Doubleday Dell Publishing Group Inc	2011	9780593066126	<p>Throughout history, people all over the world have invented stories to answer profound questions. These fantastical myths are fun but they don't really answer the questions. With its scientific method explanations of space, time, evolution and more, this book presents the real story of the world, and shows that its awe-inspiring beauty and thrilling magic far exceed those of the ancient myths. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.</p>
846098	☉Making friends with Alice Dyson Nwosu, Poppy	Wakefield Press	2019	9781743056127	<p>Alice Dyson knows exactly how she'll be spending her final year of high school: with her head down, concentrating on her textbooks and homework. She's focused on the future, and nothing is going to get in her way. Until a bizarre encounter with the school's most notorious troublemaker derails all her plans, turning Alice into the unwilling centre of attention and her life into one enormous complication. And even worse? Now Teddy Tualai won't leave her alone. Usually read by students in years 9, 10, and above.</p>

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
47271	Ⓞ Mallee Boys Archbold, Charlie	Wakefield Press	2017	9781743055007	Sandy Douglas knows that life at fifteen is hard - his mother died a year ago and his 18-year old brother, Red, has gone off the rails. As Sandy and Red deal with girls, friendship and their futures on their Mallee farm, both boys have to figure out who they want to be without their mum around. One thing is certain - the Mallee, where they live, may seem like the middle of nowhere, but it is going to be one hell of a year. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
18469	Ⓞ Malvolio's revenge Masson, Sophie	Hodder Children's Books (Australia)	2005	9780340883648	An English theatre troupe travelling in the New Orleans area, in a world of voodoo, black magic and gangsters, are dragged into a suspenseful mystery that involves murder, blackmail and intrigue. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
660417	Ⓞ Man in the water, The Burton, David	University of Queensland Press	2019	9780702262524	When 16-year-old Shaun discovers a dead body in the lake of a quiet mining town in outback Queensland, he immediately reports it to the police. But when he returns to the site with the constable, the body is gone. Shaun's father drowned a few years ago, and now his mum and the authorities questions whether he saw a body at all. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
	Manga Shakespeare series Various				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.
52860	Ⓞ Marrying Ameera Hawke, Rosanne	Angus & Robertson (HarperCollins)	2010	9780732291440	Ameera is seventeen, the daughter of an Australian Christian mother, and a Pakistani father who is a devout Muslim. Seeking to be like her Australian friends, Ameera discovers that her father strongly opposes social contact with non-Muslims. When her father discovers Ameera's interest in a Pakistani Christian boy, she is sent to Pakistan, thinking she is attending her cousin's wedding. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
250	Ⓞ Master of the grove Kelleher, Victor	Puffin USA	1998	9780317696349	After their home is destroyed in an attack, Derin's father is missing and Derin travels across the world to look for him. His quest leads him into the conflict between the people of the mountains and the people of the plains. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
253	Ⓞ Maybe tomorrow McDonald, Meme & Pryor, Boori	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2010	9781742372440	In this story of reconciliation and courage, Boori is determined to carry on his late brother's tradition of storytelling and performing. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
	Maze Runner series Dashner, James				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.
566592	Meet me at the intersection Lim, Rebecca & Kwaymullina, Amberlin (ed)	Fremantle Press	2018	9781925591705	Meet Me at the Intersection is an anthology of short fiction, memoir and poetry by authors who are First Nations, People of Colour, LGBTIQ+ or living with disability. The focus of the anthology is on Australian life as seen through each author's unique, and seldom heard, perspective. With works by Ellen van Neerven, Graham Akhurst, Kyle Lynch, Ezekiel Kwaymullina, Olivia Muscat, Mimi Lee, Jessica Walton, Kelly Gardiner, Rafeif Ismail, Yvette Walker, Amra Pajalic, Melanie Rodriga, Omar Sakr, Wendy Chen, Jordi Kerr, Rebecca Lim, Michelle Aung Thin and Alice Pung, this anthology is designed to challenge the dominant, homogenous story of privilege and power that rarely admits "outsider" voices. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
30923	Mega dramas Murray, Sue	Pan MacMillan	2009	9781420229394	This collection of eight plays includes information on the major elements of drama, explores different performance styles, plays with traditional tales and shines a light on contemporary Australian issues. Explores themes of friendship, racism, violence, sport, music and family relationships. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
	Mercy series series Lim, Rebecca				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.
255	Merryll of the stones Caswell, Brian	University of Queensland Press	1989	9780702222504	An exciting, modern story with elements from ancient mythology. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
4627	Messenger, The Zusak, Markus	Pan MacMillan	2002	9780330363884	Ed Kennedy is nineteen. His life is one of peaceful routine and incompetence until he inadvertently stops a bank robbery. When he receives his first playing card with three addresses written on it, Ed becomes the messenger. A cryptic journey with laughter, fists and love. Adult themes and strong language, used in context, may offend some readers. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
903285	☉ Messy roots Gao, Laura	Balzer & Bray	2022	9780063067769	After spending her early years in Wuhan, China, riding water buffalos and devouring stinky tofu, Laura immigrates to Texas, where her hometown is as foreign as Mars - at least until 2020, when COVID-19 makes Wuhan a household name. Laura illustrates her coming-of-age as a girl who simply wants to make the basketball team, escape Chinese school, and figure out why girls make her heart flutter. Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.
7590	☉ Milad: the voyage to Ophir Anhar, Nazam	Scholastic Australia	2008	9781741691153	Milad decides to go on one sea voyage to save his family's fortunes and embarks on a journey where he will find sea-battles, pirates, treasure, spies, perils and love. As part of a Phoenician fleet in the service of King Solomon, he experiences danger on the high seas and in deepest Africa, but he also finds the truest of friends in unexpected places. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
2380	☉ Minnow, The Sweeney, Diana	Text Publishing Co	2014	9781922182012	Following a flood which has taken the lives of her family, a girl called Tom lives with Bill, with whom she falls pregnant. Many know her secret, including her grandmother and her good friend Jonah. Together, they will ensure the safe arrival of the Minnow. Contains mature themes and some language in context. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
73486	☉ Miss McAllister's ghost Fensham, Elizabeth	University of Queensland Press	2008	9780702236464	When Cassandra and her brothers climb the garden wall hoping to spot the ghost in the old house, they discover an old woman living without electricity in a decaying house. They are drawn into her world long lost, and their developing relationship with Miss McAllister helps them cope with their parents' preoccupation with work, alcohol and their own lives. Some strong language may offend some readers. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
	Miss Peregrine's peculiar children series Riggs, Ransom				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.
8372	☉ Mixing it Hayes, Rosemary	Frances Lincoln	2007	9781845074951	Fatimah is a devout Muslim. Steve has never given much thought to faith. Both are in the street the day a terrorist bomb explodes and their lives are changed forever. While their families are breaking down barriers, the terrorists have another target in mind. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
4902	Moby Dick Melville, Herman & Needle, Jan (pres) & Benson, Patrick (ill)	Walker Books	2006	9780744586220	The classic tale of Captain Ahab who has sworn vengeance on Moby Dick, the white whale that took his leg, told through the eyes of the sailor, Ishmael. Ahab's bitter hatred threatens to destroy everyone. Evocative drawings, the gorier practices of nineteenth century whaling and insightful notes on Melville's deeper themes compellingly invite readers to discover the full text. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
85890	Mole hunt Collins, Paul	Ford Street Publishing	2011	9781921665264	In a galaxy of cutthroat companies, shadowy clans and hidden agendas, spy agency RIM barely wields enough control to keep order. Maximus Black, a cold-blooded killer, is RIM's star cadet but he has a problem. Someone is after him. One of RIM's best agents, Anneke Longshadow, knows there's a mole in the organisation. And, Maximus has a lot to hide. Includes violence and murder. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
48515	Monster calls, A Ness, Patrick & Kay, Jim (ill)	Walker Books	2011	9781406311525	The monster showed up just after midnight. But, it isn't the monster thirteen year old Conor has been expecting. He expected the one from his nightmare, the one he's had nearly every night since his mother started her treatments for cancer. This monster is different, it's something ancient and wild, and tells Conor three stories. The monster wants the most dangerous thing of all from Conor, it wants the truth. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
28739	Moon at nine Ellis, Deborah	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2015	9781760111977	With the overthrow of the Shah in Iran, the very conservative, religious government controls every facet of life. Fifteen year old Farrin must keep quiet about her mother's political activities and lavish lifestyle. When Farrin meets funny, outgoing Sadira and they fall in love, the relationship takes a dangerous turn. It is against the law to be gay, the punishment is death. Some violence, usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
1277886	☉ Moonlight and dust McGaughey, Jasmin	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2025	9781761181337	<p>There's something dangerous in the air. It shimmers in the night, wrapped in the warm, humid breeze. I stand on the kerb outside my cousin's house waiting for my sister.</p> <p>Zillah has always been a good girl - nothing like her rebellious big sister Nik. After Nik has an accident that leaves her comatose, Zillah has to find a way to navigate life and high school in Cairns without Nik's guiding light.</p> <p>Determined to fit in, Zillah seeks out the secrets of her school's after-hours party scene and discovers Moondust - a sparkling elixir with magical properties. Could this have something to do with Nik's accident? To find out, she must plunge further into a world of moonlit parties and take out-of-character risks.</p> <p>As Zillah unravels what might be going on at Craigmont High, she forges friendships with other Island students and starts falling for a boy who might know more about Nik than he lets on. But Zillah is not entirely sure who she can trust. And she has no idea of the danger they're all in.</p> <p>Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.</p> <p>LISTEN ON BOOK BITES! You can listen to Jasmin McGaughey read the first chapter of this book on the PRC's Book bites podcast on Spotify, Apple Podcasts or The Arts Unit website!</p> <p>Copy and paste this URL into your browser to start listening! https://artsunit.nsw.edu.au/listen-the-arts-unit/literature-and-language-arts/book-bites/9plus-book-list#moonlight-and-dust-jasmin-mcgaughey</p>
43484	☉ Moonrise Crossan, Sarah	Bloomsbury	2017	9781408878439	<p>Joe hasn't seen his brother for ten years and it's for the most brutal of reasons. Ed is on death row. Now Ed's execution date has been set and this might be the last summer they have together. A novel that uses the beauty of lyrical verse to represent the ethical issues surrounding an ugly part of the American justice system but more importantly it is a story about knowing who someone is beyond the public perception of their guilt. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.</p>

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
751055	<input checked="" type="radio"/> More than maybe Hahn, Erin	Wednesday Books	2020	9781250231642	Luke and his twin brother Cullen are podcasters. In their final year of high school, their podcast has reached a cult level following. When Cullen and his boyfriend (also Luke's best friend) Zack release a recording of Luke singing a love song to an unnamed girl on the podcast, the whole listenership wants to know who this mystery girl could be. Luke is furious. Meanwhile, Luke's colleague Vada has a solid five year plan. Falling in love with Luke is not part of that plan. But with the release of this song, she starts to wonder if he could be part of her life. Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.
	Mortal engines series Reeve, Philip				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.
1118	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Mortal fire Knox, Elizabeth	Gecko Press	2013	9781877579530	Sixteen year old Canny has always been a little different and able to see something 'Extra'. When she joins her stepbrother to research a strange coal mine disaster, Canny discovers an enchanted valley with children who can perform a strange type of magic. With the help of the alluring Ghislain, Canny starts to untangle the mysteries of the valley, only to find out that its secrets are hers, too. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
	Mortal instruments series Clare, Cassandra				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.

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1423833	☉Moth dark Hatzopoulou, Kika	Penguin Books Ltd, UK	2025	9780241733097	Six years ago, vicious creatures began to crawl out of the dark crevices of the world, and with it Sascia's fascination with the darkness was born. Now that fascination has become an obsession, and while exploring an area known for its connection to the Darkworld, Sascia - impossibly - pulls out a person from the shadows. But Nugau is no ordinary person, they're the heir to the Darkworld, with one mission . . . to kill Sascia. Except, the second time they meet, Nugau is younger and doesn't recognise Sascia. And the third time, Nugau stumbles out of the darkness with poison running through their veins, expressing their undying love for her. Piecing together the puzzle, Sascia makes two shocking discoveries: the timelines of her world and Nugau's are not linear, and she is inexplicably entangled in a war between humanity and the Dark. But with their worlds at battle, is it worth fighting for each other . . . ? Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
785304	☉Mountain arrow Hennessy, Rachel	MidnightSun Publishing	2020	9781925227741	Pandora has returned to her village. She is haunted by both her failure to bring her friend home and the vision she has seen of the last few days, The Burning, when creatures swarmed the city. How did these creatures come into being in the first place? Are the last remnants of humanity really safe from them? The River People and the Mountain People have survived for another season. But at what cost? Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
9391	☉Mr Romanov's garden in the sky Newton, Robert	Penguin Books Australia	2017	9780143309307	Living in the commission, Lexie is left to fend for herself. Her mother is mostly absent, out searching for something to help her forget the tragic death of Lexie's dad. After witnessing the aftermath of a shocking incident, Lexie finds solace in the most unlikely of places, a troubled old man called The Creeper. A chance, life-saving encounter on the commission's roof seeds a friendship between the two and when they enlist the help of Lexie's friend Davey, the three set off on an epic journey; one that will change their lives forever. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
701160	Ms Marvel: No normal volume 1 Wilson, G Willow & Alphona, Adrian (ill) & Wyatt, Jacob (ill)	Little Brown	2014	9780785190219	Kamala Khan is an ordinary girl from Jersey City until she is suddenly empowered with extraordinary gifts. But who truly is the all-new Ms. Marvel? Find out as she takes the Marvel Universe by storm! As Kamala discovers the dangers of her newfound powers, she unlocks a secret behind them as well. Is Kamala ready to wield these immense new gifts? Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
5582	Munmun Andrews, Jesse	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2018	9781760523596	In an alternate reality a lot like our world, every person's physical size is directly proportional to their wealth. The poorest of the poor are the size of rats, and billionaires are the size of skyscrapers. Warner and his sister Prayer are destitute - and tiny. Their size is not just demeaning, but dangerous: day and night they face mortal dangers that bigger richer people don't ever have to think about, from being mauled by cats to their house getting stepped on. There are no cars or phones built small enough for them, or schools or hospitals, for that matter - there's no point, when no one that little has any purchasing power, and when salaried doctors and teachers would never fit in buildings so small. Warner and Prayer know their only hope is to scale up, but how can two littlepoors survive in a world built against them? Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
728149	Music from another world Talley, Robin	HarperCollins Australia	2020	9781867202257	It's summer 1977 and Tammy Larson can't be herself anywhere. Not at her strict Christian high school, not at her conservative Orange County church and certainly not at home. Tammy's only outlet is writing secret letters in her diary to activist Harvey Milk...until she's matched with a real-life pen pal who changes everything. Sharon Hawkins bonds with Tammy over punk music and carefully shared secrets, and soon their letters become the one place she can be honest. The rest of her life in San Francisco is full of lies. The kind she tells for others-like helping her brother hide the truth from their mom-and the kind she tells herself. But as antigay fervor in America reaches a frightening new pitch, Sharon and Tammy must rely on their long-distance friendship to discover their deeply personal truths, what they'll stand for... and who they'll rise against. Usually read by student sin years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
579453	Music our bodies can't hold Jackson, Andy	Hunter Publishers	2017	9780994352880	What use is music your body can't hold, that can't take you from this world? Each of these poems is a portrait of someone with or reputed to have had Marfan Syndrome. Many of the poems emerge out of personal interviews, while others are portraits of public figures: Abraham Lincoln, Akhenaten, Mary Queen of Scots, Edith Sitwell, Niccolo Paganini, John Tavener, Sergei Rachmaninov, and Robert Johnson, among others. Usually read by students in Year 9, 10 & above.
3047	My Australian story: A tale of two families, The diary of Jan Packard, Melbourne, 1974 Pausacker, Jenny	Scholastic Australia	2003	9781865042657	Set in the seventies, Jan Packard is a Melbourne thirteen year old growing up in changing times. She discovers the sexual revolution, politics, the anti-Vietnam moratorium, the impact of war service, boys and that parents are fallible and human. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
3598	My father's shadow Jones, Jannali	Magabala Books	2019	9781925936704	Kaya is completing her HSC when she is woken in the middle of the night by her mother. They are to pack immediately and go to their holiday home in the Blue Mountains. Her father is not coming back, after giving evidence against some dangerous criminals in court. Months later, they are still in hiding and the mysteries are multiplying. Kaya is not sure who to trust: her mother's new friend, the policeman or her new friend, Eric, from the local store. She is also recovering from memory loss caused by PTSD after a chilling encounter with the criminals. She is seeing a psychologist in an attempt to recall the evidence she might have to give in a forthcoming trial. Will she remember - and what dangers will her memories lead to? Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
4369	My life as a hashtag Williams, Gabrielle	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2017	9781760113681	What's a girl to do when her parents have split up; her dad has a new girlfriend, her mum is internet dating and one of her best friends has decided not to invite her to the biggest party of the year (which she then has to watch the party unfold on everyone's else's social media!). If you're a girl called MC, you get mad as hell, that's what you do. But what begins as one girl's private no-holds-barred rant soon snowballs in the most public way possible. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
269	My place Morgan, Sally	Fremantle Press	2000	9780949206312	An autobiography of three generations of Sally Morgan's Aboriginal family that traces her search for identity. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
	My side of the story series Wooderson, Philip				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.
42400	<input checked="" type="radio"/> My sister Jodie Wilson, Jacqueline	Doubleday	2008	9780385610124	Pearl and Jodie, boy-mad sisters and best friends, are full of teen and pre-teen angst. Mum just can't cope with little girls who don't do as they're told, especially precocious Jodie whom, in her frustration, she often lashes out at physically. Pearl can't believe that Jodie would ever choose to leave her but perhaps her story won't have a happy ending. Coarse language used in context. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
877964	<input checked="" type="radio"/> My spare heart Thomas, Jared	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2022	9781760631833	Phoebe's non-Indigenous mother, a busy event manager, and her father, an Aboriginal man and uni lecturer, have split up and she's moved to sleepy old Willunga with him and his new health-obsessed girlfriend. It's only a few kilometres from Phoebe's old friends and the city, but it feels like another world. Her new school is full of hippies, but some of the kids are cool and the local basketball team is tight, and before long Phoebe's fitting in. But as her mum becomes increasingly unreliable, Phoebe's grades begin to suffer, her place on the basketball team is under threat and her worries spiral out of control. Phoebe can't tell her friends and is worried her dad will get angry, but pretending everything is fine is breaking her heart. How can she help her mum without tearing her family apart? Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.
6881	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Nanberry: black brother white French, Jackie	Angus & Robertson (HarperCollins)	2011	9780732290221	In 1789, the new colony in Sydney is established. Nanberry is an Aboriginal boy who is raised by Surgeon John White and witnesses the struggles of the colonists to survive in the wilderness. Follow Nanberry and his white brother as they make their way in the world, as well as the young convict woman who becomes a lady in her own right. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
ID 2828	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Nancy Wake FitzSimons, Peter	HarperCollins Australia	2002	9780732274566	In the 1930s, Australian Nancy Wake was a young woman enjoying a bohemian life in Paris. After witnessing an horrific scene of Nazi violence, Nancy decided to help rid Europe of the Nazis. What began as a courier job became a highly successful escape network for Allied soldiers, perfectly camouflaged by Nancy's high-society life in Marseille. A compelling story. Coarse language may offend some readers. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
9155	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Nation Pratchett, Terry	Corgi Books	2009	9780552557795	Mau is the sole survivor of a primitive tribe, wiped out by a terrible natural disaster. He is young but brave and visionary, in this upside-down and dangerous world. He gathers around him, and defends, a strange group, including a feisty young girl and a foul-mouthed parrot. Strong language used in context. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.
6391	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Navigating the stars Snyder, Maria V.	Harlequin	2018	9781489252746	Year 2471. A new discovery. Those three words thrill my parents - the galaxy's leading archaeologists - but for me, it means another time jump to a different planet. One so big, my friends will be older than my dad when we arrive. And I'll still be seventeen. Thanks, Einstein. Usually read by students in year 9, 10 & above.
275	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Nearest the whiteman gets, The Robinson, Roland	Hale & Iremonger	1994	9780868063799	A collection of narratives retelling Aboriginal traditions are written by a non-Aboriginal poet who was made a member of Aboriginal language groups in two Australian states. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
4372	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Nemesis Reichs, Brendan	MacMillan	2017	9781509860302	Unbeknownst to them both, Min and Noah share a terrible secret. Each year, on their birthday, they are murdered by a man in dark sunglasses and a black suit. This has happened every birthday since their tenth. No one will believe them. After all, they're always found safe and sound without injury of any kind. Now, with the world in the path of a killer asteroid, will they be able to put aside their differences and solve the mystery of their own murders before something even more terrible happens? Usually read by students in Year 9, 10 and above.
111880	<input checked="" type="radio"/> New kind of dreaming, A Eaton, Anthony	University of Queensland Press	2012	9780702232282	Jamie Riley is on probation and has arrived in desolate Port Barren. It's a mysterious town with a number of dark secrets, a strange assortment of people and a number of unsolved crimes, Jamie's arrival leads to a number of unexplained events, culminating in a heroic journey through the desert, which brings the truth of these ghastly events to light. Includes adult themes. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
18531	<input checked="" type="radio"/> New policeman, The Thompson, Kate	Random House Children's Books	2005	9780370328232	Mystical fantasy tapping into Irish culture and music that deals with the interesting concept of time leaking from the real world into the fantasy world and the impact on both. A musical score ends each chapter. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
854033	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Nick and Charlie Oseman, Alice	HarperCollins Australia	2015	9780008389666	Absence makes the heart grow fonder, right? Everyone knows that Nick and Charlie are the perfect couple - that they're inseparable. But now Nick is leaving for university, and Charlie will be left behind at Sixth Form. Everyone's asking if they're staying together, which is a stupid question - they're "Nick and Charlie" for goodness sake! But as the time to say goodbye gets inevitably closer, both Nick and Charlie question whether their love is strong enough to survive being apart. Or are they delaying the inevitable? Because everyone knows that first loves rarely last forever. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
619016	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Night circus, The Morgenstern, Erin	Penguin	2012	9780099554790	In 1886 a mysterious travelling circus becomes an international sensation. Open only at night, constructed entirely in black and white, the Cirque des Reves delights all who wander its circular paths and warm themselves at its bonfire. There are contortionists, performing cats, carousels and illusionists - all the trappings of an ordinary circus. But this is no conventional spectacle. Some tents contain clouds, some ice. The circus seems almost to cast a spell over its aficionados, who call themselves the reveurs - the dreamers. And who is the sinister man in the grey suit who watches over it all? Behind the scenes a dangerous game is being played out by two young magicians, Celia and Marco, who, at the behest of their masters, are forced to test the very limits of the imagination - and of love. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
977770	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Night in question, The Glasgow, Kathleen & Lawson, Liz	HarperCollins Australia	2023	9781460764268	Last October, Alice Ogilvie's ex-best friend, Brooke Donovan, was killed - and if it weren't for Alice's unlikely alliance with Iris Adams, and the complete works of Agatha Christie, the wrong person would almost certainly be sitting in prison for the crime. The Castle Cove police aren't exactly great at solving crimes. Which is why, on the night of the annual dance, Alice decides to explore Levy Castle - the site of one of Castle Cove's most infamous deaths. Classic film star Mona Moody died there almost a century ago, and Alice is pretty sure the police got that investigation wrong too. But before she can dig deeper, she walks right into the scene of a new crime: Rebecca Kennedy, on the ground in a pool of blood and another of Alice's ex-friends - Helen Park - standing over her. The Castle Cove police think it's an open and shut case, but Alice and Iris know that to understand the present, sometimes you need to look to the past. Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.
4240	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Night swimming Bowe, Steph	Griffin Press	2017	9781925498165	Imagine being the only two seventeen-year-olds in a small town. That's life for Kirby Arrow named after the most dissenting judge in Australia's history and her best friend Clancy Lee, would-be musical star. Clancy wants nothing more than to leave town and head for the big smoke, but Kirby is worried: her family has a history of leaving. She hasn't heard from her father since he left when she was a baby. Shouldn't she stay to help her mother with the goat's-milk soap-making business and look after her grandfather? And how could she leave her pet goat, Stanley, her dog Maude, and her cat Marianne? But two things happen that change everything for Kirby. She finds an article in the newspaper about her father, and Iris arrives in town. Iris is beautiful, wears crazy clothes, plays the mandolin, and seems perfect.. Clancy has his heart set on winning over Iris. Trouble is Kirby is also falling in love with Iris...Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
1359331	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Nightblood Prince, The Chang, Molly X	Orion	2025	9781399630221	Two Princes. One prophecy. A fate she cannot outrun. Torn from her family as a child and raised in the palace to one day marry the Crown Prince of the most powerful empire in the land. Plagued with nightmares of bloodshed, Fei tries to rebel against her fate. To outrun destiny, Fei must spark a wave of events that will change the world as she knows it. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
104267	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No and me de Vigan, Delphine	Bloomsbury	2010	9780747599838	Lou Bertignac's father cries in secret in the bathroom and her mother hasn't been out of the house properly for years. But, Lou is about to change her life and that of her parents for good, all because of a school project she decides to do about the homeless. Lou meets No, a teenage girl living on the streets, who has disruptive as well as positive effects on the whole family. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 or above.
825621	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No hearts of gold French, Jackie	Angus & Robertson (HarperCollins)	2021	9781460757925	Three women from very different backgrounds meet on the long sea voyage from their homeland of England to Sydney. They quickly bond in an unlikely friendship. Indulged and wealthy, Kat Fitzhubert, has been sold in an arranged marriage to someone in the new colony. Lady Viola Montefiore is a dark skinned lady that her family has kept hidden and then shipped to the new colony. Titiana Boot is as broad as a carthorse and as useful. Jackie French defies the myth of colonial women in the 1850s as merely wives, servants, or petty thieves. Instead she portrays them as businesswomen, farmers, bushrangers and illegal brewers. All of this happens as the convict colony reinvents itself into a land of gold rushes and illusive riches. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
1104	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No safe place Ellis, Deborah	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2011	9781742374109	Three teenagers flee their homes for different reasons and are desperate to get to England. They entrust their lives to a people smuggler and quickly learn that he can't be trusted. Follow each of their journeys as they seek asylum. Based on the true experiences of children caught up in the refugee jungle of Calais and striving to find a place for themselves in the world. Includes adult themes and violence. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
280	<input checked="" type="radio"/> No-name bird: a story of East Timor Vondra, Josef	Penguin	2000	9780140283174	A parallel is drawn between Jose and the other people of East Timor during the invasion by Indonesia, and the spirit of Uncle Adolfo's fighting bird. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
5671	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Nobody real Camden, Steven	HarperCollins Children's Books	2018	9780008168384	Marcie is a real human girl. Almost 18, she has had her fair share of problems and bad decisions. When her imaginary friend Thor reappears after 8 years, Marcie has to work out whether she still needs Thor to guide her now that she is approaching adulthood. And Thor needs to figure out who he is without Marcie to keep him in existence. Usually read by students in Year 9, 10 & above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
750971	<input checked="" type="radio"/> None shall sleep Marney, Ellie	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2020	9781760877309	It is 1982 and the FBI studies serial killers in order to know how they operate, why they do the things they do and more importantly how to spot the clues and be able to catch them. But how do you study teenage serial killers? Which teenage serial killers are willing to talk to the FBI professionals? That's where teenagers Emma and Travis come into play. Both victims of serial killers in their own ways, they've been asked to take part in a program of interviewing young serial killers and trying to help study them. But what happens when they get caught up in an active case, what happens when they get caught between two serial killers? Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.
1222296	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Not for the faint of heart Croucher, Lex	Bloomsbury	2024	9781526651846	Mariel, a newly blooded and perpetually grumpy captain of the Merry Men, is desperate to live up to the legacy of her grandfather, the legendary Robin Hood. Clem, a too-perky backwoods healer known for her new-fangled cures, just wants to help people. When Mariel's ramshackle band of bandits kidnap Clem as retribution for her guardian helping the Sheriff of Nottingham, all seems to be going (sort of) to plan - until Jack Hartley, Mariel's father and Commander of the Merry Men, is captured in a deadly ambush. Determined to prove herself, Mariel sets out to get him back - with her annoyingly cheerful kidnappee in tow. But the wood is at war. Many believe the Merry Men are no longer on the right side of history. Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.
846192	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Not here to be liked Quach, Michelle	Usborne Publishing Ltd	2021	9781474989732	Falling in love wasn't part of the plan. Eliza Quan fully expects to be voted the next editor-in-chief of her school paper. She works hard, she respects the facts, and she has the most experience. Len DiMartile is an injured star baseball player who seems to have joined the paper just to have something to do. Naturally, the staff picks Len to be their next leader. Because while they may respect Eliza, they don't particularly like her - but right now, Eliza is not here to be liked. She's here to win. But someone does like Eliza. A lot. Shame it's the boy standing in the way of her becoming editor-in-chief. Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
2978	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Not if I see you first Lindstrom, Eric	HarperCollins Publishers Ltd, UK	2016	9780008146344	Just because she's blind, Parker Grant refuses to be treated differently or badly. They are the Rules and no second chances. Just ask Scott, who broke her heart. When he suddenly reappears in her life, Parker shuns him completely. She has enough on her mind, including dealing with her dad's recent death. But, avoiding her past proves impossible. As Parker learns what really happened, both with Scott and her dad, the more she questions if things are always as they seem. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
909088	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Nothing more to tell McManus, Karen M.	Penguin Books Ltd, UK	2022	9780241473689	Four years ago, Brynn left Saint Ambrose School following the shocking murder of her favourite teacher. The case was never solved, but she's sure that the three kids who found Mr Larkin's body know more than they're telling, especially her ex-best friend Tripp Talbot. He's definitely hiding something. On her return to Saint Ambrose, Brynn decides to investigate, but the further she dives into the past, the more secrets she finds. Someone got away with murder and now it is time to uncover the truth.... Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
6106	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Nowhere else but here Cotton, Rachel	NewSouth Publishing	2018	9781785301636	Life's easier when you stay away from other people. Rose Valentine knows that. But some people are impossible to ignore. Take Theo Lockhart, he's handsome, funny and beyond intriguing. He's a mystery; one that Rose dreams of solving. Then one night the mystery deepens. Usually read by students in year 9, 10 and above.
3905	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Nowhere near you Thomas, Leah	Bloomsbury	2017	9781408885376	Ollie causes massive power outages when he comes into contact with electricity. Moritz has an electric heart that keeps him alive. They are best friends, though they can never meet. But no matter how far apart these pen pals are, their letters keep them close. As Ollie and Moritz start to brave the outside world, they meet other teenagers living lives almost as unusual as their own. But before they can feel any real sense of belonging, a new danger threatens to destroy all the progress they've made. Can these teens find their place in a world that might never understand them? Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
	Obernewtyn Chronicles series Carmody, Isobelle				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.
1344957	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Of flame and fury Bridge, Mikayla	Pan MacMillan	2025	9781761563805	A fiery alliance. An explosive secret. The race is on. Phoenix racing: it's profitable, it's deadly. No one knows this better than Kel Varra and her crew, the Crimson Howlers. They live on the edge of survival. When a mysterious tech billionaire offers them a place at his training facility, it gives them hope but also forces Kel to team up with Coup, her arrogant, infuriating rival. Embroiled in political scheming, volatile phoenix magic and a smouldering romance, Kel and Coup discover a conspiracy that threatens them all. For in this world of extreme stakes, there are two options only: win or burn. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
783572	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Off the map Gardner, Scot	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2021	9781760877101	Our home town. Sometimes it feels like the centre of the universe, sometimes it's the bum-end of nowhere. We are her sons and daughters. These are our triumphs and our heartaches, our fears and hopes for a better life. Getting lost, falling in love, pushing boundaries, exploring the world - powerfully honest stories to make you think and feel, from the award-winning author of The Dead I Know and Changing Gear. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
846062	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Off the record Garrett, Camryn	Penguin	2021	9780241367162	Josie is seventeen and wants to be a journalist. When she wins a competition to write for her favourite magazine it seems her dreams have come true. But as she investigates the celebrity she is interviewing, she uncovers a dark side to the glamour of Hollywood. Will this be the end of her burgeoning career? Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
587857	<input checked="" type="radio"/> On the come up Thomas, Angie	Walker Books	2019	9781406372168	Bri is sixteen and is desperate to be a rapper. In fact, she wants to be the best rapper of all time. But as a kid who is always in trouble, comes from a difficult home life and is African American, she has a lot of challenges to overcome in order to ever break into the rap world and get her come up. She has to walk a careful line between who she really is and who the public want her to be. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
1359293	Once a villain Len, Vanessa	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2025	9781760878368	The heart-stopping finale in the incredible Only a Monster fantasy time-travel series takes Joan into the darkest timeline in the monster world, as she fights to restore the world she remembers. Joan has failed to stop Eleanor and her monstrous plan. Eleanor now rules ruthlessly over a new London, in which monsters live openly among humans, preying on them and subjugating them. Only Joan, Aaron and Nick remember that there was once a better timeline. Now, as they negotiate their fractured pasts and face wrenching emotional decisions, they must fight to survive the new world and fix the broken timeline. But how will they defeat a whole family of monsters with power over time itself? Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.
803523	One in a hundred thousand Ingemundsen, Linni	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.
2924	One long thread Jeffrey, Belinda	University of Queensland Press	2012	9780702238925	Ruby and Sally Moon are twins with very different personalities. When divorce splits their family, and Sally moves with their mother to the Northern Territory, Ruby holds on to the thought that one day her family will be complete again. But, when tragedy strikes wrapping Sally in a cocoon from which she might never escape, Ruby learns that love is never simple but one of the many tangled branches in her family tree. Includes some mature themes. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
978216	One of us is back McManus, Karen M.	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>
5082	One of us is lying McManus, Karen. M.	Penguin Books Ltd, UK	2017	9780141375632	<p>On Thursday afternoon, five students at Bayview High walk into detention. Bronwyn, the brain, is Yale-bound and never breaks a rule. Addy, the beauty, is the picture-perfect homecoming princess. Nate, the criminal, is already on probation for dealing. Cooper, the athlete, is the all-star baseball pitcher. And Simon, the outcast, is the creator of Bayview High's notorious gossip app. Only, Simon never makes it out of that classroom. Before the end of detention, Simon's dead. And according to investigators, his death wasn't an accident. On Thursday, he died. But on Friday, he'd planned to post juicy reveals about all four of his high-profile classmates, which makes all four of them suspects in his murder. Or are they just the perfect patsies for a killer who's still on the loose? Everyone has secrets, right? What really matters is how far you would go to protect them. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.</p>
660767	One of us is next McManus, Karen	Penguin	2020	9780241376928	<p>Bayview High is just about recovered from the death of gossip king Simon Helleher a year ago. Now there's a new copycat in town who isn't ready to forget him just yet. A school-wide game of Truth or Dare seems fun, right?</p> <p>But this game is lethal. Choosing the truth may reveal your darkest secrets, but accepting the dare could be dangerous - or even fatal. The teenagers of Bayview must work together once again to find the culprit, before it's too late...</p> <p>Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.</p>

PRC	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
ID 2906	One would think the deep Zorn, Claire	University of Queensland Press	2016	9780702253942	Sam has always had things going on in his head that no-one else understands, not even his mum. Now she's dead, it's worse than ever. With his skateboard and a few belongings in a garbage bag, Sam goes to live with the strangers his mum cut ties with seven years ago, Auntie Lorraine and his cousins, Shane and Minty. As the days slowly meld into one another and ghosts from the past reappear, Sam has to make the ultimate decision. Mature read. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
15153	Only a matter of time: a story from Kosovo Ross, Stewart	Hodder Children's Books (Australia)	2001	9780750237338	Drita, an Albanian, and Zoran, a Serb, become friends but this is Kosovo, and Serb-Albanian tension is rising. They find their families are now enemies and they are forced to meet in secret. They are about to begin a fight for their lives. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.
3848	Optimists die first Nielsen, Susin	Andersen Press Ltd	2017	9781783445585	Petula has avoided friendship and happiness ever since tragedy struck her family and took her beloved younger sister Maxine. Worse, Petula blames herself. If only she'd kept an eye on her sister, if only she'd sewn the button Maxine choked on better, if only...Now her anxiety is getting out of control, she is forced to attend the world's most hopeless art therapy class. But one day, in walks the Bionic Man: a charming, amazingly tall newcomer called Jacob, who is also an amputee. Petula's ready to freeze him out, just like she did with her former best friend, but when she's paired with Jacob for a class project, there's no denying they have brilliant ideas together - ideas like remaking Wuthering Heights with cats. But Petula and Jacob each have desperately painful secrets in their pasts - and when the truth comes out, there's no way Petula is ready for it. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
18356	Oracle, The Fisher, Catherine	Hodder Children's Books (Australia)	2005	9780340843765	In a distant, desert land where servants of the god rule supreme, new Bearer, Mirany, receives visions which reveal the true heir to the kingdom. She must try to stop the corrupt High Priestess from seizing power. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
1197190	Order of masks, The Bellchambers, Alina	Pan MacMillan	2024	9781761560149	In the cut throat Ravalian Court, alliances, seduction and magic are the key to survival. Circus performer Mira has spent her life on the run and is determined to secure her future by competing in the deadly Trials and winning a place in one of the three magical Royal Orders. Princess Scarlett is fighting to withstand her half-brothers' sinister ambitions and seize power. Mira is the opportunity she has been waiting to. Will Mira and Scarlett be able to navigate the world of magic, ambition and court intrigue - as co-conspirators or as rivals for the throne? Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.
15309	Orphans of the queen Starke, Ruth	Thomas C Lothian Pty Ltd	2004	9780734405289	Hilly and her brother, Egg, were promised sunshine, plenty of food and someone to look after them. When they arrived from England, they were separated. Hilly was sent to a cruel orphanage in Adelaide. Includes mature themes and some strong language. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.
804806	Others, The Brandi, Mark	Hachette Australia	2021	9780733641145	On his 11th birthday, Jacob's father gives him a diary to write about things that happen. But Jacob knows something should not be written down. Some things should not be remembered. The only things he knows for sure what his father has taught him. Jacob is sheltered, protected, isolated. But who is his father protecting him from? And how far will his father go to keep the world at bay?
846099	Otherwise known as Pig Tilly, Catch	Wakefield Press	2019	9781743056790	Morgan Lodhi has been the target of bullies since he was in primary school. He seems to just attract them. He becomes known across the school as Pig and everyone around him find it easier to either ignore the bullying or just join in. High school is a battle ground but it is not without some pockets of kindness. Contains scenes of bullying which some readers may find confronting. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
1209880	Our infinite fates Steven, Laura	Penguin Books Ltd, UK	2025	9780241671108	Evelyn and Arden are star-crossed souls who have lived multiple lives. But in each life Arden hunts Evelyn and kills her before they reach their eighteenth birthdays. Evelyn doesn't know why he does this. But in her present life, Evelyn has something she needs to live for - her younger sister Gracie who is dying of leukemia. Evelyn needs to live long enough to donate her stem cells for Gracie. Can she convince Arden not to kill her, and figure out why she's being hunted so that she can break the curse once and for all? Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.

PRC	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
ID					
9263	Out of order: between age poems Peters, Andrew Fusek	Evans Bros	2002	9780237522902	An anthology that identifies the many issues of older adolescents' angst. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
5819	Out of the blue Cameron, Sophie	Pan MacMillan	2018	9781509853168	When angels start falling from the sky, it seems like the world is ending. But for Jaya the world ended when her mother died, two weeks before the first angel fell. Smashing down to earth at extraordinary speeds, wings bent, faces contorted, not a single angel has survived and, as the world goes angel crazy, Jaya's father uproots the family to Edinburgh, intent on catching one alive. But Jaya can't stand his obsession and, struggling to make sense of her mother's sudden death and her own role on that fateful day, she's determined to stay out of it. Then something extraordinary happens: an angel lands right at Jaya's feet, and it's alive. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 & above.
293	Out of the dust Hesse, Karen	Scholastic US	1997	9780590371254	Billie Jo describes the difficulties of rural life in Oklahoma during the dust storms of 1934 and 1935, the brutal reality of her mother's death, her own injuries and her father's illness. Billie Jo's story is dark and intriguing, with a trace of hope. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
1386446	Outback astronomer Barry, Trevor & Hayes, Liz & Smith, Ali	HarperCollins Australia	2025	9781460765449	Born and raised in remote Broken Hill, Trevor Barry left school after Year 10 to work in the mines. Years later, a single glimpse of Saturn through a colleague's telescope knocked Trevor's world completely off its axis, turning his whole life upside down. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
2521	Outpost Baillie, Allan	Puffin Australia	2012	9780143305927	Life on the remote moon Ord is dangerous. Random eruptions in the ice, extreme cold, loneliness and loss: it's all Dece knows. Until one day he sees a mysterious object caught in the rings of the nearby gas planet, Cotal. With no choice but to investigate, what he will find is so extraordinary that it is almost beyond understanding. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
295	Owl service, The Garner, Alan	HarperCollins Australia	2002	9780007127894	Three children find a mysterious set of dishes in an attic which sets off a chain of events from an ancient Welsh drama. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
903351	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Oxygen mask Reynolds, Jason & Griffin, Jason (ill)	Faber & Faber	2022	9780571374748	Set in a family home in New York, the book acts as something like a diary describing the monotony and helplessness of being confined in a small space, and the absurdity of being held captive by a TV which never seems to turn off. This is a work of hope, but one requiring the reader's willingness to engage in adventurous and dramatic collage and spare story telling. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
23003	<input checked="" type="radio"/> P is for pearl Henry Jones, Eliza	HarperCollins Australia	2018	9781460754931	Seventeen-year-old Gwendolyn P. Pearson has become very good at not thinking about the awful things that have happened to her family. But following a strange disturbance at the cafe where she works, Gwen is forced to confront what happened to her family all those years ago. And she slowly comes to realise that people aren't as they first appear and that like her, everyone has a story to tell. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
8928	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Painted love letters Bateson, Catherine	University of Queensland Press	2002	9780702232893	Chrissie is twelve years old and very close to her dad, an artist, who is dying of lung cancer. Her mother buries herself in her work and Chrissie has to work through her own great grief, clinging to the special gifts her father has given her. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
	Pandora Jones series Various				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.
35589	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Paper cranes don't fly Vu, Peter	Ford Street Publishing	2017	9781925272765	Suffering from an incurable disease, Adam Autzenberg sees the hospital as his second home. With some long-term special friends and an exciting new friendship he faces the toughest challenge. Peter Vu uses his own experiences to create an emotive text as a page turner. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
300	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Papio Kelleher, Victor	Penguin	1991	9780140320442	The dramatic story of two children who rescue Papio and Upi, male and female baboons, from an experimental research station in Central Africa, only to find freedom brings problems for the animals and themselves. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
301	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Parkland Kelleher, Victor	Penguin	1996	9780140378924	Parkland is an enclosure that houses humans and human-ape hybrids. They are controlled by vicious creatures called leopards. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
	Parvana series Ellis, Deborah				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.
10578	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Passenger Bracken, Alexandra	HarperCollins Australia	2016	9781460752043	New York violin prodigy Etta loses everything one night when she is pulled through time to 1776 to the midst of a fierce sea battle. Etta discovers that the powerful Ironwood family are looking for a long lost object that could remake the future, and they think Etta holds the clue to finding it. Along with the swashbuckling privateer Nicholas, who has his own painful history with the Ironwood family, Etta must embark on a perilous journey across centuries and continents to piece together the clues and stay one step ahead of the Ironwood clan. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
10879	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Pause, The Larkin, John	Random House Australia Pty Ltd	2015	9780857981714	Declan seems to have it all, a loving family, friends he's known for years and a beautiful girlfriend. But, something in Declan's past just won't go away and he makes the only decision he thinks he has left. As the train approaches and Declan teeters at the edge of the platform, two versions of his life are revealed to him. One moment. One pause. One whole new life. A challenging, confronting read. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
37853	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Payback Hayes, Rosemary	Frances Lincoln	2009	9781845079352	Halima, 18, has moved with her family to London and her horizons are beginning to expand. Then, just as she is about to start university, she discovers her father's plan to marry her to the son of a distant relation in Pakistan who once did him a favour. Halima is to be the repayment of the debt. And it's payback time. Adult themes and strong language in context. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
306	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Peeling the onion Orr, Wendy	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	1996	9781741149333	Following a car accident in which her neck is broken, a teenage karate champion has to recover from this tragedy with the help of her family. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
97736	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Penalty, The Peet, Mal	Walker Books	2007	9781406309362	As the city of San Juan pulses to summer's sluggish beat, its teenage football prodigy El Brujito, the Little Magician, vanishes without trace. Paul Faustino, South America's top sports journalist, is reluctantly drawn into the mystery. As a story of corruption and murder unfolds, he is forced to confront a bitter history of slavery, and the power of the occult. Includes some adult themes. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
19568	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Penguin bloom Bloom, Cameron (photo) & Grieve, Bradley Trevor	ABC Books	2016	9780733334948	In a shocking accident, Cameron's wife, Sam, suffers a near fatal fall that leaves her paralysed and deeply depressed. Into their lives comes Penguin, an injured magpie chick, abandoned after she fell from her nest. A true story of hope and courage. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
3308	<input checked="" type="radio"/> People might hear you Klein, Robin	Puffin Australia	1993	9780140366297	An arresting story about a strange and sinister religious sect called The Temple and how Frances discovers its secrets. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
1153329	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Perfect Guy Doesn't Exist, The Gonzales, Sophie	Hachette Children's Books	2024	9781444964653	When Ivy's parents go away for a week, she plans to binge-watch her favourite TV show. But her plans go awry when she wakes up to find the handsome main character of said TV show in her bedroom. Weston may be her soulmate on paper, but what about in real life? In order to deal with this turn of events, Ivy must somehow work with her ex-best friend Mack, and she starts to wonder if perhaps someone else was her soulmate all along...
773923	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Perfect on paper Gonzales, Sophie	Hachette Australia	2021	9781444959277	But when Brougham catches Darcy in the act of collecting letters from locker 89 - out of which she's been running her questionably legal, anonymous relationship advice service - that's exactly what happens. In exchange for keeping her secret, Darcy begrudgingly agrees to become his personal dating coach. The goal? To help him win his ex-girlfriend back. Darcy has good reason to keep her identity secret. If word gets out that she's behind the locker, some things she's not proud of will come to light, and there's a good chance Brooke will never speak to her again. Okay, so all she has to do is help an entitled, bratty, (annoyingly hot) guy win over a girl who's already fallen for him once? What could possibly go wrong? Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
660510	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Perspective Perry, Ellyse	HarperCollins Australia	2019	9781460758083	From the lessons of a high-performance athlete's career to appreciating the small things in life - this inspiring illustrated book, for fans of Ellyse Perry, features stories and reflections from her childhood and career on the themes of dreaming, belief, work, resilience, acceptance, opportunity, balance and perseverance - and their importance in everything we do. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
677707	☉Peta Lyre's rating normal Whateley, Anna	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2020	9781760525309	Peta Lyre is far from typical. The world she lives in isn't designed for the way her mind works, but when she follows her therapist's rules for 'normal' behaviour, she can almost fit in without attracting attention. When a new girl, Sam, starts at school, Peta's carefully structured routines start to crack. But on the school ski trip, with romance blooming and a newfound confidence, she starts to wonder if maybe she can have a normal life after all. When things fall apart, Peta must decide whether all the old rules still matter. Does she want a life less ordinary, or should she keep her rating normal? Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
1333993	☉Phantom hearts Talbot, Rosie & Maxwell, Sarah (ill)	Scholastic UK	2024	9780702333408	Malia's life is upended when a student bus crash kills her fellow classmates: rebel and dropout Shepherd; volatile track star Russ; brainy Emil; and mysterious new girl Carolina. Malia's dad was driving, and housing journalists are reporting that he crashed on purpose. While her dad remains in a coma and unable to tell the truth, Malia sets about clearing his name with the help of her cute crush, Keezy. But then the ghosts of the students start appearing. Wherever Malia goes, the restless spirits follow ... Why do her classmates all have unfinished business? Secrets will out. Will Malia ever find the courage to tell Keezy how she feels? Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.
17036	☉Photographs in the mud Wolfer, Dianne & Harrison-Lever, Brian	Fremantle Press	2005	9781920731205	Jack and Hoshi are soldiers on opposite sides who meet on the Kokoda Track during World War Two. Graphic illustrations enrich this sensitive, realistic and harrowing story of the personal tragedy of two soldiers and their loved ones at home. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.
2885	☉Pica Gardiner, Jeff	Accent Press	2016	9781783759286	When mean, self centred bully Luke meets Guy, he just thinks he's another weirdo to hate, but soon enough Luke finds out that Guy is not quite what he first seems. To begin with, he catches wild snakes with his bare hands and seems to have a way with animals that is just too intriguing for Luke to ignore. But what Luke discovers is that becoming friends with Guy could change his life, and indeed himself, in ways he never would have previously dreamed. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
9448	☉Plenitude Bloom, Jessica	self-published	2002	9780958136006	Poetry, written by a young Sydney girl, to inspire primary and junior high school students. Some of the poems have challenging themes for older readers, including insightful views on death. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
15028	⊙ Poems by young Australians Various & Greive, Bradley Trevor (ed)	Random House Australia Pty Ltd	2004	9780759320369	A wonderful, creative collection of works by young Australian poets, aged from eight to eighteen years to inspire would-be poets and readers. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.
587837	⊙ Polina Vives, Bastien	Vintage/Ebury (Random House)	2014	9780224096935	As a very young girl, Polina Oulinov is taken on as a special pupil by the famous ballet teacher Professor Bojinsky. He is very demanding and refuses to adapt his standards to the talents of his pupils, and Polina has to work hard and make great sacrifices in order to reach the level Bojinsky senses she has the talent for. When she graduates and is admitted to the official theatre school, she discovers that Bojinsky's view of ballet is only one of many and that she can't adapt to new rules, new visions. She flees Russia for Berlin, where she meets a group of drama students. Together they create a new form of theatre, and conquer the world. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
16218	⊙ Pool D'Ath, Justin	Ford Street Publishing	2007	9781876462512	Something odd has happened to the public swimming pool, its claimed to have curative powers. When 16 year old Wolfgang Mulqueen takes a summer job there, he befriends Audrey, a blind girl, who claims she's nocturnal. The discovery of a black butterfly, unknown to science, and an unusual request from Audrey's father change Wolfgang's life forever. Deals with serious issues in a sensitive manner. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.
1196	⊙ Portraits of Celina Whiting, Sue	Walker Books Australia Pty Ltd	2013	9781922077479	Following the death of her father, Bayley's family is not coping, with her sister's rebellious behaviour and her brother feeling guilt about his role in the accident. Bayley is trying to keep things together for everyone. Mum decides a move to an old family home in the country is best, where there is the 40 year old unsolved disappearance of Bayley's cousin, who is using Bayley to seek revenge. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
	Power of Five series Various				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.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
18673	Prayer for Blue Delaney, A Murray, Kirsty	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2005	9781865087368	In the fifties, Colm McCabe is sent from England to an Australian orphanage. He suffers terribly under the cruel nuns and brothers. His faith shines through as he searches for self and family. Strong language used frequently in context. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
977801	Prince & the apocalypse, The McDowell, Kara	Wednesday Books	2023	9781761264535	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. Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.
7750	Prince of Afghanistan Nowra, Louis	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2015	9781743314821	Black parachutes fall from the sky. Young soldiers and a dog are on a rescue mission in a remote part of Afghanistan. But, the mission ends in chaos. Eighteen year old Corporal Mark Hollis and Prince, the dog, embark on a perilous journey. To get back to base, they must navigate an unforgiving landscape and avoid capture or death at the hands of the Taliban. Mark and Prince must depend on each other to survive. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
2727	Princess diaries, The Cabot, Meg	Pan MacMillan	2007	9780330482059	Mia Thermopokis is not herself any more. According to her dad, she is now Amelia Mignonette Grimaldi Thermopolis Renaldo, Princess of Genovia. Mia so does not want to take princess lessons from grandmere or move to Genovia or, worse still, have anyone find out about this princess thing. Life gets a whole lot more yucky when mum starts dating one of Mia's teachers and everyone else has a date except Mia. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
1423943	Princess knight, The Jacobs, Cait	Magpie Books GB	2025	9780008609115	Prince Domhnall and Princess Clía are the perfect royal match - that is until he ruins everything by refusing to propose. Heartbroken but determined, Clía wins a place at Domhnall's military academy to win him back. After all, how hard can duelling really be? Warrior Ronan has no time for blonde princesses. Even if she is...well, cute. He tells himself there's no harm training her. Even if his heart does race around her. Even if Domhnall is his best friend. But, as they say, love is a battlefield - and unfortunately for them, a very real war is looming on the horizon. It's a fight that will threaten their kingdoms and their hearts. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
ID 27363	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Prism Kellerman, Faye & Aliza	HarperCollins US	2009	9780061905667	Nothing is the same for Kaida, Zeke and Joy after the accident. They return to their ordinary lives but the world has ceased to make sense. Perhaps this world, with no hope and no cures, is not their world at all. The nightmare begins. They must rely on their own resourcefulness to identify what the problem is and then how to solve it, or they could be trapped in the nightmare forever. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
887077	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Prison healer Noni, Lynette	Penguin	2024	9781760897512	Seventeen-year-old Kiva Meridan has spent the last ten years fighting for survival in the notorious death prison, Zalindov, working as the prison healer. When the Rebel Queen is captured, Kiva is charged with keeping the terminally ill woman alive long enough for her to undergo the Trial by Ordeal: a series of elemental challenges against the torments of air, fire, water, and earth, assigned to only the most dangerous of criminals. Then a coded message from Kiva's family arrives, containing a single order: "Don't let her die. We are coming." Aware that the Trials will kill the sickly queen, Kiva risks her own life to volunteer in her place. If she succeeds, both she and the queen will be granted their freedom. With an incurable plague sweeping Zalindov, a mysterious new inmate fighting for Kiva's heart, and a prison rebellion brewing, Kiva can't escape the terrible feeling that her trials have only just begun. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 or above.
2356	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Prisoner of night and fog Blankman, Anne	Hachette Children's Books	2014	9781472207845	For Gretchen Muller, Hitler is her friendly uncle who has always been there for her and her family since the death of her father. But, as Hitler's hold over Germany strengthens, he will be forever changed in Gretchen's eyes. She will do anything to uncover the truth, with the help of a young Jewish reporter. Contains some violence. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
14667	Prisoners in the palace MacColl, Michaela	Chronicle Books	2010	9780811873000	Sixteen year old Liza expects to make her debut in 1830s London but, when her parents die, she is left penniless and must enter service. She becomes a maid to young Princess Victoria. Liza slowly adjusts to her new life and the temperamental, lonely princess. Liza befriends a young boy and a newspaperman to confront the public slander surrounding the princess. Includes some adult themes and violence. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
15391	Private Peaceful Morpurgo, Michael	HarperCollins Children's Books	2012	9780007486441	On the battlefields of World War 1, young Private Thomas Peaceful looks back over his childhood. His memories of his loving family come vividly alive. But, every moment takes Tommo closer to something he cannot bear to think about. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.
638659	Promise Alt, Alexandra	Scholastic Australia	2019	9781742991986	At 15, Lene is questioning everything. She is sick of the compulsory League of German Girls meetings, and everyone being made to fight for a final victory that never seems to come. She is in love with Ludwig, who lives upstairs and listens to enemy broadcasts. Like Lene, he rejects the war and the endless Nazi indoctrination. When Ludwig is ordered to the Eastern Front, can Lene and Ludwig hold on to their promise to one another and resurface from the darkness of the abyss in post-war Berlin? Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
875	Protected, The Zorn, Claire	University of Queensland Press	2014	9780702250194	Hannah's world is in pieces and she doesn't need the counsellor to tell her she has issues. With a depressed mum, an injured dad and a dead sister, Hannah should feel terrible but, for the first time, she feels a glimmer of hope. Maybe it's because Josh is taking an interest in her or maybe it runs deeper than that. In a family torn apart by grief and guilt, Hannah's struggle to come to terms with years of torment shows how long old wounds can take to heal. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
871666	Queer up Caught, Alexis	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	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
655264	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Racing in the rain (young readers edition) Stein, Garth	HarperCollins Australia	2019	9780062935076	Enzo knows he is different from other dogs. Most dogs love to chase cars, but Enzo longs to race them. He learns about racing and the world around him by watching TV and by listening to the words of his best friend, Denny, an up-and-coming race car driver, and Denny's daughter, Zoe, his constant companion. Enzo finds that life is just like being on the racetrack-it isn't simply about going fast. Applying the rules of racing to his world, Enzo takes on his family's challenges and emerges a hero. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
13281	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Racing the moon Morgan, Michelle	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2014	9781743316351	In 1930s Glebe, Joe Riley has to be creative to make pocket money. He's watched his dad keep ahead of the law and he's sure that he can too. When his parents send him to a Catholic boarding school, Joe is homesick and lonely. He meets the darker side of human nature and is at odds with the school, especially Brother Felix. Expelled, Joe is sent to a reform school where life is tough. But, through working the land, Joe eventually finds inner strength, peace and true freedom. Mature themes. Usually read by Years 9, 10 or above.
804527	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Radio silence Oseman, Alice	HarperCollins Australia	2016	9780007559244	What if everything you set yourself up to be was wrong? Frances has always been a study machine with one goal, elite university. Nothing will stand in her way; not friends, not a guilty secret - not even the person she is on the inside. But when Frances meets Aled, the shy genius behind her favourite podcast, she discovers a new freedom. Then the podcast goes viral and the fragile trust between them is broken. Caught between who she was and who she longs to be, Frances' dreams come crashing down. Suffocating with guilt, she knows that she has to confront her past - She has to confess why Carys disappeared. Meanwhile at uni, Aled is alone, fighting even darker secrets. It's only by facing up to your fears that you can overcome them. And it's only by being your true self that you can find happiness. Frances is going to need every bit of courage she has. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
6941	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Ready player one Cline, Ernest	Random House Australia Pty Ltd	2012	9780099560432	It's 2044, and the world has become an ugly place. We're out of oil. We've wrecked the climate. Famine, poverty, and disease are widespread. Wade Watts escapes this depressing reality by spending his waking hours jacked into the OASIS, a sprawling virtual utopia where you can be anything you want to be. And like most of humanity, Wade is obsessed by the ultimate lottery ticket that lies concealed within this alternate reality- OASIS founder James Halliday, who dies with no heir, has promised that control of the OASIS will go to the person who can solve the riddles he has left scattered throughout it. For years, millions have struggled to attain this prize. And then Wade stumbles onto the key to the first puzzle. Suddenly, he finds himself pitted against thousands of competitors in a desperate race to claim the ultimate prize, a chase that soon takes on terrifying real-world dimensions. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
1075159	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Reappearance of Rachel Price, The Jackson, Holly	electric monkey	2024	9780008507268	18-year-old Bel has lived her whole life in the shadow of her mother's mysterious disappearance. Sixteen years ago, Rachel Price vanished and young Bel was the only witness. Rachel is gone, presumed dead. The case is dragged up from the past when the Price family agrees to a true crime documentary. Bel can't wait for filming to end, for life to go back to normal. But then Rachel Price reappears, and life will never be normal again... Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.
35091	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Rebel Tintera, Amy	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2014	9781743316702	When she died and came back as a Reboot, Wren 178 thought she'd left her human side behind. Then, Callum 22 came along and changed everything. Now, they have both escaped the Human Advancement and Repopulation Corporation, ready to start a peaceful life. But, Micah 163, who runs the reservation, has darker plans to wipe out the humans. All of them. Some violence. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
1402	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Reboot Tintera, Amy	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2013	9781743315507	After she was shot dead, Wren Connolly came back to life in 178 minutes as a Reboot, stronger, faster, able to heal and less emotional. The longer Reboots are dead, the less human they are on return. Wren 178 is the deadliest Reboot around. Callum 22 is slow and pesky but he makes Wren feel alive. When ordered to eliminate Callum, Wren risks her life to save him. Some violence. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
6869	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Reckless Funke, Cornelia	Chicken House	2010	9781905294855	The love of an older brother and a girlfriend must be strong enough to overcome terrifying obstacles or Will is lost to them forever. This is Jacob's story, he is familiar with this treacherous, violent land full of intrigue, power-lust, violence, cruelty, fear, dangerous liaisons and dark secrets. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
94547	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Red cardigan, The Burke, J. C.	Random House Australia Pty Ltd	2004	9780759320291	Evie sees things. She's wary of the other kids at school- she doesn't want them to see her drawings or know how different she is...what would they say? She tries hard to block it all out and pretends to be normal, just like every one else. But a missing girl is trying to tell Evie something. A girl who is very persistent, who will not give up. A girl who once wore the red cardigan Evie now wears. As much as she tries, Evie can no longer ignore the question that demands an answer...who is the girl in the red cardigan? Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
70369	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Red haze: Australians and New Zealanders in Vietnam Davidson, Leon	Black Dog Books	2006	9781876372958	A balanced view of the Vietnam War is presented but it does not tell the whole story, nor does it pretend to. For mature students, the book has evocative and harrowing descriptions of war, the role of the allied soldiers and the tactics of the Vietcong. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
54719	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Red necklace, The Gardner, Sally	Orion	2008	9781842556344	Yann Margoza, a gypsy boy with supernatural gifts, raised by a dwarf, Tetu, is pursued by the sinister, truly-evil Count Kalliovski who holds half the French aristocracy in his power. Yann meets Sidonie, the unloved daughter of the Marquis of Villeduval. Suddenly, all their lives, present, past and future are intertwined against the momentum and violence of the French Revolution. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
6518	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Red Queen Aveyard, Victoria	Orion	2015	9781409155843	The Reds are commoners, ruled by a Silver elite with god-like superpowers. When Mare Barrow begins work in the Silver Palace, she discovers that, despite her red blood, she possesses a deadly power. One that threatens to destroy the balance of power. This is a world of betrayal, lies and danger. Reds against Silvers, prince against prince, and Mare against her own heart. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
18692	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Red shoe, The Dubosarsky, Ursula	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2006	9781741142853	For three sisters growing up in Australia in the 1950s, the news is full of the Petrov affair and spies. Their ordinary lives are juxtaposed with their parents' marriage, their father's attempted suicide and the big events of the adult world. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
4250	Reign of shadows Jordan, Sophie	HarperCollins US	2017	9780062377654	Seventeen years ago, an eclipse cloaked the kingdom of Relhok in perpetual darkness. In the chaos, an evil chancellor murdered the king and queen and seized their throne. Luna, Relhok's lost princess, has been hiding in a tower ever since. Luna's survival depends on the world believing she is dead. But that doesn't stop Luna from wanting more. When she meets Fowler, a mysterious archer braving the woods outside her tower, Luna is drawn to him despite the risk. When the tower is attacked, Luna and Fowler escape together. But this world of darkness is more treacherous than Luna ever realized. With every threat stacked against them, Luna and Fowler find solace in each other. But with secrets still unspoken between them, falling in love might be their most dangerous journey yet. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 & above.
8128	Rest of us just live here, The Ness, Patrick	Walker Books	2015	9781406331165	It's not easy when the Chosen One goes to your school. The one who fights the zombies or the soul-eating ghosts or whatever new thing there is. Mikey just wants to graduate and find the courage to ask Henna out before school gets blown up, again. Sometimes, there are problems bigger than this week's end of the world and you have to find the extraordinary in your ordinary life. Mature themes. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
1125059	Return to sender Draper, Lauren	MacMillan	2024	9781761266515	Brodie was sent away from her town of Warwick, after being accused of stealing the town's magical 'Adder Stone'. She returns to strained friendships with Elliot and Levi, needing to face both the town and her former best friends. While living with her eccentric grandmother, Brodie learns about her Grandmother's job in the Dead Letter Office and is drawn into town mysteries once again. Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.
1209811	Returning Saunders, Kirli	Magabala Books	2023	9781922613707	Returning is a stunning work - a poetic and visual feast that takes you on Kirli's journey of rediscovering self, Country and Connection. Kirli's heartfelt experiences address large contemporary themes of decolonisation, self-determination, Identity, First Nations matriarchy, queerness, justice, love, liberation, and truth-telling. Each poem is accompanied by evocative and poignant artwork that was created in response to its poem and vitalises its meaning. Returning was developed with consultation and guidance from First Nations Elders, Custodians, academics and artists. Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
328	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Rift Hathorn Libby	Hodder Headline Australia Pty Ltd	2002	9780733608797	Vaughan gets caught up with an evil Pastor who has created division in his town. He desperately wants to belong. In fact, Vaughan wants to gain entry to the gang so badly he is willing to accept their terrifying challenge. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
587800	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Rift, The Craw, Rachael	Walker Books Australia Pty Ltd	2018	9781760650025	When the Rift opens, death follows. For generations, the Rangers of Black Water Island have protected its sacred creatures from the horrors released by the powerful Rift. Cal West, an apprentice Ranger with rare gifts, fights daily to prove he belongs with the other rangers. Meg Archer, an old friend, returns to Black Water Island after nine years only to discover that the Island is facing a new threat that no one is prepared for. Can Meg and Cal fight their darkest fears to save the Island from disaster? Usually read by students in Year 9, 10 & above.
846219	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Righteous, The Ahdieh, Renee	Hodder & Stoughton	2021	9781529368413	Only half-fey Arjun Desai can cross the realms to the Sylvan Vale to find a healer who can save his dear friend Odette. Leaving the tare between the realms open, he is oblivious to the fact that Pippa has observed his departure and followed him through in her quest to find Celine. The dangerous, duplicitous world on the other side of the gateway is no place for a sheltered mortal, especially one who is engaged and confused by feelings for a half-fey. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
1268022	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Rival darling Moody, Alexandra	Farshore	2025	9780008762247	When seventeen-year-old Violet is left heartbroken by the captain of her school's ice hockey team, she vows to never date a jock again. But, in an attempt to prove she's moved on, she turns to the most unlikely person - her ex's biggest rival, the notorious captain of the Ransom Devils. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
1940	<input checked="" type="radio"/> River charm, The Murrell, Belinda	Random House Australia Pty Ltd	2013	9781742757124	Millie lives in the bush with her mother and sister when, with the help of an old charm, she gains access to the past. There we meet Charlotte Atkinson, whose family is in danger of losing their beloved home, as well as their lives, due to marauding convicts, bushrangers and an abusive stepfather. The law is against Charlotte and her mother, but they're determined to survive. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
684601	<input checked="" type="radio"/> River of royal blood, A Joy, Amanda	Penguin Random House Australia	2019	9780525518587	Born a princess but with a magick so frightening no-one can teach you how to use it. Born into a world that you could one day rule as queen, however to do so you will need to fight your sister in a battle to death. This is Eva's life. if she is to be Queen she needs to master her dangerous magick and kill her sister or be killed herself. Will her mother the Queen support her or her sister, will her absent father be her ally or her sister's? Can Eva trust the strange fairy hunter who has offered to tutor her in her magick and who is the khimaer prince who has appeared to 'protect her' and what can she do about her growing feelings towards him. Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.
	Road to winter series Smith, Mark				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.
846124	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Road tripping with Pearl Nash Nwosu, Poppy	Wakefield Press	2021	9781743058435	The summer is finally here, and Pearl Nash is on a mission to save her slowly disintegrating friendship with a whirlwind end-of-year road trip. However, suddenly Pearl ends up stuck in the middle of the desert beside Obi Okocha, a boy with an irritating attitude. Add a breakdown, multiple arguments, an AWOL nana and a kiss; the perfect ingredients for a perfect disaster. Or is it? Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
1019750	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Rosewood hunt, The Reed, Mackenzie	HarperTeen	2023	9780063287624	<p>Lily Rosewood has lived with her grandmother since her dad's death a year ago. She and Gram have always been close. Gram's role as chair of their family's luxury coat business has inspired Lily's love of fashion, and Lily hopes to follow in Gram's footsteps one day.</p> <p>Then Gram dies suddenly, and Lily's world is upended. Gram's quarter of a billion dollar fortune is missing, and Lily has been banned from the manor she and Gram shared.</p> <p>But Gram has always loved games, and even in death, she still has a few tricks up her couture sleeve. When Lily and three other seemingly random teens get letters from Gram sending them on a treasure hunt around Rosetown, they hope the fortune will be the reward. But they're not the only ones hunting for Gram's treasure, and soon the hunt becomes more dangerous than they ever could have imagined</p> <p>Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.</p>
846165	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Roxy Shusterman, Neal & Shusterman, Jarrod	Walker Books	2021	9781406392128	<p>Isaac and Ivy are siblings and close in age yet seem to be on very different paths. Ivy is often in trouble and struggles to focus while Isaac is motivated and responsible and in control. A series of events bring both siblings to the attention of Addi and Roxy, pharmaceuticals become gods meddling in the affairs of humans. Both drugs offer so much to the brother and sister, but they will also demand something in return.</p> <p>Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.</p>
1209858	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Royal heirs academy Duga, Lindsey	Christy Ottavino Books	2025	9780316578660	<p>Titus, Alaric, Emmeline and Sadie are all vying to be the new ruler of Ashland. These four are summoned to Almus Terra Academy, a prestigious institution known for ruthless practices in grooming future leaders. Once there, King Leander Eldana reveals their royal lineage and announces a competition to determine the next heir. As the teens navigate alliances, betrayals, and personal demons, the line between friend and enemy is blurred as the four work towards their goal. Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.</p>
	Ruined series Tintera, Amy				<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	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
1423785	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Ruling class, The Barnes, Jennifer Lynn	Penguin Books Ltd, UK	2025	9780241763070	When Tess Kendrick is sent to stay with her older sister in Washington, she has no idea that Ivy is a professional 'fixer', a person who makes powerful people's scandals disappear. Then Tess enrolls at the elite Hardwicke School and unexpectedly becomes Hardwicke's own high school fixer. As each sister leads a double life, their worlds collide when a scandal from the halls of Hardwicke reaches the most powerful people in the city. Now Tess must uncover who's behind the power play before she becomes a target herself... Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
9232	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Rumble fish Hinton, S E	Penguin	2002	9780141312538	Fourteen year old, Rusty-James, runs one of the meanest gangs in his neighbourhood. His reputation remains safe because his brother is the widely-feared Motorcycle Boy, but his brother is a peace-loving loner, unlike Rusty-James. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
660725	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Run, rebel Mann, Manjeet	Penguin	2020	9780241411421	"I am restless, my feet need to fly." Amber is trapped - by her father's rules, by his expectations, by her own fears. Now she's ready to fight - for her mother, for her sister, for herself. Freedom always comes at a price. Run, Rebel is a trailblazing verse novel that thunders with rhythm, heart and soul - perfect for fans of Sarah Crossan, Elizabeth Acevedo and Rupi Kaur. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
26825	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Runemarks Harris, Joanne	Corgi Books	2007	9780552555753	Young Maddy Smith is despised and feared because of her runemark, showing she has magic powers. Since the war which destroyed the Norse Gods, the Order has taken hold, decreeing all magic should be banned. Maddy is befriended by a mysterious old man who asks her to journey into the earth to bring back the Whisperer, an oracle which foreshadows amazing changes to the balance between Worlds. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
ID 3855	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Running from the tiger Darlison, Aleesah	Empowering Resources	2016	9780994501066	Eleven year old Ebony has a secret, one not be shared with anyone. The eldest of three, soon to be four, children, Ebony has a difficult second role after school, looking after her siblings, farm chores such as chopping wood and gathering the cow manure, all at the forceful directive of her father. Every so often the roaring, terrifying tiger that dwells within her father springs to the surface leaving the rest of the family nowhere to hide and Ebony becomes protector of her sisters, becoming the target of his vocal and physical abuse. It is only through a new friendship when Teena arrives at the school, that Ebony sees a way of dealing with the tiger. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
15366	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Running man, The Bauer, Michael Gerard	Scholastic Australia	2004	9781862915756	When a young artistic boy is asked to draw a portrait of his neighbour, a disabled Vietnam veteran, the neighbours gossip. An uneasy relationship begins to unfold, one that will force the boy and the veteran to confront their darkest secrets, secrets of violence and abuse. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.
1019884	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Ruthless vows Ross, Rebecca	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.
1019779	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Ryan and Avery Levithan, David	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.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
43441	⊙ S.T.A.G.S. Bennett, M A	Hot Key Books	2017	9781471406768	When Greer MacDonald is one of a select few invited to a weekend of hunting, shooting and fishing at historic Longcross Hall by the mysterious Henry De Walencourt she cannot believe her luck but things may not all be what they seem. It does not take long for the students to realise that there is something more sinister afoot at Longcross than simply the dark corridors and animal heads hanging in every room. In fact their very lives might be at stake! A thriller full of twists and turns for lovers of The Hunger Games. Includes mature themes. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
574721	⊙ Saints and misfits Ali, S K	Simon & Schuster	2018	9781481499255	There are three kinds of people in Janna's world: 1. Saints, the people who do all the heavy lifting in the world, the do gooders. Moving things forward, fighting the good fight. . 2. Misfits, people who don't belong. Like the way Janna doesn't fit into her Dad's brand-new family or in the leftover one composed of Mom and her older brother. 3. Monsters. Well, monsters wearing saint masks. Like the monster at her mosque. People think he's holy, untouchable, but nobody has seen under the mask. Except Janna. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
1337938	⊙ Salvage Mills, Jennifer	Pan MacMillan	2025	9781761563775	Jude's life has been about survival. She works on rebuilding - fixes roofs, trucks supplies, transports refugees. Tries to stay free from attachments and obligations. But Jude won't talk about her past. Or her sister Celeste, lost in the tragic failure of a space station that was supposed to save her, and the other ultra-rich, from the wreckage of a dying world. When an escape pod falls from the sky, its passenger near death, Jude knows her anonymous existence can't continue. As the fragile peace of her community is put at risk, Jude must re-examine the terms of her survival - and her exile. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.
9968	⊙ Sandy feet Buick, Nikki	University of Queensland Press	2015	9780702253157	Hunter's mum thinks the road trip up the Queensland coast will bring the family closer, now that his stepdad and baby brother are part of the mix. But, with tension and secrets sizzling beneath the happy family facade, the trip becomes Hunter's worst nightmare. The further away from home he gets, the more he can't shake thoughts of the accident that took his dad away. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
5826	⓪ Savage, The: Graphic novel Almond, David	Walker Books	2008	9781406308150	An extraordinary graphic novel that confronts raw grief visually and through the words of Blue Baker, devastated at the loss of his father and offended by the patronising support he is offered. Blue's grief is angry and violent and inconsolable. Strangely though Blue does find relief from his suffering and the record of his journey is here. Strong language and images used in context. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
342	⓪ Saving Abbie Baillie, Allan	Penguin	2000	9780141307404	Abbie is a very engaging, six year old, orphan orang-utan on the final leg of an odyssey that will see her reintroduced to her Kalamantan home. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
72025	⓪ Saving Rafael Wilson, Leslie	Andersen Press Ltd	2009	9781842709184	In Germany, in World War II, Jenny's father is taken prisoner by the Americans and her brother is killed. When the mother of her Jewish friend, Rafael, is taken by the Gestapo Jenny's family hides him. The story traces the dangers facing Jenny and Rafael, and their eventual escape. Adult themes, violence, coarse language. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.
27648	⓪ Scout Pluss, Nicole	Penguin Books Australia	2010	9780143204589	Life for Kit Lovell has not been easy. She never knew her father, a renowned sea captain who drowned after his ship sank. Kit's grandmother dies and she and her mother are evicted from their home in England. When Kit's mother agrees to marry a man she has never met, they embark on a treacherous and monotonous journey to the far flung colony of South Australia. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
1124710	⓪ Sea of wolves, A Street, Sarah	Hachette Children's Books	2024	9781444967821	The fifty year old treaty is in tatters and ships are washing up filled with dead bodies. Mersey Drake seeks to free her city from the clutches of a pirate called the Heartless King. Her plan fails when she is captured by the pirate crew. Mersey falls for the ship's cold blooded first mate, a girl called Golde, unaware that a wolf is getting ready to pounce. Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.
89538	⓪ Second star to the right Hautzig, Deborah	Walker Books	2008	9781406315493	Leslie is a normal, healthy, well-adjusted fourteen year old going to a good school. She has a great friend and her mother loves her to the moon and back. But, something is wrong and Leslie would be happy if only she was thinner. A very candid disclosure of the story of a young girl in the grip of anorexia nervosa, of the fight she had to conquer her problems and a subtle insight into her particular circumstances. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.

PRC	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
ID 32796	Secret science of magic, The Keil, Melissa	Hardie Grant Egmont	2017	9781760127763	Sophia is smart, like genius-calculator-brain smart. But there are some things no amount of genius can prepare you for, and the messiness of real life is one of them. When everything she knows is falling apart, how can she crack the puzzle of what to do with her life? Joshua spends his time honing magic tricks and planning how to win Sophia's heart. But when your best trick is making schoolwork disappear, how do you possibly romance a genius? Usually read by students in Years 9, 10, and above.
871649	Secrets of Cricket Karlsson, The Sigunsdotter, Kristina & Eriksson, Ester (ill)	Gecko Press	2022	9781776574278	Cricket Karlsson is going to become an artist just like her aunt, who loves cheese and art and always speaks her mind. Not like Cricket's mother, who is dieting and sighs at everything. But now Aunt Frannie has lost her joy and Cricket's best friend has dumped her for the horse girls. Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.
3854	See you in the cosmos Cheng, Jack	Penguin Books Ltd, UK	2017	9780141365602	Eleven-year-old Alex wants to launch his iPod into space, so that other life forms will know, from his audio recordings, what life on Earth is really like. With a troubled home life and lots of questions about family and the meaning of life, Alex sets out on a remarkable road trip to find the answers he is searching for. From Colorado to New Mexico, Las Vegas to LA, Alex meets a host of new friends who help him answer the big questions. Questions like who is out there, where do I come from, and how can I be brave. Life for Alex will never be the same. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
7711	Selection, The Cass, Kiera	HarperCollins US	2012	9780007466696	In a world of glittering gowns and jewels, the selection is the chance of a lifetime, for any girl to compete for the heart of Prince Maxon. America is chosen to meet him and all of her plans to wed her secret love start to crumble. Some adult themes. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
846085	Self/less AViVA	Pan MacMillan	2021	9781760984892	Living in a walled city where every aspect of life is controlled, Teddy is unable to pursue her creative passions for risk of being Sanitised. When truths are revealed, Teddy finds herself living in a city under the city. A darker world where creativity is embraced but survival is everything. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
1359278	Set-up girl, The Vey, Sasha	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2025	9781761181542	Amalia's life runs like clockwork: school, family book club, hanging out with her best (and only) friend Mae. It's comfortable in its predictability. So when Mae announces she's ready to start dating - against the wishes of her strict parents - Amalia's world is thrown into chaos. Forever the dutiful friend, she agrees to help set Mae up with the hottest boy in class: Kasun. The only problem? He's Amalia's secret crush. Adopting the role of wingwoman, Amalia does her best to navigate an unfamiliar world of parties and romantic drama. Meanwhile, she grows closer to Kasun's best mates, Jake and Laeli, who frustrate and intrigue her in equal measure. When misunderstandings (and secret kisses) threaten to derail relationships, Amalia is left more confused than ever. Who does she really want to be with? Can the set-up girl ever become the main character of the story? A feel-good romantic comedy of errors, where the road to love rarely runs straight! Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.
903381	Seven percent of Ro Devereux O'Clover, Ellen	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.
27475	Shadow of the fox Kagawa, Julie	Harlequin	2018	9781489267368	Every millennium, one age ends and another age dawns...and whoever holds the Scroll of a Thousand Prayers is able to call the great Dragon God from the sea and be granted one wish. The time is near and the pieces of the Scroll are desperately sought by those who would demand ultimate power. A humble, peasant girl holds the first scrap of the Scroll, a girl with a dangerous secret. Demons have burned Yumeko's home to the ground, killing the master who trained her to hide and use her kitsune shape-shifting powers. She escapes the temple and is thrust into the path of a mysterious samurai, Kage Tasumi of the Shadow Clan. Yumeko realises quickly that he is under orders to find the scroll she carries...and to kill anything or anyone in order to do so, but she needs his help. Will her tricky kitsune ways be enough to keep her safe? A wish will be granted and a new age will dawn. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
567935	Shadowcaster Williams Chima, Cinda	HarperCollins Australia	2017	9780062380982	A warrior princess risking her throne to end a lifelong war. A young enemy soldier questioning his role in a game of life and death. If they join forces under the shadow of a new threat, will they survive to lead the resistance? Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
1023615	Shadows of truth Scholte, Astrid	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2024	9781761068898	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. 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. 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. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 or above.
12416	Shaedow master D'Ath, Justin	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2003	9781865087382	Treachery, betrayal, greed and racism played out in a mythical, fantastical, medieval kingdom. Ora must confront the King's terrible secret, related to the pervasive Quickwater Lake. A lake, black and deadly as night, that demands sacrifice. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
	Shakespeare original plays mature reads Various				Any two books from this series may be read as Challenge books and up to five more can be read as personal choice books. Go to the online booklists for the PRC ID of the individual books in this series.
17835	Shakespeare: the most famous man in London Thompson, Tony	Black Dog Books	2009	9781742030708	London society supplied many inspirational ingredients for William Shakespeare, helping him become one of the greatest writers of the English language. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
581481	Shaping the fractured self: Poetry of chronic illness and pain Taylor Johnson, Heather (ED)	University of Western Australia Press	2017	9781742589312	Shaping the Fractured Self showcases twenty-eight of Australia's finest poets who happen to live with chronic illness and pain. The autobiographical short essays, in conjunction with the three poems from each of the poets, capture the body in trauma in its many and varied moods. Because those who live with chronic illness and pain experience shifts in their relationship to it on a yearly, monthly or daily basis, so do the words they use to describe it. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
652337	Shatter City Westerfeld, Scott	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2019	9781760528256	Rafi's engagement party is the talk of the feeds. Her dress is spectacular and her fiance, Col Palafox, is charming. But Rafi and Col are both prisoners - with bomb collars around their necks. Surveillance dust records their every move, tracks every glance. And there will be deadly consequences if Rafi's father realises that it's Frey who stayed behind in Shreve, while Rafi escaped with the rebels. With help from the rebels, Frey and Col must try to reach the neighbouring city of Paz, where they hope to be safe. But Frey and Rafi's father has destructive plans even for the City of Peace. When the dust settles after the disaster he initiates, will Frey be able to find a way to survive? Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
751110	Shiny broken pieces Charaipotra, Sona & Clayton, Dhonielle	HarperCollins US	2020	9780008392819	June, Bette and Gigi have given their all to dance at New York's most elite ballet school. Now they are competing one final time for a spot at the prestigious American Ballet Company. With the stakes higher than ever, these girls have everything to lose... and even the nice girls are no longer playing nice. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
25680	Ship breaker Bacigalupi, Paolo	Little, Brown & Co	2011	9780316056212	In a post-apocalyptic world, Nailer scavenges for copper wire by crawling into the wrecks of ancient oil tankers that line the beaches of America's Gulf Coast. It's dirty, dangerous work. After a hurricane, Nailer finds the wreck of a clipper ship, filled with valuable goods that could make him rich. Amid the wreckage, a girl clings to life and Nailer is her only hope. He must make a choice. Includes violence. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
82334	Shooting the moon Jones, V M	HarperCollins NZ	2006	9781869506216	At fourteen, Pip's life is finally his own. His domineering dad is focusing on big brother, Nick, and Pip's climbing, his passion in life, is going one way up. Beneath the tranquil surface, however, currents are stirring. On the traditional McLeod first hunting trip, Pip faces a dramatic choice and discovers what it means to confront issues of life and death. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
34592	Sidekicks, The Kostakis, Will	Penguin Books Australia	2016	9780143309031	The swimmer, the rebel and the nerd. Ryan, Harley and Miles live different lives, have different interests and keep different secrets. All they have in common is their shared, best friend, Isaac. They were his sidekicks. But, now, Isaac has gone. A mature and challenging book. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
61223	Siggy and Amber MacLeod, Doug	Puffin Australia	2009	9780143304388	Siggy learns the pitfalls of alcohol abuse and not considering the consequences before embarking on what looks like a good idea at the time. Growing up in a sleepy coastal town full of characters, with the girl he loves only a long bike ride away, Siggy is on a quest for the perfect girlfriend. He also has to survive the cool kids at school and build family ties with a mum, an arty sister and a potential stepfather. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
903334	Silence that binds us, The Ho, Joanna	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.
4940	Silent invasion, The Bradley, James	Pan MacMillan	2017	9781743549896	It's 2027 and the human race is dying. Plants, animals and humans have been infected by spores from space and become part of a vast alien intelligence. When 16-year-old Callie discovers her little sister Gracie has been infected, she flees with Gracie to the Zone to avoid termination by the ruthless officers of Quarantine. What Callie finds in the Zone will alter her irrevocably, and send her on a journey to the stars and beyond. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
916567	Silver in the bone Bracken, Alexandra	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	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
942535	Sinister booksellers of Bath, The Nix, Garth	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2023	9781761180002	The discovery of a sorcerous map leads left-handed bookseller Merlin into great danger, requiring a desperate rescue attempt from his sister, the right handed bookseller Vivian, and art student Susan Arkshaw who is still struggling to deal with her own recently discovered magical heritage. The map takes the trio out of this world to a place maintained by deadly sorcery and guarded by monstrous living statues. To unravel the secrets of a murderous Ancient Sovereign, the booksellers must investigate centuries of disappearances and deaths.
751062	☉ Six angry girls Kisner, Adrienne	St Martin's	2020	9781250253422	Raina Petree is crushing her senior year, until her boyfriend dumps her, the drama club (basically) dumps her, the college of her dreams slips away, and her arch-nemesis triumphs. Things aren't much better for Millie Goodwin. Her father treats her like a servant, and the all-boy Mock Trial team votes her out, even after she spent the last three years helping to build its success. But then, an advice columnist unexpectedly helps Raina find new purpose in a pair of knitting needles and a politically active local yarn store. This leads to an unlikely meeting in the girls' bathroom, where Raina inspires Millie to start a rival team. The two join together and recruit four other angry girls to not only take on Mock Trial, but to smash the patriarchy in the process.
567309	☉ Six of crows Bardugo, Leigh	Hachette Children's Books	2015	9781780622286	Kaz, Inej, Jesper, Wylan, Mathias and Nina are an unlikely band of misfits who agree to take on a ridiculously impossible mission. Their journey is gripping and filled with unexpected twists and turns. Can they achieve the impossible? Will they make it out alive? Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
1151292	☉ Skin I'm in, The Tisdell, Steph	Pan MacMillan	2024	9781760984977	<p>A feisty, funny and poignant novel - about being 17; being Indigenous and navigating high school, cultural and personal expectations and responsibility.</p> <p>Layla is in her final year of school. It's the last year to make sure that the next major phase of her life begins correctly because she's got big plans.</p> <p>All Layla wants to do is fit in and be a normal teenager but when her troubled cousin Marley comes to stay, he unwittingly challenges everything she thought she was. Plus her best friend Amy has a new best friend, she's trying to work out what it means to be Indigenous, and she's falling in love.</p> <p>Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.</p>
47235	☉ Skinful of shadows, A Hardinge, Frances	Pan MacMillan	2017	9781509869305	<p>Makepeace Lightfoot lives during harsh times. During the English Civil War she has to travel to live with her paternal family after the death of her mother. Makepeace has inherited more than most from her father's family. She has to learn to defend herself from ghosts.</p> <p>The struggle to make a life for herself in 17th century England with strict religious rules could be the hardest struggle of all. Usually read by students in Year 9, 10 and above.</p>
1356338	☉ Skipshock O'Donoghue, Caroline	Walker Books	2025	9781529520927	<p>Margo is on a train to a new boarding school when she slips into another dimension, passing from the height of Irish summer into the chill of an alien winter, from a 24-hour day to one that begins and ends in just six hours. From a stranger on the train - a travelling salesman by the name of Moon - she learns that New Davia is part of a world scarred by uprisings, travel bans and world sealings. Power is determined by time - who has it, who doesn't, and who has the freedom to travel between time zones. Can Margo find a way to get back home - or will she choose to stay in a world where her teenagehood is slipping away faster than ever before, but where she may have found the only person with whom she would choose to spend eternity?</p> <p>A dazzlingly inventive sci-fi fantasy romance.</p> <p>Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.</p>

PRC	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
ID 4802	☉Sky Sherman, Ondine	The Author People	2017	9781925399189	Friendship can be found in the unlikeliest of places. After her mother's death, Sky leaves her city life to move in with her aunt and uncle in a small Australian town. Life in a new place isn't easy, and Sky finds comfort in the friendship of a stray dog she meets along the way. But her new friends at school are another story, and as Sky struggles to fit in, she finds herself doing things that go against everything she believes in. When Sky stumbles on a case of animal cruelty, she is forced to question what's really important to her and who she wants to be. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
1211911	Sky is everywhere, The Nelson, Jandy	Walker Books	2024	9781529525618	After her older sister Bailey's sudden death, 17 year old Lennie finds herself all alone and adrift in her grief. Only Toby, Bailey's boyfriend, shares her grief and seems to understand how she is feeling. But then a new boy arrives in town. Joe is a musical genius and seems to glow with life. Each boy offers Lennie something she desperately needs, but if the two of them collide her whole world will explode. Usually read by students in years 9, 10, and above.
73761	☉Sky so heavy, The Zorn, Claire	University of Queensland Press	2013	9780702249761	It's not like any other day because on the other side of the world, nuclear missiles are detonated. When Fin wakes in his home in the Blue Mountains the next morning, it is dark, cold and snowing. There is no internet, no phone, no power and no parents. As the outage continues for days and then weeks, Fin and his brother struggle to survive and grow desperate. Contains mature themes and some language in context. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
17864	☉Sky village, The Ashland, Monk & Nigel & Nentrup, Jeff (ill)	Candlewick Press	2008	9780763635244	In a future where wild beasts, humans and mechanical beings battle for control, two children, Mei and Rom, on opposite sides of the earth, connect through a mysterious journal that comes alive to reveal a powerful primal force and a frightening destiny. Mei and Rom must work together to overcome evil. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
837330	☉Skyward Sanderson, Brandon	Orion	2018	9781473217850	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.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
687424	Slam your poetry Merrill, Miles & Nozica, Narcisa	NewSouth Publishing	2020	9781742236094	No props. No music. No costumes. Just you, your words and a mic- you've got two minutes to make the crowd scream your name. Miles Merrill, spoken word artist and founder of Australian Poetry Slam, and award-winning teacher Narcisa Nozica will take you from novice to spoken word superstar in no time. Twenty years after Merrill introduced poetry slams to Australia, there's a national competition with a live audience of 20,000 people! With tips from stars of the Australian poetry slam scene, including bestselling author Maxine Beneba Clarke, this book will inspire you to slam your own poetry, Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
18483	Small steps Sachar, Louis	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2006	9780747591252	Theodore 'Armpit' Johnson is determined to finish school, save money and become a respected member of society again. He may be the victim, the perpetrator or the hero of a violent crime in this amusing, sensitive and highly suspenseful story. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
1023593	Smoke & mirrors Jonsberg, Barry	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. LISTEN ON BOOK BITES! You can listen to Barry Jonsberg read the first chapter of this book on the PRC's Book bites podcast on Spotify, Apple Podcasts or The Arts Unit website! Copy and paste this URL into your browser to start listening! https://artsunit.nsw.edu.au/listen-the-arts-unit/literature-and-language-arts/book-bites/9plus-book-list#smoke-and-mirrors-barry-jonsberg

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
886442	☉ Snow laundry, The Jakobsen, Mette	Angus & Robertson (HarperCollins)	2022	9781460762080	The Administration has taken control of the country, and everything has changed for the city's homeless youth. Now they are forced to work in the Towers with no hope of escape. 17-year-old Ally works long, hard hours in the laundry and is resigned to her fate. She can even cope with the cruelty of the guards, because living in the Towers is still better than the tunnels where she used to live. But as lavish birthday preparations are in full swing for the Tower's charismatic overseer, Ally's boyfriend Bon, vanishes without a trace. In her desperate search to find him, Ally is caught up in a deadly plot by the Administration. And now she wasn't answers. What has happened to Bon? And why did he leave behind a drawing of a moth? Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.
	Snow like ashes trilogy series Raasch, Sara				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.
660611	☉ Snowflake, AZ Sedgwick, Marcus	Head of Zeus	2019	9781788542333	Arriving in unfamiliar territory, Ash finds his stepbrother Bly living with Mona, her dog, a goat and an isolated community who call themselves the Canaries. They've been abandoned by society through a sickness no one understands. When Ash falls ill too, the doctor's response is, "it's all in your mind". But Ash uncovers something much bigger: the sickness of the world. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
364	☉ So much to tell you Marsden, John	Thomas C Lothian Pty Ltd	1999	9780850919417	Marina's face is shockingly scarred. She has not spoken since her father threw acid at her mother, hitting Marina instead. As part of a writing assignment, she has to keep a journal. In it, she deals realistically with her post-traumatic stress. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
846149	Ⓞ Social queue Kerr, Kay	Text Publishing Co	2021	9781922458018	Zoe Kelly is starting a new phase of her life. High school was a mess of bullying and autistic masking that left her burnt out. Now, with an internship at an online media company, Zoe is taking her first steps on the road to her dream career. When her article about her non-existent love life goes viral, 18 year old Zoe is overwhelmed and more than a little surprised by the response. But with a deadline for her next piece looming and a list of romantic contenders from the past, she is hoping that one of those old sparks will turn into a new flame. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
368	Ⓞ Soldier's heart Paulsen, Gary	Laurel Leaf	2000	9780440228387	Charley Goddard goes to fight in the American Civil War. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
807158	Ⓞ Solitaire Oseman, Alice	HarperCollins Publishers Ltd, UK	2014	9780007559220	My name is Tori Spring. I like to sleep and I like to blog. Last year - before all that stuff with Charlie and before I had to face the harsh realities of A-Levels and university applications and the fact that one day I really will have to start talking to people - I had friends. Things were very different, I guess, but that's all over now. Now there's Solitaire. And Michael Holden. I don't know what Solitaire are trying to do, and I don't care about Michael Holden. I really don't. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 above. This novel depicts a number of mental health issues including depression, eating disorders and OCD. Please refer to the author's website for information about potentially triggering ideas and content.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
977799	Some shall break Marney, Ellie	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2023	9781761068010	<p>September, 1982: Three months after the showdown with Simon Gutmunsson in St Elizabeths Hospital for the Criminally Insane, Emma Lewis has retreated to college life in Ohio, and the support of her family and her therapist. But Emma has a unique gift for hunting killers, and the FBI wants her back.</p> <p>Travis Bell is on track to make a career in law enforcement. But the FBI unit's latest case is testing all his skills, and in Emma's absence, Travis has accepted help from Kristin Gutmunsson, Simon's eccentric twin sister, to track a dangerous new target.</p> <p>Compelled to prevent more tragedy, Emma reaches out once more to Simon Gutmunsson to save the copycat's next victims -- but as always, Simon knows more than he's telling...</p> <p>Can Emma and Travis conquer a killer in the most horrifying situation they've ever faced? Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.</p>
660663	Somebody give this heart a pen Thakur, Sophia	Walker Books	2020	9781406388534	<p>This collection of poetry begins with a gentle petition of the reader to fill their hearts with poetry; to look within themselves, take the time to be silent, and listen to what they hear. This message continues throughout the poems as Thakur candidly shares her experiences as a Black woman and daughter of migrants living in the United Kingdom. In the poems is a proud daughter, mother, poet, and believer. She shares poems exploring the profound connections between people, and also the ways people can be careless with each other.</p> <p>Usually read by students in Years 9, 10, or above.</p>
587873	Someday Levithan, David	Random House Australia Pty Ltd	2019	9780525636595	<p>For as long as A can remember, life has meant waking up in a different person's body every day, forced to live as that person until the day ended. A always thought there wasn't anyone else who had a life like this. But A was wrong. There are others. A has already been wrestling with powerful feelings of love and loneliness. Now comes an understanding of the extremes that love and loneliness can lead to -- and what it's like to discover that you are not alone in the world. In Someday, David Levithan takes readers further into the lives of A, Rhiannon, Nathan, and the person they may think they know as Reverend Poole, exploring more deeply the questions at the core of Every Day and Another Day: What is a soul? And what makes us human? Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.</p>

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
21355	☉ Somewhere else Glover, Sandra	Andersen Press Ltd	2008	9781842708156	A troubled girl struggles with a life she doesn't recognise. The boy who poses as her little brother tries to help her unravel the mystery of whether she is possessed, imprisoned or mentally ill. Slowly, the events that led to this terrible trauma, the result of a violent assault, are unravelled as aspects of the harrowing experience are explored. Some very strong language, used in context, may offend some readers. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
1209919	☉ Song of a blackbird Van Lieshout, Maria	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2025	9781761181795	Emma is a young student about to be drawn into what will become the biggest bank heist in European history: swapping 50 million guilders' worth of forged treasury bonds for real ones - right under the noses of the Nazis. Emma's life - and the lives of thousands, including a little girl named Hanna - hangs in the balance. Almost seventy years later, Annick discovers something surprising about her family. Her grandmother needs a bone marrow donor but none of her relatives is a match. In fact, they are not even related. Desperate to find a living blood relative, Annick dives into the past, aided by her grandmother's only childhood possession, five copper etchings, and the name of their maker: Emma Bergsma. In this stranger-than-fiction graphic novel, Maria van Lieshout weaves a tale about family, courage and the power of art. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.
1039	☉ Song of the slums Hartland, Richard	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2013	9781743310052	In the Birmingham slums. the outcast gangs are creating a new kind of music, with pounding rhythms and wild guitars. Seventeen year old Astor is trained in classical music but, when her life plummets from riches to rags, there is only one way to survive. Charismatic Verrol, once her servant, is now her partner in crime. He could be so much more, if only he'd reveal his past. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
1243803	Song to drown rivers, A Liang, Ann	Pan MacMillan	2024	9781761561290	A love story that transcends time and place. Xishi's beauty is seen as a blessing to the villagers of Yue - where the best fate for a girl is to marry well and support her family. When Xishi draws the attention of Fanli, the famous young military advisor, he presents her with a rare opportunity: to use her beauty as a weapon; one that could topple the rival neighbouring kingdom of Wu, improve the lives of her people, and avenge her sister's murder. All she has to do is infiltrate the enemy palace as a spy, seduce their immoral king, and weaken them from within.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
	Spark trilogy series Craw, Rachael				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.
23044	Special Blain, Georgia	Random House Australia Pty Ltd	2016	9780857988072	Fern Marlow is alone, datawiped and in hiding. Her mobie says she's Delia Greene, a refuse sorter. Every day, she queues to work, to earn enough to stay alive. She dreams of the past and the life she's meant to be living, for those wealthy enough or lucky enough to be genetically designed. Her rescuers said her former life was a lie. They said they'd come back for her but they haven't. Fern doesn't know who to trust or believe. To save herself, Fern must answer the one question she can't face. Usually read by Years 9, 10 or above.
4423	Spellslinger De Castell, Sebastien	Hot Key Books	2017	9781471406119	Raised in a magic family, in a magic community, The son of the most powerful wizard faces an unspeakable challenge. His magic is fading. Can the mysterious stranger in town help him, or is she a spy trying to bring down the entire city. Usually read by students in Year 9, 10 & above.
903360	Spice road Ibrahim, Maiya	Hodderscape	2024	9781399702034	The desert city of Qalia has shielded its existence - and the secrets of its magic misra tea - from outsiders for generations. But when her brother disappears into the Forbidden Wastes, soldier Imani joins the mission sent to find him before he can expose Qalia's magic, and face punishment for his crime. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.
12417	Spirit of Barrumbi, The Norrington, Leonie	Scholastic Australia	2003	9781862915527	A sequel to, The Barrumbi kids, in which a trip to Barrumbi changes everything. Dale is warned in a dream that his brother, Sean, is in danger. He doesn't know that what happens to Sean will have a devastating effect on the whole community. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.
9216	Spitting chips Murray, Peta	Currency Press	1995	9780868194066	Spud is angry since her mother died. She is befriended by an old woman who helps her with her grief. A family drama that deals with relationships, friendship and loneliness. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
903364	☉ Squire Shammas, Nadia & Alfageeh, Sara (ill)	HarperCollins Australia	2022	9780062945846	Aiza has always dreamt of becoming a Knight. It's the highest military honour in the once-great Bayt-Sajji Empire, and as a member of the subjugated Ornu people, Knighthood is her only path to full citizenship. Ravaged by famine and mounting tensions, Bayt-Sajji finds itself on the brink of war once again, so Aiza can finally enlist in the competitive Squire training program. It's not how she imagined it, though. Aiza must navigate new friendships, rivalries, and rigorous training under the unyielding General Hende, all while hiding her Ornu background. As the pressure mounts, Aiza realizes that the "greater good" that Bayt-Sajji's military promises might not include her, and that the recruits might be in greater danger than she ever imagined. In this breathtaking and timely story, Aiza will have to choose, once and for all: loyalty to her heart and heritage, or loyalty to the Empire. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
4205	☉ Stage Fright Cotterill, Jo	Bloomsbury	2017	9781472934130	Alice's parents are having problems and she has the lead in the school play. Can her friends help her to get over her stage fright? Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
753395	☉ Stalking Jack the Ripper Maniscalco, Kerri	Little Brown	2016	9780316273497	Seventeen-year-old Audrey Rose is like no other 'lady' of her time. Living in London during the 1880s, she would rather sneak out to her forbidden uncle's laboratory to study forensic medicine than drink tea and discuss what is considered more polite conversation with whoever her father believes she should be socialising with. When Jack the Ripper brutally strikes, Audrey Rose and her uncle are thrown into the case, but things just don't add up. Does she know the killer? Can Audrey Rose stop him, or will her meddling put her right in line to be the next victim? Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
903369	☉ Star Wars Ahsoka Johnston, E K	Hachette Australia	2022	9781484705667	Fans have long wondered what happened to Ahsoka after she left the Jedi Order near the end of the Clones Wars, and before she re-appeared as the mysterious Rebel operative Fulcrum in Rebels. Finally, her story will begin to be told. Following her experiences with the Jedi and the devastation of Order 66, Ahsoka is unsure she can be part of a larger whole ever again. But her desire to fight the evils of the Empire and protect those who need it will lead her right to Bail Organa, and the Rebel Alliance... Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
877870	Stardust thief, The Abdullah, Chelsea	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
971937	Stars and smoke Lu, Marie	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.
4679	Stars at Oktober Bend, The Millard, Glenda	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2016	9781743315897	Alice has been twelve for a long time. Ever since she was assaulted, something inside her is broken. She has acquired brain injury and her words are slow and slurred. Alice writes poems to express what she can't say and leaves them in unexpected places for others to read. Sixteen year old Manny, once a child soldier back in his country, appears to be adapting to his new life. He has a poem and knows it off by heart. Alice and Manny weren't meant to meet each other. Mature read. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
1011981	Starsight Sanderson, Brandon	Orion	2019	9781473217904	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. 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. 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. Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
616964	Stepsister Donnelly, Jennifer	Hot Key Books	2019	9781471407970	Cinderella is about a girl who was bullied; Stepsister is about the bully. We all root for the victims, we want to see them triumph. But what about the bullies? Is there hope for them? Can a mean girl change? Can she find her own happily ever after? Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
61774	Straight line to my heart, A Condon, Bill	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2011	9781742377308	School is over forever and Tiff is hoping her work experience will lead to a job. Driving lessons aren't going too well, Reggie is sick and her best friend has some big news. All of this at the same time as a boy is actually wanting to get to know the real Tiff. Some adult concepts. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
1209896	Such charming liars McManus, Karen M.	Penguin	2024	9780241676998	<p>For all of Kat's life, it's just been her and her mother, Jamie - except for the forty-eight hours when Jamie was married and Kat had a stepbrother, Liam. That all ended in an epic divorce, and Kat and Liam haven't spoken since.</p> <p>Now Jamie is a jewel thief trying to go straight, but she has one last job at billionaire Ross Sutherland's birthday party. And Kat has figured out a way to tag along. What Kat doesn't know, though, is that there are two surprise guests at the dazzling Sutherland compound that weekend. The last two people she wants to run into. Liam and his father - a serial scammer who has his sights set on Ross Sutherland's youngest daughter.</p> <p>Kat and Liam are on a collision course to disaster, and when a Sutherland dies, they realize they might actually be in the killer's crosshairs themselves. Somehow Kat and Liam are the new targets, and they can't trust anyone - except each other. Or can they?</p> <p>Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.</p>
1019738	Summer change Wray, Melissa	Rhiza Press	2023	9781761111211	<p>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.</p> <p>Usually read by students in years 9, 10 or above.</p>
3565	Sun is also a star, The Yoon, Nicola	Penguin Books Ltd, UK	2016	9780552574242	<p>Natasha: I'm a girl who believes in science and facts. Not fate. Not destiny. Daniel: I've always been the good son, the good student, living up to my parents' high expectations. Never the poet. Or the dreamer. The Universe: Every moment in our lives has brought us to this single moment. A million futures lie before us. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.</p>

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
1376138	☉ Sunny at the end of the world Bowe, Steph	Text Publishing Co	2025	9781922790767	In 2018, seventeen-year-old Sunny and Toby are on the run after zombies have destroyed most of the adults in their world. Cut to 2034 when Sunny is being held in an underground facility. What happened? Was it aliens, a conspiracy, a simulation, biological terrorism, a totalitarian takeover? And who can infiltrate the facility and release the surviving prisoners? Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.
1264381	Sunrise on the reaping Collins, Suzanne	Scholastic US	2025	9781761641176	As the day dawns on the fiftieth annual Hunger Games, fear grips the districts of Panem. This year, in honour of the Quarter Quell, twice as many tributes will be taken from their homes. Back in District 12, Haymitch Abernathy is trying not to think too hard about his chances. All he cares about is making it through the day and being with the girl he loves. When Haymitch's name is called, he can feel all his dreams break. He's torn from his family and his love, shuttled to the Capitol with the three other District 12 tributes: a young friend who's nearly a sister to him, a compulsive oddsmaker, and the most stuck-up girl in town. As the Games begin, Haymitch understands he's been set up to fail. But there's something in him that wants to fight... and have that fight reverberate far beyond the deadly arena.
14535	☉ Supernaturalist, The Colfer, Eoin	Penguin	2004	9780141380414	Cosmo is a fourteen year old boy of the third millennium living in an institute for parentally challenged boys. There are only three ways out and Cosmo is running out of time. But, rescue by a motley crew of kids presents new dangers. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.
31066	☉ Surf ache: how do you choose between the things you love Bobsien, Gerry	Walker Books	2009	9781921150920	That blonde boy can really surf. Ellie's move ends her relationship with Jamie and leads to a complete change in interests. She is redefining herself as a surfer with a new love interest. Her prowess as a beginner could be due to her dancing or the good genes she has inherited from her mum. Ella learns to cope with being the new kid, with the ex and the potential boyfriend meeting up, and with the adults in her life. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
125516	☉ Swallowing the sun Trueman, Terry	Hodder Children's Books (UK)	2003	9780340866412	Jose's life is turned upside down when a hurricane hits his tiny village in Honduras, causing mudslides which bury the town. He works against all odds to provide hope and leadership, and to help his family and neighbours survive. Some harrowing scenes. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
1424038	Swan's daughter, The Chokshi, Roshani	Hodder & Stoughton	2026	9781399717571	Prince Arris knows that marriage means murder. Thanks to a poorly worded wish to a sea witch, all one needs to rule the Isle of Malys is the heart and hand of the kingdom's heir. Historically, this has been construed quite literally. Thus, Arris expects that the day after his marriage and murder he will wake up as a sentient tree alongside the rest of his predecessors. His only chance at a long life is finding true and lasting love. When Arris's parents announce a tournament of brides to compete for his hand and heart, a slew of eligible, lovely and (possibly murderous) bachelorettes make their way to Rathe Castle. Amidst glittering balls in ozorald caves, strolls through menageries of daydream trees and pearl crocodiles, tea time on glass boats and kisses that leave his head spinning, Arris cannot tell who is here out of love for him...or lust for power. Until he meets Demelza. As a veritas swan, Demelza's song wrings out the truth. Forced into hiding, Demelza strikes a deal. Arris will provide her with safekeeping in exchange for her truth-telling song to sort through his potential brides. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.
7742	Swarm Westerfeld, Scott & Lanagan, Margo & Biancotti, Deborah	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2016	9781925267242	Two strangers with new powers take to the dance floor at the Zeroes' underground nightclub. The Zeroes pursue them, only to discover that they're fleeing an even more sinister power-wielder, Swarm. If they are to stay safe, the Zeroes must learn all they can about this dangerous new player. But, each of the Zeroes has their own issues to deal with. It's up to Flicker to pick up the reins and lead the Zeroes into a terrifying showdown. Sequel to Zeroes. Mature themes. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 or above.
6062	Sweet tea Ridden, Brian	Thomas C Lothian Pty Ltd	2002	9780734403681	Issues of racism, love and family grief will appeal to more mature readers. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
1209764	☉ Sweetness between us, The Winifred Searle, Sarah	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2024	9781761181245	<p>Perley has been diagnosed with diabetes and is trying to get his head around sugar levels and insulin shots. Amandine, part of a respected vampire family, has been turned much younger than she expected after a near-fatal car accident. Bonding over hospital trips and new diets, the two teens form a fast friendship. And Amandine's ability to taste blood sugar levels is a helpful perk for Perley that also provides her an ethical source of sustenance (essential for a vegan-turned-vampire).</p> <p>But as the year passes, Perley and Amandine begin to realise that their coping strategies - and their blood-sipping-turned-romance - may not be as healthy as they first thought. Will they be able to get their lives back to normal? And when so much has changed, what does 'normal' even mean?</p> <p>Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.</p>
751223	☉ Symphony for the City of the Dead Anderson, M T	Penguin USA	2017	9780763691004	<p>This is the thrilling true story of the life of Russian composer Dimitri Shostakovitch and the millions of Russians who lived during a time of great upheaval, horror and hardship at the hands of two of history's cruellest dictators; Stalin and Hitler. At a time of great despair, Shostakovitch' seventh symphony would become a symbol of great hope, and the story of how it comes to be shared with the world is nearly too incredible to be believed. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.</p>
903363	☉ Take a bow, Noah Mitchell Madden, Tobias	Penguin	2022	9780143777397	<p>Noah is in love with his online best friend. Which is a huge problem, for the following reasons-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. His crush has no idea. 2. Noah only knows him as his gaming avatar. 3. There's zero chance they'll ever meet in real life. <p>So, when Noah sees an opportunity to secretly meet his crush, he takes it. Even though he'll have to join the cast of a local production of Chicago with his self-obsessed mother. Even though he'll need to lie to his best (and only) friend. And even though he'll have to sing and dance in front of actual people.</p> <p>Because love is worth the risk. And, really, what could possibly go wrong?</p> <p>Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.</p>

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
1337907	Take a chance on me Eulberg, Elizabeth	Scholastic Australia	2025	9781546129271	<p>Evie is heartbroken and betrayed when a video of her confronting her cheating ex boyfriend goes viral, so what's a girl to do? Flee to London for the summer, of course! Evie loves everything about London, the double decker buses, afternoon tea, history around every corner. Everything, that is, but having to stay with the person who's hurt her most of all, her father. Desperate for a distraction from their contentious relationship, Evie spends her days wandering the historic streets where, as though fate is intervening, she keeps meeting a charming and beautiful British busker named Aiden. Evie doesn't want to open herself up again, but Aiden is funny, kind and he never treats Evie like she's too much. He may just be worth taking a chance on, if Evie can keep her past from getting in the way of her future.</p> <p>Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.</p>
4310	Take my word for it Marsden, John	Pan MacMillan	1993	9780732907655	<p>In a Year 9 boarding school dormitory, introspective Laura pours out her observations of friends, family, her frustrations and successes, her thoughts and feelings in her writing. She also befriends Marina who readers met in 'So much to tell you'. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.</p>
846125	Taking down Evelyn Tait Nwosu, Poppy	Wakefield Press	2020	9781743056974	<p>The door creaks open and standing in the entrance is my absolute worst nightmare. Perfect hair, perfect teeth, perfect brain. Perfect sneer. Evelyn Tait. Taking Down Evelyn Tait is a story about family, friends and embracing who you are. Even if that person is kind of weird. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.</p>
871657	Taking of Jake Livingstone, The Douglas, Ryan	Andersen Press Ltd	2022	9781839132506	<p>Sixteen-year-old Jake Livingston sees dead people. Jake can't decide what's worse: being a medium, forced to watch the dead play out their last living moments on a loop, or being at the mercy of racist teachers as one of the few Black students at St Clair Prep. Both are a living nightmare. And now life as a medium is getting worse, as a powerful, vengeful ghost targets Jake, High school has become a different kind of survival game - one Jake is not sure he can win. Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.</p>
113080	Tales from outer suburbia Tan, Shaun	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2008	9781741149173	<p>A beautifully illustrated and innovative book, full of fanciful whimsy that takes us to a place where we might think about ourselves and our society. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.</p>

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
401	⊙ Talking in whispers Watson, James	Penguin	1998	9780141300795	Set in Chile, this political thriller takes the reader on a physical and emotional journey into a military coup. A powerful and disturbing novel about one boy's attempt to reveal the abuse of power and torture used by the state. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
403	⊙ Tapestry Pallotta-Chiarolli, Maria	Random House Australia Pty Ltd	1999	9780091838720	This biography traces five generations of an Australian Italian family. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
404	⊙ Taronga Kelleher, Victor	Penguin	1988	9780140326314	Ben comes upon Taronga Zoo which seems unaffected by a nuclear holocaust, or is it? Ben and his Aboriginal friend, Ellie, are aware that decisions they make may have huge implications for the future. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
111111	⊙ Taste of cockroach, A Baillie, Allan	Penguin	2005	9780143003373	Well-written, easily read short stories for young adults using simple, effective language to tackle mature themes like war and relationships including racial prejudice. Contains language that may offend some readers. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
12376	⊙ Tempestuous voyage of Hopewell Shakespeare, The Masson, Sophie	Hodder Children's Books (Australia)	2003	9780340865811	Hopewell Shakespeare craves adventure and he joins the crew of a notorious buccaneer hunting for the Lost Island of the Lord of Alchemists where dreams come true. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
1209802	⊙ Tested Cummins, Pat	HarperCollins Australia	2024	9781460764916	Tested is an exploration of the remarkable place where challenge, crisis and opportunity meet, and how it's only in the moments when we are tested that we discover what we are made of. From a charity leader to Australia's first female prime minister, a Test cricket great to a ground-breaking scientist, an Indigenous leader to a bestselling author and podcaster, Pat interviews eleven extraordinary people whose stories of challenge, adversity, perseverance and resilience - navigating moments of crisis and doubt, seizing once-in-a-lifetime opportunities and giving back - have inspired him. Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.
4391	⊙ That dolphin thing Bone, Ian	Penguin	2001	9780141311265	Mac's mother is dying of cancer. Mac attempts to make friends and settle into school life. His promise to swim with his mother and the dolphins becomes an insurmountable nightmare. Help comes from an unexpected source. Some coarse language. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
1019861	That's not my name Lally, Megan	Sourcebooks Inc	2024	9781728270111	<p>A teen girl wakes up on the side of a road. She is battered and bruised, with no memory of who she is or how she got there. The police don't know where she came from until a frantic man arrives at the station. He says he is her father and he has her birth certificate and family photos to prove it. Her says her name is Mary....</p> <p>After a fight, Lola leaves her boyfriends car and storms off into the night. Drew never sees her again. The sheriff and Drew's friends are convinced that Drew murdered Lola, so he needs to find her. The longer Lola is missing, the more danger they are both in.</p> <p>Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.</p>
	The circle opens series Pierce, Tamora				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.
	The Hitler trilogy series French, Jackie				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.
	The Immortals quartet series Pierce, Tamora				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.
	The Leviathan trilogy series Westerfeld, Scott & Thompson, Keith (ill)				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.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
	The Montmaray Journals series Cooper, Michelle				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.
	The Tribe series Various				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.
17137	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Theodora's gift Dubosarsky, Ursula	Penguin	2005	9780670041169	When Theodora is fourteen, her father has a mysterious vision and leaves his family to live with his first wife. Theodora's grandfather is a Holocaust survivor. Complex themes, past and present tensions tell the story of a family falling apart. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.
1206459	<input checked="" type="radio"/> These infinite threads Mafi, Tahereh	electric monkey	2023	9780008529529	With the heat of a kiss, the walls between Alizeh, the long-lost heir to an ancient Jinn kingdom, and Kamran, the crown prince of the Arduanian empire, have crumbled. And so have both of their lives. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.
15203	<input checked="" type="radio"/> They came on Viking ships French, Jackie	HarperCollins Australia	2005	9780207200113	Hekja's simple but happy life changes dramatically when her village is raided by Vikings and she is captured. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.
35659	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Things I didn't say, The Fornasier, Kylie	Penguin Books Australia	2016	9780143573630	After losing her best friend, Piper Rhodes changes schools, determined that she and her final year will be different. Then, she meets West, the school captain and star soccer player. Despite Piper's fear of losing everything again, they fall in love, without Piper ever speaking one word to him. She suffers from anxiety, specifically Selective Mutism, an inability to speak to anyone outside her immediate family. A terrible accident forces Piper to confront some big decisions. A mature read, usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
3370	Things we promise, The Burke, J.C.	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2017	9781760290405	It's the early 1990s and all Gemma can think about is looking perfect for her first school formal. Gemma's brother Billy - New York's up and coming hair and make-up artist - has made her the ultimate promise: he's returning home especially to 'create magic' on her and two friends for their end-of-year formal. Gemma's best friend, Andrea, is convinced it'll be their moment to shine; Gemma hopes it's the night Ralph will finally notice her. But when Billy arrives home from New York, Gemma's life becomes complicated. Her family's been keeping secrets; friendships are forged and broken; and suddenly the length of her formal dress is the least of her worries. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
871536	This all come back now: an anthology of First Nations speculative fiction Saunders, Mykaela (ed)	University of Queensland Press	2022	9780702265662	The first-ever anthology of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander speculative fiction - written, curated, edited and designed by blackfellas, for blackfellas and about blackfellas. In these stories, this all come back: all those things that have been taken from us, that we collectively mourn the loss of, or attempt to recover and revive, as well as those that we thought we'd gotten rid of, that are always returning to haunt and hound us. Some writers summon ancestral spirits from the past, while others look straight down the barrel of potential futures, which always end up curving back around to hold us from behind. Dazzling, imaginative and unsettling, This All Come Back Now centres and celebrates communities and culture. It's a love letter to kin and country, to memory and future-thinking. Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.
409	This book is haunted McRobbie, David	Hodder Headline Australia Pty Ltd	1996	9781863307567	Stories of ghostly fiction. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
679616	This is how we change the ending Wakefield, Vikki	Text Publishing Co	2019	9781922268136	Sixteen-year-old Nate McKee is doing his best to be invisible. He's worried about a lot of things: how his dad treats Nance and his twin half-brothers; the hydro crop in his bedroom; his reckless friend, Merrick. Nate hangs out at the local youth centre and fills his notebooks with things he can't say. But when some of his pages are stolen, and his words are graffitied at the centre, Nate realises he has allies. He might be able to make a difference, change his life, and claim his future. Or can he? This is How We Change the Ending is raw and real, funny and heartbreaking - a story about what it takes to fight back when you're not a hero. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.

PRC	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
ID 3971	<input checked="" type="radio"/> This is my song Yaxley, Richard	Scholastic Australia	2017	9781760276140	Teenage musician Rafael is sent to a Nazi concentration camp in World War II, where he pushes music to the side in his effort to just survive. 30 years later in Canada, he has a small family, where his daughter Annie struggles to find her place in the countryside. Another 30 years later, in Australia, Joe is uncertain about himself, his future and whether music fits in with him. Includes mature themes. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
5425	<input checked="" type="radio"/> This mortal coil Suvada, Emily	Puffin Australia	2017	9780141379272	When a lone soldier, Cole, arrives with news of Lachlan Agatta's death, all hope seems lost for Catarina. Her father was the world's leading geneticist, and humanity's best hope of beating a devastating virus. Then, hidden beneath Cole's genehacked enhancements she finds a message of hope: Lachlan created a vaccine. Only she can find and decrypt it, if she can unravel the clues he left for her. The closer she gets, the more she finds herself at risk from Cartaxus, a shadowy organisation with a stranglehold on the world's genetic tech. But it's too late to turn back. There are three billion lives at stake, two people who can save them, and one final secret that Cat must unlock. A secret that will change everything. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
1394223	This season's draft Gent, Jason	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2025	9781761181696	<p>Summer. Winter. Autumn. Spring.</p> <p>As the year unfolds, AFL footy season starts and the dreams of six teenagers play out on and off the field.</p> <p>Elias. Team player. Running keeps him calm. Zac and Fletcher. Best mates. Top 5 Draft picks? Mason. Perfect practice with Dad makes perfect play. Dane. Great footballer. Terrible boyfriend. Beth. It's always been 'Dane and Beth'. What does 'just Beth' look like?</p> <p>Plans unravel and life bounces in unexpected directions. A brilliant YA novel about coming of age, and the love of the game with all its triumph, heartbreak and hope.</p> <p>Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.</p> <p>LISTEN ON BOOK BITES! You can listen to Jason Gent read the first chapter of this book on the PRC's Book bites podcast on Spotify, Apple Podcasts or The Arts Unit website!</p> <p>Copy and paste this URL into your browser to start listening! https://artsunit.nsw.edu.au/listen-the-arts-unit/literature-and-language-arts/book-bites/9plus-book-list#this-season-s-draft-jason-gent</p>
869572	<input checked="" type="radio"/> This winter Oseman, Alice	HarperCollins Publishers Ltd, UK	2020	9780008412937	<p>The festive season isn't always happy for Tori Spring and her brother Charlie. And this year's going to be harder than most.</p> <p>"I used to think that difficult was better than boring, but I know better now - I'm not going to think about the past few months, about Charlie and me, and all of the sad. I'm going to block it all out Just for today." "Happy Christmas, " I say."</p> <p>Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.</p>
956693	<input checked="" type="radio"/> This woven kingdom Mafi, Tahereh	electric monkey	2022	9780755500093	<p>To all the world, Alizeh is a disposable servant, not the long-lost heir to an ancient Jinn kingdom forced to hide in plain sight. The crown prince, Kamran, has heard the prophecies foretelling the death of his king. But he could never have imagined that the servant girl with the strange eyes, the girl he cant put out of his mind, would one day soon uproot his kingdom -- and the world.</p> <p>Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.</p>

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
1066671	☉ Those girls Rushby, Pamela	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.
569197	☉ Thousand perfect notes, A: when passion turns to obsession Drews, C G	Hachette Children's Books	2018	9781408349908	Beck, short for Beethoven, is the son of world famous ex-pianist Ida Magdalena Keverich. A stroke has left her without the ability to play, and so she places all her hopes, expectations, and efforts into turning her son into a musical prodigy. To Beck this has meant a life of emotional and physical neglect. He has no fitting clothes and struggles to find food to feed his younger sister. Beck's mother, the maestro, has a violent temper and Beck often comes to school with bruises and other signs of injury. In meeting August, a girl from his school, who is in many ways his exact opposite, Beck learns that life and music do not have to entail the suffering he is used to. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
8701	☉ Three summers Clarke, Judith	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2011	9781742378275	Follow the lives of two school friends who choose to follow different paths through life. The story begins in rural Australia in 1959 and moves into the past and the future. Ruth's undeclared love for an elusive and mysterious boy shapes her entire lifetime. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
803477	☉ Three things I know are true Culley, Betty	Harper	2021	9780062908032	Liv's older brother needs round-the-clock care after accidentally shooting himself. Liv knows Jonah is still inside his broken body, but she might just be the only person to see that. Jonah's injury changed a lot for their family. Everyone had to change bedrooms. Liv and Jonah's mum is suing Jonah's best friend Clay's parents. And Live hasn't spoken to Clay since the accident, even though he just lives across the street. Liv won't give up, though - not on Jonah, and not on Clay. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
15408	☉ Three wishes Ellis, Deborah	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2005	9781741146325	A disturbing but insightful collection of views from Israeli and Palestinian children, young adults who are surrounded by war. With honesty, they describe their life, families and feelings about the conflict and violence, and their hopes for the future. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
587824	Through the dark: A darkest minds collection Bracken, Alexandra	HarperCollins Publishers Ltd, UK	2018	9781460756447	A collection of three hauntingly beautiful novellas. In the most harrowing of times, it takes a ferocious strength not only to survive but to stand up for those who cannot fight their own battles. The characters in these stories face impossible missions, and the hardest of all may be protecting the last flicker of hope in a seemingly endless night. Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.
	Thursday Next series Fforde, Jasper				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.
14593	Tinder Gardner, Sally & Roberts, David (ill)	Orion	2014	9781780621494	Soldier Otto Hundebis defies Death but walks a dangerous path. A half beast half man gives him shoes and dice which lead him deep into a web of dark magic and mystery. He meets the beautiful Safire, pure of heart and spirit, the scheming Mistress Jabber and the terrifying Lady of the Nail. He learns the powers of the tinderbox and the wolves, whose master he becomes. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
751111	Tiny pretty things Charaipotra, Sona & Clayton, Dhonielle	HarperCollins US	2020	9780062342409	Gigi, Bette, and June, three top students at an exclusive Manhattan ballet school, have seen their fair share of drama. Free-spirited new girl Gigi just wants to dance but the very act might kill her. Privileged New Yorker Bette's desire to escape the shadow of her ballet-star sister brings out a dangerous edge in her. And perfectionist June needs to land a lead role this year or her controlling mother will put an end to her dancing dreams forever. When every dancer is both friend and foe, the girls will sacrifice, manipulate, and backstab to be the best of the best. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
119818	To kill a mockingbird Lee, Harper	Hachette Children's Books	1988	9780446310789	In the 1930s in Alabama, a black man is charged with the rape of a white girl. The explosion of racial hatred that follows is viewed through the young eyes of Scout and Jem Finch, whose father, Atticus, defends the man. The conscience of a town, steeped in prejudice, violence and hypocrisy, is pricked by Atticus' stamina as he struggles for justice. Some adult themes; usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
130803	☉ To the boy in Berlin Honey, Elizabeth & Brandt, Heike	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2007	9781741750041	Henni and Leo unravel a mystery around the holiday house Henni so enjoyed staying in at Cauldron Bay. Henni finds herself in great danger as she tries to discover what happened to the Schmidt family. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
29063	☉ Tobruk FitzSimons, Peter	HarperCollins Australia	2009	9780732289546	The inspiring story of the Australian soldiers who held Tobruk in the Second World War. Even tanks and bombers could not conquer the spirit of these diggers. An illustrated, accurate and human account of the war and the people involved. It gives a face and personality to both the famous and powerful, and the brave foot soldiers. Very strong language used in context. A mature read that is not for the faint-hearted. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
10901	☉ Toby alone de Fombelle, Timothee & Ardizzone, S (trans) & Place, F (ill)	Walker Books	2008	9781406313154	Toby Lolness may be only one and a half millimetres tall but he is involved in a huge and harrowing fight for his life and the safety of his family. A thrilling tale of state control, betrayal, cruelty, heroism, friendship and survival in a violent, miniature world that is not for the faint-hearted. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
44451	☉ Toby and the secrets of the tree de Fombelle, Timothee & Ardizzone, S (trans) & Place, F (ill)	Walker Books	2009	9781406310146	Toby's world is under greater threat than ever before. A giant crater has been dug right into the centre of the Tree, moss and lichen invade the branches, and one tyrant controls it all. Leo Blue, once Toby's best friend, now his worst enemy, is holding Elisha prisoner and mercilessly hunting the Grass People. But returning after several years among the Grass People, Toby will fight back. And this time, he's not alone. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
419	☉ Tomorrow, when the war began Marsden, John	Pan MacMillan	1999	9780330274869	The first book in the Tomorrow series. A group of teenagers return from a camping trip to find their town invaded and their parents imprisoned. They must mature quickly, deal with teenage angst and become combative to ensure their own survival. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
1271867	Tonight, I bleed Adams, Katharine J	Lothian Books	2025	9780734422729	Penny Albright has fought night after night to escape Malin's contract, but now her free will is at stake. As the Warden prepares to destroy magic at the Samhain ball, Penny's family is missing, her friends are captive, and only the chained Sorcerer on the library's ninth floor can help. One drop of blood could free him - or doom them all. Torn between her Resistance circle and the covens, Penny must risk love, loyalty, and her life in a rebellion where a single night could ignite a war or shatter her heart.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
110934	Top stories 1 Various	Harcourt Education Australia	2007	9781740818384	Sixteen short and very varied stories from modern fairy tales, comic essays and complex tales using poetic language. Mature themes and fantastic endings make for some great reads. Strong language used in context might offend some readers. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
902555	Tracks of the Missing Merrison, Carl & Hustler, Hakea	Magabala Books	2022	9781922613264	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. 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. 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. A journey that moves deep in to an ancient landscape uncovers secrets, and the past, which is never far away, continues to call them. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 or above.
570164	Trollhunters del Toro, Guillermo & Kraus, Daniel	Hot Key Books	2016	9781471405181	From the brilliantly bent imagination of Guillermo del Toro and Daniel Kraus comes a ripsnorter of an adventure. Jim Sturges is a typical teen, with an embarrassingly overprotective dad, a best mate called 'Tubby' and a huge crush on a girl who doesn't seem to know he exists. Until the day a 45 year old mystery resurfaces to threaten the lives of everyone in his apparently sleepy town. Children are going missing again, and it is up to Jim Jnr to team up with a band of unlikely heroes to battle the monsters of the night. Monsters with very dangerous appetites. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
423	True story of Lilli Stubeck, The Aldridge, James	Penguin	1989	9780140123289	The life of a Romani family living in squalor in an abandoned shack. Lilli is removed from her large family by a wealthy old woman who helps to civilise her. But, there's an ongoing battle seemingly for possession of Lilli's very soul. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
424	True story of Spit MacPhee, The Aldridge, James	Penguin	1988	9780140105902	Spit, the barefoot grandson of old Fyfe, has other ideas for his future after his grandfather dies and the town wants Spit to go into an orphanage. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
6076	Truth about Peacock Blue, The Hawke, Rosanne	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2015	9781743319949	When Aster's brother dies, everything changes. Instead of marriage, she is sent to the high school in her brother's place. Aster is excited but, as a Christian, she is unprepared for the difficulties of attending a Muslim school in Pakistan. When Aster is accused of blasphemy, she is taken to jail. A social justice lawyer defends her and Aster's cousin starts an online campaign to free her. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.
12998	Turtles all the way down Green, John	Penguin	2018	9780141346045	Living with anxiety and OCD is enough but when Daisy, her Best and Most Fearless Friend, brings her on a mission to find a fugitive billionaire things are about to get even more complicated. To find Russell Pickett, Aza must enter the world of his geeky, but maybe kind-of-cute son, Davis. But the chances of a first kiss, and maybe even a first love, could send Aza into a spiral of anxiety... A perfect coming-of-age novel filled with love, mystery and Star Wars fan-fiction. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
1103079	Twelfth Knight Follmuth, Alexene Farol	Pan MacMillan	2024	9781250884893	Jack Orsino is Mr Popular at his Highschool and only got Student Body President because he's a sport hero. Viola Reyes is the one who does all the work and has a lot to be annoyed about. Vi escapes by playing Twelfth Knight - an online role playing game where she can hide her true identity and excel on her own terms. But when Jacks sporting career is collapsing Twelfth Knight will unite these warring teens, and Vi will be forced to decide who she wants to be and who she can trust. Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.
3762	Twelve days of Dash & Lily, The Cohn, Rachel & Levithan, David	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2016	9781760293826	Lily's family life is in turmoil. Her uncertainty regarding her developing relationship with Dash, concerns about her infirm grandfather, her brother's homosexuality and a possible move away from New York all combine, causing Lily to give up on Christmas, usually her favourite time of year. No matter how hard Dash tries their relationship seems to be disintegrating. With a crisis of confidence Lily sees only one course of action left to her. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
120058	Twelve rounds to glory: the story of Muhammad Ali Smith, Charles R Jnr & Collier, Bryan (ill)	Candlewick Press	2007	9780763616922	The story of Muhammad Ali, formerly Cassius Clay, a legendary hero who was an American prize-winning boxer and heavyweight champion of the world. This rap version of Ali's life includes his religion, his marriages and graphic descriptions of his brutal fights with examples of his provoking and inflammatory language. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
	Twilight saga series Meyer, Stephenie				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.
1209792	Two can keep a secret McManus, Karen M.	Penguin Books Ltd, UK	2019	9780141375656	Echo Ridge, a town near the Canadian border is not safe for teenage girls. In 1996, high school senior Sarah Corcoran vanished while walking home from the library. Then five years ago, homecoming queen Lacey Kilduff was found dead in the aptly named Murderland Halloween Park. Now the killer claims to be back. Echo Ridge is not a good place to be popular. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
588180	Two dark reigns Blake, Kendare	Pan MacMillan	2018	9781509876495	Queen Katharine has waited her entire life to wear the crown. But now that she finally has it, the murmurs of dissent grow louder by the day. There's also the alarming issue of whether or not her sisters are actually dead - or if they're waiting in the wings to usurp the throne. Mirabella and Arsinoe are alive, but in hiding on the mainland and dealing with a nightmare of their own: being visited repeatedly by a specter they think might be the fabled Blue Queen. Jules, too, is in a strange place - in disguise. And her only confidants, a war-gifted girl named Emilia and her oracle friend Mathilde, are urging her to take on a role she can't imagine filling: a legion-cursed queen who will lead a rebel army to Katharine's doorstep. This is an uprising that the mysterious Blue Queen may have more to do with than anyone could have guessed - or expected. Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.
431	Twopence to cross the Mersey Forrester, Helen	HarperCollins Publishers Ltd, UK	1989	9780006361688	A young girl tells the story of her family during the Great Depression in Northern England. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
	Uglies series Westerfeld, Scott				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.
580830	Ugly: my memoir Hoge, Robert	Hachette Children's Books	2015	9780733633942	Robert Hoge was born with a giant tumor on his forehead, severely distorted facial features, and legs that were twisted and useless. His mother was so horrified she initially refused to look at her son, let alone bring him home. But home he went, to a life that was, against all odds, filled with joy, optimism, and general boyhood naughtiness. Ugly is Robert's account of his life, from his birth to the arrival of his own daughter. It's a story of an extraordinary person living an ordinary life, which given the incredible hardships he had to overcome, is possibly his greatest achievement of all. Usually read by students in year 9, 10 and above.
28907	Undercurrent, The Weston, Paula	Text Publishing Co	2017	9781925498233	Eighteen-year-old Julianne De Marchi is different. As in - she has an electrical undercurrent beneath her skin that stings and surges like a live wire. She can use it-to spark a fire, maybe even end a life - but she doesn't understand what it is. And she can barely control it, especially when she's anxious. Ryan Walsh was on track for a stellar football career when his knee blew out. Now he's a soldier - part of an experimental privatised military unit that has identified Jules De Marchi as a threat. Is it because of the weird undercurrent she's tried so hard to hide? Or because of her mother Angie's history as an activist against bio-engineering and big business? It's no coincidence that Ryan and Jules are in the same place at the same time - he's under orders to follow her, after all. But then an explosive attack on a city building by an unknown enemy throws them together in the most violent and unexpected way. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
825615	Underground: Marsupial outlaws and other rebels of Australia's war in Vietnam Burton, Miranda	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2021	9781760631475	<p>It's 1965, and an old Tattersalls barrel starts rolling marbles to randomly conscript young Australian men to fight in the war in Vietnam. Melbourne housewife Jean McLean is outraged, as are her artist friends Clif and Marlene Pugh, who live in the country with their wombat, Hooper.</p> <p>Determined to wreck the system, Jean forms the Save Our Sons movement's Victorian branch, and she and her supporters take to the streets to protest. Meanwhile, in the small country town of Katunga, Bill Cantwell joins the Australian Army, and in Saigon, young Mai Ho is writing letters to South Vietnamese soldiers from her school desk. And when Hooper's call-up papers arrive, he mysteriously goes underground...</p> <p>Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.</p>
587814	Undying Kaufman, Amie & Spooner, Meagan	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2018	9781760292164	<p>Mia and Jules are desperate to warn their home planet about the impending invasion from the Undying. They escape the Undying's ancient spacecraft, crash land back on Earth managing to avoid being killed, only to find that no one will believe them about the alien threat in orbit. When they realise that no one is going to take them seriously, they must take things into their own hands. All they need to do is escape the powerful International Alliance, avoid being killed by aliens, prevent a horrific plague, while racing across Europe to save the people they love...no pressure. Mature themes, Usually read by students in Year 9, 10 and above.</p>
8935	Unearthed Kaufman, Amie & Spooner, Meagan	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2017	9781760292157	<p>When Earth intercepts a message from a long-extinct alien race, it seems like the solution the planet has been waiting for. For Jules Addison the discovery of an alien culture offers unprecedented opportunity for study... as long as scavengers like Amelia Radcliffe don't loot everything first. Mia and Jules' different reasons for smuggling themselves onto Gaia put them immediately at odds, but after escaping a dangerous confrontation with other scavengers, they form a fragile alliance.</p> <p>In order to penetrate the Undying temple and reach the tech and information hidden within, the two must decode the ancient race's secrets and survive their traps. But the more they learn about the Undying, the more their presence in the temple seems to be part of a grand design that could spell the end of the human race...Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.</p>

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
1082880	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Unexpected mess of it all, The Tozer, Gabrielle	HarperCollins Australia	2024	9781460761441	<p>Jamila Dakhoul wants to escape her life. Forget everything. Forget that her only friends are strangers on the internet. Forget that she's stuck in a caravan after a fire destroyed her family's house. Forget that Year 12 is a brutal hellhole where bullying is an Olympic sport. Forget Billy Radcliffe once and for all.</p> <p>But as Jamila tries to untangle the messy threads of her life on a weekend away with her family, it becomes clear that she can't outrun her past, no matter how hard she tries ...</p> <p>Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.</p>
1211218	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Unhallowed Halls Wilkinson, Lili	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2025	9781760631673	<p>Page Whittaker has always been an outcast. She's too smart, too quiet, too weird. And after the deadly incident that destroyed her only friendship at her old school, she needs a fresh start. Agathion College is everything Page has ever wanted: a safe haven of wood-panelled halls and dusty books, on a remote Scottish moor. And for the first time in her life, she has a close group of friends. Cyrus, Ren, Gideon, Lacey and Oak help her feel at home at Agathion; the only problem is, they're all keeping secrets from her. Page doesn't know it yet, but her perfect new school has a crooked foundation, rooted in an ancient clandestine society with rumoured ties to demonic magic. Soon, Page will learn that not everyone at Agathion is who they say they are. Least of all, her friends. Agathion claims to teach its students history... but some histories are better left buried.</p> <p>Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.</p> <p>LISTEN ON BOOK BITES! You can listen to Lili Wilkinson read the first chapter of this book on the PRC's Book bites podcast on Spotify, Apple Podcasts or The Arts Unit website!</p> <p>Copy and paste this URL into your browser to start listening! https://artsunit.nsw.edu.au/listen-the-arts-unit/literature-and-language-arts/book-bites/9plus-book-list#unhallowed-halls-lili-wilkinson</p>

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
6158	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Universe is expanding and so am I, The Mackler, Carolyn	Bloomsbury	2018	9781408897041	Virginia has fallen out of love with her boyfriend, Froggy, and her brother has been arrested for a crime that the whole family thought was behind them. Virginia is struggling to cope with all this, but then she meets Sebastian. They decide not to talk about anything personal, just to hang out for the summer having fun. But soon they discover that they can't run from the truth forever. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
903245	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Unnecessary drama Kenwood, Nina	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.
12706	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Unspeakable Rushton, Abbie	Atom Publishing	2015	9780349002064	Fifteen year old Megan has not spoken aloud since the accidental death of her friend, Hana. There are things locked inside her head that she cannot, must not, let out. She is targeted by the school bullies but, when Jasmine arrives, Megan finds an unexpected ally. Megan and Jasmine's closeness brings unexpected feelings to the fore and relationships become tense. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
630513	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Unwholly Shusterman, Neal	Simon & Schuster	2013	9781442423671	Thanks to Connor, Lev, and Risa - and their high-profile revolt at Happy Jack Harvest Camp - people can no longer turn a blind eye to unwinding. Ridding society of troublesome teens while simultaneously providing much-needed organs for transplanting might be convenient, but its morality has finally been brought into question. However, unwinding has become big business, and there are powerful political and corporate interests that want to see it not only continue, but also expand to the unwinding of prisoners and the impoverished. Cam is made entirely out of the parts of other unwinds; he is a teen who does not technically exist. A futuristic Frankenstein, Cam struggles to find identity and meaning and wonders if a rewind being can have a soul. And when the actions of a sadistic bounty hunter cause Cam's fate to become inextricably bound with the fates of Connor, Risa, and Lev, he will have to question humanity itself. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
602709	Unwind Shusterman, Neal	Simon & Schuster	2012	9780857079978	Connor, Risa and Lev are running for their lives. Unwinding: the process by which a child is both terminated and yet kept alive. Unwinding is now a common, and accepted, practice in society. Connor's parents want to be rid of him because he's a troublemaker. Risa has no parents and is being unwound to cut orphanage costs. Lev's unwinding has been planned since his birth as part of his family's strict religion. Brought together by chance, and kept together by desperation, these unlikely companions make a harrowing cross-country journey, knowing their lives hang in the balance. If they can survive until their 18th birthday, they can't be harmed - but when every piece of them, from their hands to their hearts, is wanted by a world gone mad, eighteen seems far, far away. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
43366	Vanishing moment, The Wild, Margaret	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2013	9781743315903	Arrow is haunted by a childhood tragedy. Marika is caught in a nightmare from which there is no escape. They are both looking for answers and when they come across a magician, they are tempted by a possibility of a way out. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
7753	Velvet Hooper, Mary	Bloomsbury	2011	9780747599210	Velvet is an orphan who does scalding, back-breaking work in a Victorian steam laundry. She is desperate for a better life. When she is noticed by Madame Savoya, a famed medium, Velvet begins to work for her and is dazzled by the beautiful dresses and jewels. But, she soon realises that Madame is not all that she says she is, and Velvet's life is in danger. Some adult themes. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
1359327	Voice of the ocean Impicicche, Kelsey	Atom Publishing	2025	9780349125657	Voice of the Ocean follows a daring young siren who defies her people to save a human prince, unearthing ancient magic and igniting a dangerous romance amid treacherous waters. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.
6529	Voicing the dead Crew, Gary	Ford Street Publishing	2015	9781925272055	In 1833, Jack Ireland is Captain's cabin boy, aboard the Charles Eaton as it sails from England to Australia. On its return journey, passing through the Torres Strait, the ship is wrecked, forcing the crew and passengers to abandon ship on two hand-made rafts. The horrifying events that follow are well documented but the passage of time allows a less sinister explanation. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
774228	Waking Romeo Barker, Kathryn	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2021	9781760297152	It's the end of the world. Literally. Time travel is possible, but only forwards. And only a handful of families choose to remain in the 'now', living off the scraps that were left behind. Among these are eighteen-year-old Juliet and the love of her life, Romeo. But things are far from rosy for Jules. Romeo is in a coma and she's estranged from her friends and family, dealing with the very real fallout of their wild romance. Then a handsome time traveller, Ellis, arrives with an important mission that makes Jules question everything she knows about life and love. Can Jules wake Romeo and rewrite her future? Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
120056	Wall, The: Growing up behind the iron curtain Sis, Peter	Farrar, Straus and Giroux	2007	9780374347017	Through annotated illustrations, journals, maps and dreamscapes, Peter Sis shows what life was like for a child, on the Communist side of the Iron Curtain, who believed whatever he was told. As news filtered in from the West, Sis learned about rock'n'roll, blue jeans and read banned books. The Soviet invasion meant this freedom was short-lived but Sis's eyes had been opened. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
443	Wanamurraganya: the story of Jack McPhee Morgan, Sally	Fremantle Press	1990	9780949206992	The story of Jack McPee, an itinerant station and mine worker, from the Pilbara region of Australia. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
1424090	War of wyverns, A Williamson, S.F	Harper Fire	2026	9780008652364	Vivien Featherswallow has translated a secret language of dragons - sparking an all-out civil war, with dragons and humans fighting on both sides, in the process. And after defeating Prime Minister Wyvernfire and escaping Bletchley Park, Vivien has become the reluctant face of the rebellion - and been labelled the most wanted criminal in Britain. But what good is a rebel who must remain in hiding, powerless to help her friends? Unsure of her purpose, and torn with doubt about the life she thought she was meant to lead, Vivien travels to the remote Scottish Isles to find a mysterious, long-forgotten species of dragon - one which might hold the key to ending the war... forever. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
1285133	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Watch me Mafi, Tahereh	electric monkey	2025	9780008718145	James Anderson had a plan. Or half of one. He managed to do what his older brother, the famous Aaron Warner Anderson, never did: infiltrate Ark Island, the last refuge of The Reestablishment. No outsider has breached the stronghold of the authoritarian regime, but James is in. In a prison cell, sure, but as far as James is concerned, a win is a win. It's been ten years since the notorious duo Juliette Ferrars and Aaron Warner Anderson led a worldwide rebellion and established the New Republic of the West. But The Reestablishment is ready to make a devastating move, and they have the perfect assassin for the job. Rosabelle Wolff had a plan. She always has a plan. On Ark Island, where constant surveillance is packaged as security, even emotions must be experienced with caution. Her every movement is monitored and when she's given an order to kill, she never hesitates. Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.
1066631	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Way home, A Brewin, Emily	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 its 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.
660042	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Wayward son Rowell, Rainbow	Pan MacMillan	2019	9781509896899	The story is supposed to be over. Simon Snow did everything he was supposed to do. He beat the villain. He won the war. He even fell in love. Now comes the good part, right? Now comes the happily ever after... So why can't Simon Snow get off the couch? What he needs, according to his best friend, is a change of scenery. He just needs to see himself in a new light... That's how Simon and Penny and Baz end up in a vintage convertible, tearing across the American West. They find trouble, of course. (Dragons, vampires, skunk-headed things with shotguns.) And they get lost. They get so lost, they start to wonder whether they ever knew where they were headed in the first place... Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
773917	<input checked="" type="radio"/> We are displaced Yousafzai, Malala & Welch, Liz	Orion	2021	9781474610056	In this powerful and emotional book, Nobel Peace Prize winner and activist Malala Yousafzai shares various stories of displacement, including her own. Part memoir, part communal storytelling, the book introduces readers to some of the incredible girls Malala has met on her many journeys and lets each tell her story -- girls who have lost their community, relatives and often the only world they've ever known, but have not lost hope, with dreams for a better, safer world. Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.
889561	<input checked="" type="radio"/> We are not free Chee, Traci	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.
596239	<input checked="" type="radio"/> We are okay LaCour, Nina	University of Queensland Press	2019	9780702262562	After the death of her mother, Marin was shuffled between families before she eventually landed in the care of her grandfather. Marin is soon to graduate from high school and faces separation from her best friend, Mabel, and Mabel's loving family. There is something missing from Marin's life, and with further tragedy comes even more questions about her connections with others and where she belongs in the world. Marin must come to understand the loneliness she has been living with before she loses those few closest to her. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
46779	<input checked="" type="radio"/> We are the weather makers Flannery, Tim	Penguin Books Australia	2006	9781921145346	The Weather Makers has had a huge impact on our consciousness about climate change. It has changed minds and hearts. This book speaks to the school children who will inherit the new climate which their parents and grandparents have helped to create. Provides scientific examinations and some conclusions about climate change. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
916526	<input checked="" type="radio"/> We could be something Kostakis, Will	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2023	9781761180170	<p>Harvey's dads are splitting up. It's been on the cards for a while, but it's still sudden. Woken-by-his-father-to-catch-a-red-eye sudden. Now he's restarting his life in a new city, living above a cafe with the extended Greek family he barely knows. Sotiris is a rising star. At seventeen, he's already achieved his dream of publishing a novel. When his career falters, a cute, wise-cracking bookseller named Jem upends his world. Harvey and Sotiris's stories converge on the same street in Darlinghurst, in this novel about how our dreams shape us, and what they cost us.</p> <p>Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.</p> <p>LISTEN ON BOOK BITES! You can listen to Will Kostakis read the first chapter of this book on the PRC's Book bites podcast on Spotify, Apple Podcasts or The Arts Unit website!</p> <p>Copy and paste this URL into your browser to start listening! https://artsunit.nsw.edu.au/listen-the-arts-unit/literature-and-language-arts/book-bites/9plus-book-list#we-could-be-something-will-kostakis</p>
977794	<input checked="" type="radio"/> We didn't think it through Lonesborough, Gary	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2023	9781760526931	<p>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 while lads take every opportunity they can to bully him and his friends.</p> <p>One night, Jamie, Dally and Lenny decide to retaliate...but things don't go as planned and the consequences are devastating.</p> <p>Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.</p> <p>Can Jaime mend his relationships with himself, his friends, his family, and his future?</p>
1423972	<input type="radio"/> We fell apart Lockhart, E.	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2025	9781761182426	<p>A girl arrives at her long-lost artist father's isolated seaside compound to find him missing, a mansion in neglect, and three teenage boys whose dark secrets might hold the key to her own family saga.</p>
6147	<input checked="" type="radio"/> We were liars Lockhart, E	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2014	9781760111069	<p>There are four friends, it is summer, they are on a private island, they have the freedom to come and go as they please... throw in true love and terrible lies and it's hard to distinguish fact from fiction. The truth will leave you cold, and when people ask you about it, make sure you lie.</p> <p>Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above,</p>

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
1042725	<input checked="" type="radio"/> We who are forged in fire Murray, Kate	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	<input checked="" type="radio"/> We who hunt the hollow Murray, Kate	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>
660618	Welcome to Country schools edition Langton, Marcia	Hardie Grant Egmont	2019	9781741176667	<p>Written by one of Australia's most prominent Indigenous voices, Welcome to Country is essential reading for every young Australian. The chapters cover prehistory, post-colonial history, language, kinship, knowledge, art, performance, storytelling, native title, the Stolen Generations, making a rightful place for First Australians and looking to the future for Indigenous Australia. This book is for the new Australian generations and works towards rectifying the wrongs of this country's past. You will quickly appreciate how lucky we are to be the home of the world's oldest continuing civilisation -- which is both diverse and thriving in Australia today.</p>

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
4715	Wesley James ruined my life Honeybourn, Jennifer	Swoon Reads	2017	9781250139870	Sixteen-year-old Quinn Hardwick's having a rough summer. Her beloved grandmother has been put into a home, her dad's gambling addiction has flared back up and now her worst enemy is back in town: Wesley James, former childhood friend - until he ruined her life, that is. So when Wesley is hired to work with her at Tudor Tymes, a medieval England themed restaurant, the last thing Quinn's going to do is forgive and forget. She's determined to remove him from her life and even the score all at once - by getting him fired. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
1482198	What have they done to Liza McLean? Doak, Amy	Penguin	2026	9781761350641	Meg McLean is a scholarship student at the ultra-elite Douglas College. Meg's younger sister, Liza, is along for the ride, and everything Liza has done since they arrived at the school seems to be putting their chances of success at risk. Until one day, when Liza's behaviour is so at odds with her usual temperament that Meg knows something is very, very wrong. Benedict Hargreaves (the Fourth) is Douglas College's wealthiest student and perhaps the only one who isn't influenced by the school and its strict code of conduct. Is he brave enough to help Meg uncover what has happened to her sister? Or is he part of the elusive 'they' who seem to be controlling everything - and everyone? When more than one murder takes place, can Meg really trust anyone? Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
587842	What I like about me Guillaume, Jenna	Pan MacMillan	2019	9781760559120	You know those movies where teenagers have the summer of their lives? This summer is probably not going to be that. Here lies Maisie Martin, dead from embarrassment, aged sixteen. The last thing Maisie Martin thought she'd be doing this summer is entering a beauty pageant. Not when she's spent most of her life hiding her body from everyone. Not when her Dad is AWOL for Christmas and her best friend starts going out with the boy she's always loved. But Maisie's got something to prove. And she's not going to let anything or anyone- including herself- hold her back. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
567921	What I lost Ballard, Alexandra	St Martin's	2018	9781250158420	Elizabeth is sixteen and has struggled with her body image for as long as she can remember. She's pretty sure her mother needs help even more than she does. Elizabeth has not only lost 20kg, placing her at an unhealthy weight, she has also lost friends, a boyfriend and the trust of her parents. After a terrible, public incident, she is admitted to Wallingfield, a treatment centre for girls with eating disorders. While at Wallingfield she begins to receive mysterious packages and needs to find out if they're from an admirer or if they are something more sinister. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
660666	What makes us Mittlefehldt, Rafi	Candlewick Press	2019	9780763697501	Eran has grown up to be a passionate citizen, concerned with his community and the world. He can also be an angry young man, something he is sure he inherited from his stern and serious mother. A protest Eran organises takes an ugly turn and a viral video unlocks many secrets which Eran's mother has kept locked away. Eran is certain that his quick and fiery temperament come from his mother, but the truth forces Eran to see beyond what he has inherited and look to who he chooses to be. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10, or above.
1019739	What the river knows Ibanez, Isabel	Hodderscape	2023	9781399722186	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.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
4300	When Dimple met Rishi Menon, Sandhya	Hodder Children's Books (Australia)	2017	9781473667402	Meet Dimple. Her main aim in life is to escape her traditional parents, get to university and begin her plan for tech world domination. Meet Rishi. He's rich, good-looking and a hopeless romantic. His parents think Dimple is the perfect match for him, but she's got other plans...Dimple and Rishi may think they have each other figured out. But when opposites clash, love works even harder to prove itself in the most unexpected ways. As joyfully refreshing as Rainbow Rowell, Jenny Han and Nicola Yoon, When Dimple Met Rishi is a frothy, funny contemporary romance told from the dual perspectives of two Indian American protagonists. While Dimple is fighting her family traditions, Rishi couldn't be happier to follow in the footsteps of his parents - could sparks fly between this odd couple, or is this matchmaking attempt doomed to fail? Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
1340235	When I was the greatest Reynolds, Jason & Girmay, Akhran (ill)	Faber & Faber	2022	9780571369645	Ali lives in Bed-Stuy, a Brooklyn neighbourhood known for guns and drugs. But he and his sister Jazz, and their neighbours Needles and Noodles, stay out of trouble until they go to the wrong party. One gets badly hurt and another leaves with a target on his back. Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.
2345	When Michael met Mina Abdel-Fattah, Randa	Pan MacMillan	2016	9781743534977	When Michael meets Mina, they are at a rally for refugees, standing on opposite sides. Mina fled Afghanistan with her mother, via a refugee camp, a leaky boat and a detention centre. Michael's parents have founded a new political party called Aussie Values. They want to stop the boats. Mina wants to stop the hate. Michael and Mina will need to overcome their differences to find some common ground. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
621809	When the ground is hard Nunn, Malla	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2019	9781760524814	Adele loves being one of the popular girls at Keziah Christian Academy. She knows the upcoming semester at school will be great with her best friend Delia at her side. Then Delia dumps her for a new girl with more money, and Adele is forced to share a room with Lottie, the school pariah, who doesn't pray and defies teachers' orders. As they share a copy of Jane Eyre, Lottie's gruff exterior and honesty grow on Adele, and together they take on bullies and protect each other from the vindictive and prejudiced teachers. When a boy goes missing on campus, Adele and Lottie must work together to solve the mystery, in the process learning the true meaning of friendship. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
ID 4592	When the hipchicks went to war Rushby, Pamela	Lothian Books	2009	9780734410917	The sixties are in full swing and, for sixteen year old Kathy, it's all about miniskirts, the Beatles and her fab new boots. But, the world is rapidly changing, her brother is fighting in the Vietnam War and her best friend is protesting against it. When the chance comes to dance with an entertainment troop in Vietnam, Kathy slips on her boots and leaves her convent school. She soon finds the reality of war is no song and dance. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
9158	When the lyrebird calls Kane, Kim	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2016	9781741758528	When Madeleine is shipped off to stay with her eccentric grandmother for the holidays, she expects the usual: politics, early-morning yoga, extreme healthy food, and lots of hard work. Instead, Madeleine tumbles back in time to 1900, where the wealthy Williamson family takes her into their home, Lyrebird Muse. At a time when young girls have no power and no voice, set against a backdrop of the struggles for emancipation, federation and Aboriginal rights, Madeleine must find a way to fit in with the Williamson family's four sisters - beautiful, cold Bea; clever, awkward Gert; adventurous, rebellious Charlie; and darling baby Imo - as she searches desperately for a way home. Meanwhile, the Williamson girls' enchanting German cousin, Elfriede, arrives on the scene on a heavenly wave of smoke and cinnamon, and threatens to shatter everything... Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
1209720	When the world tips over Nelson, Jandy	Walker Books	2024	9781406363098	Meet the Fall family all living within short distances from each other, lives struggling with abandonment from father, yearning for love, betrayals and believing in magical circumstances that destiny unfolds for them. The Town, Paradise Springs in California amidst rich vineyards holds their histories to be discovered. The Accident, the histories, love stories and revelations are part of this family's world that tips over and for once it's joy and only joy that spills out.. Dizzy is 12 years old, Cassidy is struggling with her mum's desire for something lost, Miles is searching his feelings for Felix and Wynton needs them all. This is a family's love story. Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
774351	When we are invisible Zorn, Claire	University of Queensland Press	2021	9780702263132	Lucy, Fin and Max have survived the missile attacks which have devastated Australia and its population, now they are fleeing Sydney on the promise of safety in a compound with people who will shelter and protect them. Not long after their arrival they find their safety may come at a price they are not willing to pay...It soon becomes evident that missiles and starvation aren't the only threats to their survival. Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.
1075065	Where sleeping girls lie Abike-Iyimide, Faridah	Usborne Publishing Ltd	2024	9781250800848	Set in a prestigious boarding school, where Sade is the new girl, this novel is full of mystery. Sade's roommate goes missing on her first night at school, and Sade is the first suspect. She has to navigate judgement from the mean, popular cliques and uncover just who is committing crimes before someone else becomes a victim. Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.
1209768	Where the library hides Ibanez, Isabel	Hodder & Stoughton	2024	9781399722230	An impossible love. An enchanted legacy. A dangerous discovery. 1885 Egypt. Inez Olivera is still reeling from her cousin's murder and her mother's betrayal. So when Tio Ricardo issues an ultimatum about her inheritance, she's left with only one option to consider. Marriage to Whitford Hayes, her one time nemesis. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.
751043	Where we begin Nieman, Christie	Pan MacMillan	2020	9781743535660	Anna has high expectations for herself and her future. She is hardworking and focussed, but while she would like life outside of studying to stay in the shadows, her family's dark history summons her to the country and to the grandparents she has never met. Anna discovers secrets she never knew existed and answers to questions she never thought to ask. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
6698	White ship, The French, Jackie	HarperCollins Publishers Ltd, UK	2002	9780207197987	After the St Bartholomew Massacre in 16th-century France, a sea captain vows to sail until he finds a world without persecution. Centuries later, his ship is seen each sunset by a girl on an island, and is tugged off course by her cries of distress. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
12379	Who cares Bell, Krista	Thomas C Lothian Pty Ltd	2003	9780734404664	Toby and Rhys are forced to spend a week together in a holiday house by the sea. Surfing makes Rhys happy but Toby is not so keen. Both boys have a secret that they are unwilling to share. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
578984	Wild blue wonder Sorosiak, Carlie	Pan MacMillan	2018	9781509836055	For Quinn and her siblings, Fern and Reed, summer means working as counselors at their family's summer camp, The Hundred, a place known for its magical feel. But last summer was different. Last summer they all fell in love with the same boy, their best friend Dylan. But six months later and everything has changed. The summer camp is empty and covered in snow, and Quinn, Fern and Reed aren't speaking to each other anymore. Something happened that summer that tore them apart, and their memories won't let them forgive. Maybe the lake monster is not the only monster in camp. Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.
655997	Wilder girls Power, Rory	Pan MacMillan	2019	9781529021288	Raxter's School for Girls was meant to be the perfect place for young woman to receive an outstanding education. But when the Tox hits, leaving most of their teachers dead and their peers' bodies mutated, Raxter's becomes a living nightmare for Hetty, Reese and Byatt. Left to fend for themselves by the authorities, the surviving students of Raxters adhere to the strict quarantine designed to protect them from the wild and mutated beasts that roam the forest. When Byatt goes missing, Hetty is determined to do everything to bring her back - even if it means breaking quarantine and facing the horrors beyond Raxter's fence. Once outside though, she uncovers much more to the Tox and life at Raxter than she ever thought possible. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10, and above
947	Wildlife Wood, Fiona	Pan MacMillan	2013	9781742612317	Boarding in the wilderness, sixteen year old Sibylla expects the gruesome outdoor program but not friendship and love complications. New girl, Lou, who is grieving and fragile, must consider her self-imposed detachment as she becomes intrigued by an unfolding drama involving Sibylla. As Sibylla confronts a tangle of betrayal, she needs to renegotiate everything. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
6612	Will Grayson, Will Grayson Green, John & Levithan, David	Text Publishing Co	2010	9781921656231	Will Grayson meets Will Grayson. One cold night, in a most unlikely corner of Chicago, two strangers are about to cross paths. From that moment on, their world will collide and lives intertwine. It's not that far from Evanston to Naperville, but Chicago suburbanites Will Grayson and Will Grayson might as well live on different planets. When fate delivers them both to the same surprising crossroads, the Will Graysons find their lives overlapping and hurtling in new and unexpected directions. With a push from friends new and old - including the massive, and massively fabulous, Tiny Cooper, offensive lineman and musical theatre auteur extraordinaire - Will and Will begin building toward respective romantic turns-of-heart and the epic production of history's most awesome high school musical. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
	Wind on fire trilogy series Nicholson, William				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.
18651	Wings of Kitty St Clair, The Aldridge, James	Penguin	2006	9780143004929	The St Clairs are an adventurous flying family in Victoria post First World War and Kitty is inspired to fly just like her mother. After the tragic death of Kitty's mother, everyone rallies to help with her pain. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
4882	Winter Marsden, John	Pan MacMillan	2005	9780330421843	Winter is 16. She has just returned to her family home. She has not been here since she was four years old, when both of her parents died within six months of each other. Some of the locals are happy to see her. Others are not. Her decision to return, to restore her family home, and to settle down is met with some joy and some hostility. Getting to the bottom of why people feel the way they do will reveal things about her past she might wish she had never known. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
10467	Wish list, The Colfer, Eoin	Viking Children's	2003	9780670040582	Meg Finn is in a tough spot. In her last act on Earth, she committed a crime and died. With an even tally of good and evil deeds, Meg's spirit is stuck in limbo. For salvation, she must return to Earth and do more good deeds. Satan has other plans. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
903307	Wish me gone Blackmore, DJ	Rhiza Press	2022	9781761110726	When hatred opens the homestead gates and the enemy is so close to home, do you fear the fall, or find courage to fly? A heritage listed home in the Riverina is up for grabs and Isabella's Mum falls hopelessly in love. Yet it seems the new immigrant family who come to pick oranges at the orchard become a target for intolerance. But when Isabella's brother Abel takes leave from the Army barracks to disappear without a trace, the family's tree change plummets them into their worst fears. As the hours march irrevocably on, hope is the only weapon they possess, as each of them learn that a hero is made, not born. Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.
1359336	Witch's guide to love and poison, A Qureshi, Aamna	Hachette Australia	2025	9781444980882	Bisma knows three things to be true: the Enchanted Forest will always be her home, she would go to the ends of the Earth to protect her sisters, and Xander Chapman is the most irritating guy she's ever met. Since finding a home in the Enchanted Forest, Bisma - a garden witch with a penchant for potions - has always been protective of other runaways. So, if a drop of one of her poisons finds its way into the porridge of those who have hurt them . . . that's none of her business. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.
50793	With a sword in my hand van Rijckeghem, Jean-Claude & van Beirs, Pat	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2010	9781741758658	Marguerite's father is desperate for a son. Instead, he's stuck with a feisty, stubborn daughter who refuses to behave like a lady. Shaking off the strict expectations of court life, Marguerite roams free, learning to ride, to fence and to outwit the boys. But, the count of Flanders has plans for his wayward daughter. Some violence. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.
14731	Wolf by wolf Graudin, Ryan	Hachette Children's Books	2016	9781780622026	Experimented on during her time in a concentration camp, Yael has the unique ability to skin shift, to change her appearance at will. Now, ten years on since the Nazis won the war, Yael has just one mission, to kill Hitler. To get close to him, Yael must transform into Adele Wolfe, Germany's most famous female rider, and win the legendary Axis Tour, an epic, long distance motorcycle race from Berlin to Tokyo. Only the strongest and wildest riders survive. Includes violence. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
1019833	Wonder of little things, The: Young readers edition Copley, Vince & McInerney, Lea	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>
6180	Woo's wonderful world of maths Woo, Eddie	Pan MacMillan	2018	9781760554217	<p>Join Eddie Woo, award winning teacher and star of the Woo-tube channel) as he tells us how he came to love maths. Eddie mingles anecdotes with facts to bring the world of maths to life and make it fun, even for the most sceptical maths student. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.</p>
2847	Words in deep blue Crowley, Cath	Pan MacMillan	2016	9781742612386	<p>This is a love story. It is the story of Howling Books, where readers write letters to strangers, to lovers, to poets. It is the story of Henry Jones and Rachel Sweetie. They were best friends once, before Rachel moved to the sea. Now, she's back, working at the bookstore, grieving for her brother, Cal. She's looking for the future in the books people love and the words they leave behind. Mature themes. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.</p>
1209877	Worst perfect moment Plozza, Shivaun	Walker Books	2025	9781760659455	<p>The story of sixteen-year-old Tegan Masters, who finds herself in the afterlife at the Marybelle Motor Lodge in New Jersey, USA. In her memory this is where she experienced the worst weekend of her life. But in this version of heaven, each person lives in a replica of their happiest memory. Tegan has to work on why she this place is her happily ever after. Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.</p>

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
1285333	Wreck of seabirds, A Olson, Karleah	Fremantle Press	2024	9781760996505	<p>When Briony first meets Ren, he is standing in the freezing sea at the edge of their tiny town. Ren hasn't been home for a decade but has returned to be with his dying father. Briony won't leave, hoping that Sarah, her missing sister, will one day reappear. But Sarah and her friend Aria have been stranded on a desolate island far off the coast. The longer they're trapped there, the less alone they seem. How many secrets in this town have been swallowed by the brooding sea?</p> <p>Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.</p>
19020	Written portraits Forming circles	Green Olive Press	2013	9780987599810	<p>Written Portraits is a national writing competition that showcases young Australian writing, providing young writers with the opportunity to express inner feelings and emotions associated with being a teenager. The theme of this anthology is portrait at home. The short stories in this powerful anthology are all written by teenagers who are from a range of backgrounds. Each story expresses the sense of belonging or displacement to home, place or others. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.</p>
1088075	Wrong answers only Madden, Tobias	Penguin Books Australia	2024	9780143777403	<p>Marco's always done the right thing. But now it's time for wrong answers only.</p> <p>Marco should be at university, studying biomedicine. Instead, he's been sent to live on a cruise ship in the Mediterranean with his estranged uncle, all because of a 'blip' everyone else is convinced was a panic attack. (Which it most definitely was not.) And even though Marco's trip is supposed to provide answers - about himself, about his family - all he finds on board the Ocean Melody are more and more questions. But then his best friend CeCe proposes a new plan- for someone who has always done the right thing, in every possible way, it's time for Marco to get a few things wrong.</p> <p>And hooking up with a hot dancer from the ship is only the beginning.</p> <p>Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 and above.</p>

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
20627	Wuthering Heights Bronte, Emily	HarperCollins Publishers Ltd, UK	2009	9780007326747	As the snow begins to fall, a man is forced to take shelter at the dark, foreboding Wuthering Heights. This house is haunted by memories and the dangerous story of Cathy and Heathcliff, who fell violently in love but could not be together. Cruelly separated by social class, fate, the actions of others and their own bitterness, Cathy and Heathcliff are united in an all-consuming passion that lasts beyond death. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
7340	Yassmin's story Abdel-Magied, Yassmin	Random House Australia Pty Ltd	2016	9780857986153	At twenty-one, Yassmin worked on a remote Australian oil and gas rig. She was the only woman and certainly the only Sudanese born Muslim woman. When she was two, Yassmin moved to Brisbane and has been tackling barriers ever since. She founded Youth Without Borders, helping young people to work for positive change in their communities. This is the story of how she got there, where she's going and how she wants the world to change. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
2860	Yearbook Committee, The Ayoub, Sarah	HarperCollins Australia	2016	9780732296858	Final year and five lives. School captain, Ryan had it all until an accident snatches his dreams away. Newcomer Charlie is determined not to fit in. Nobody really notices Matty. But, at home, he holds everything together and has never felt so alone. The popular girl's best friend, Tammi, always bows to peer pressure. Gillian, the politician's daughter is learning the hard way that life in the spotlight comes at a very heavy price. Five unlikely teammates thrust together against their will. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
28126	Yellow Jacobson, Megan	Penguin Books Australia	2016	9780143573333	Kirra's so-called friends bully her, her mother has taken to alcohol ever since her dad left them for another woman and, now, a teenage ghost is speaking to her through a broken phone booth. Kirra and the ghost make a pact. She'll prove who murdered him almost twenty years ago if he makes her popular, gets her parents back together, and promises not to haunt her. But, things aren't so simple and Kirra realises that people can be haunted in more ways than one. Mature themes. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
1019844	<input checked="" type="radio"/> You could be so pretty Bourne, Holly	Usborne Publishing Ltd	2023	9781474966832	Joni and Belle live their lives at opposing positions in a rebuilt society which claims to be passed all troubles around gender disparity. While one is dedicated to being Pretty and is focused almost solely on receiving validation from social media, the other is proudly Objectionable, a woman who wears no Mask, dresses for comfort and practicality, and who has her eyes open to the dire problems with The Doctrine. This feminist dystopia examines the various ways society manipulates women and meddles with their ideas of worth and possibilities. Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.
1976	<input checked="" type="radio"/> You don't even know Lawson, Sue	Black Dog Books	2013	9781922179715	Alex Hudson is a good guy. He plays water polo, has a part-time job and does okay at school. Alex's life is made hell by his constantly baiting brother and awful father, with nobody to back him up, not even his own mother. Then the thing that anchors Alex is ripped away and his life seems pointless. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.
9636	<input checked="" type="radio"/> You I've never known, The Hopkins, Ellen	Simon & Schuster	2018	9781481442916	Ariel has only a few small memories of her mother, who ran away years ago. Now aged, 17, she has lived in more towns than she can remember as her dad moves her across the country with alarming frequency. Finally settled with two friends, Monica and Gabe, Ariel wants to stay in one place. She is struggling with her feelings towards both her friends and aims to work out who she really is. On the other side of the country, Maya keeps a diary about her life, having run away from her own abusive mother and into the arms of a much older man, she is pregnant and practically alone. When both these worlds meet, both Maya and Ariel try to make sense of their lives. Usually ready by students in Years 9, 10 & above.
587854	<input checked="" type="radio"/> You must be Layla Abdel-Magied, Yassmin	Penguin	2019	9780143788515	With her long skirt and headscarf Layla certainly stands out at her new high school. Everyone thinks they know her, just from a glance. But do they? And does Layla really know herself? Usually read by students in years 9, 10, and above
833179	<input checked="" type="radio"/> You'd be home now Glasgow, Kathleen	HarperCollins Australia	2021	9781460761557	Emmy is the good one. Not strong-willed like her sister or difficult like her brother, she takes up as little space as possible. While she's acting as her brother's guardian on his return from rehab, she's also expected to keep on top of her schoolwork and keep herself together after a terrible car accident in which she was badly injured. But Emmy has secrets, too. How long before it all falls apart? Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.

PRC ID	Title/Author	Publisher	Year	ISBN	Annotations
1209791	☉ You'll be the death of me McManus, Karen M.	Penguin Books Ltd, UK	2021	9780241473665	<p>Skipping school is fun - until someone gets murdered. Ivy, Mateo and Cal used to be close back in middle school. When Cal pulls into campus late for class and runs into Ivy and Mateo, the former friends decide to ditch school, just like old times. Whilst exploring downtown, the trio spot classmate Boney Mahoney acting suspiciously and follow him into an empty building, not expecting him to turn up dead and for them to be the main suspects.</p> <p>Usually read by students in years 9, 10 and above.</p>
4977	☉ Young Nick's head Hesse, Karen	Simon & Schuster	2001	9780689835087	<p>Young Nick faithfully records the ordinary human achievements that make extraordinary those of the company of the bark, 'Endeavour', on Captain Cook's first epic voyage. Usually read by students in Years 9, 10 or above.</p>
6831	☉ Zeroes Westerfeld, Scott & Lanagan, Margo & Biancotti, Deborah	Allen & Unwin Pty Ltd	2015	9781925266955	<p>Six teens have powers that set them apart. Ethan has a voice inside him that'll say what you want to hear, true or not. This is handy, except when the voice starts gabbing in the middle of a bank robbery. To help Sam, the group's leader pulls the scattered Zeroes back together. But, the rescue goes wrong and they must deal with dangerous criminals. In the chaos, they find Kelsie, who can take a crowd in the palm of her hand and tame it, or let it loose as she pleases. Mature themes. Usually read by Years 9, 10 or above.</p>
877874	☉ Zyla & Kai Forest, Kristina	Atom Publishing	2022	9780349003795	<p>While on a school trip to the Pocono Mountains, Zyla and Kai run away together, leaving their friends and family confused. As far as anyone knows, they've been broken up for months. And honestly? Their break-up hadn't surprised anyone. Zyla, a cynic about love, met Kai, a hopeless romantic, while working together at an amusement park the previous summer, and they couldn't have been more different. Alternating between the past and present, we see the love story unfold from Zyla and Kai's perspectives: how they first became the unlikeliest of friends over the summer, how they fell in love during the school year, and why they ultimately broke up. Or did they?</p> <p>Usually read by students in years 9, 10, or above.</p>