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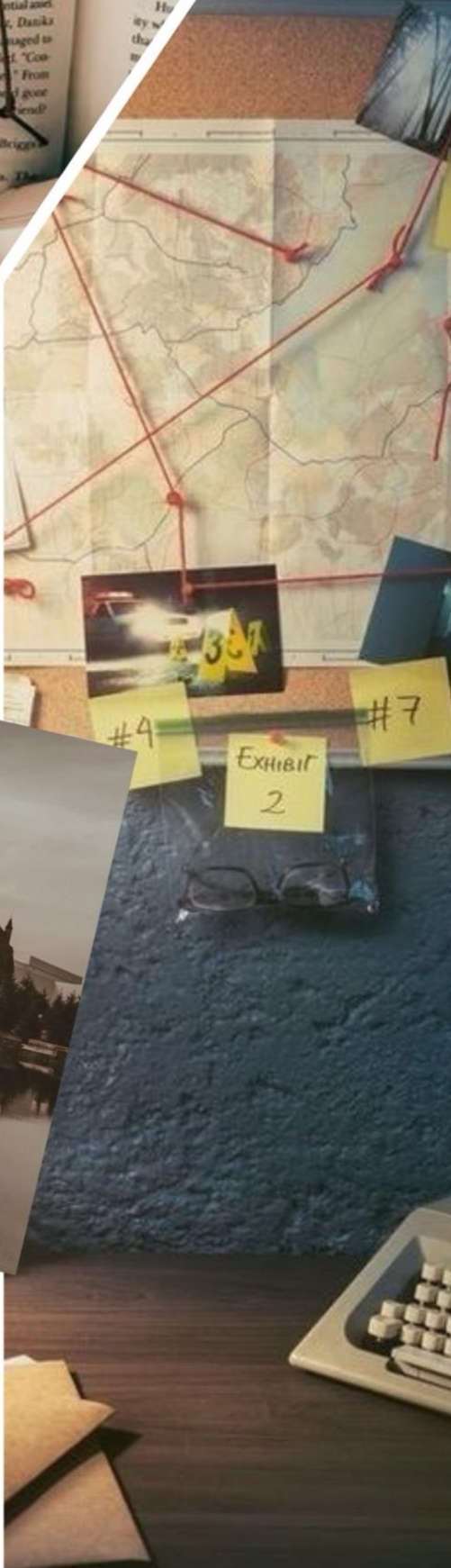
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# BOOKS



## The Hunger Games

By Suzanne Collins  
Published in 2008 – Pages: 454

**Sprachniveau:** ★ ★

**Sprechstil:** modern, American English

**Genre:** Science-Fiction; Action; Dystopian



### **Personal recommendation:**

*Honestly, normally I don't like reading books, but once when I was sick, I started reading The Hunger Games and couldn't stop. The book was so gripping and full of action that I was hooked from the first page. I didn't even notice that it was in English because I was so caught up in the story. In the book you get to know a lot more details you are not given in the film. So, if you like action and science fiction, you definitely have to read this book!*

- Helena La

### **Plot:**

In a future world called Panem, the country is divided into 12 districts and a Capitol. Every year, the Capitol holds the Hunger Games, a brutal competition where one boy and one girl from each district must fight to the death in a large arena.

The story is about Katniss Everdeen, a 16-year-old girl from District 12. When her younger sister, Prim, is chosen for the Games, Katniss volunteers to take her place, hoping to protect her. Alongside her is Peeta Mellark, the boy from her district.

In the arena, Katniss has to use her survival skills to outlast the other 22 tributes. As she faces dangers, both natural and from the other tributes, she also deals with the complex relationship between her and Peeta, who has secretly loved her for years. But only one can survive...

### **The Hate U Give:**

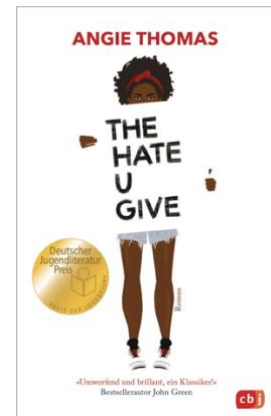
by Angie Thomas

Published in 2017 - 512 pages

**Sprachniveau:** ★ ★ ★

**Sprachstil:** modern, youth language, a tool for education,  
easy to read

**Genre:** young adult novel



### **Personal recommendation:**

„ You learn a lot about the lives of Black people in the USA and the story raises awareness“  
-Sara Maric

### **Plot:**

The Hate U Give by Angie Thomas follows Starr Carter, a 16-year-old African American girl who witnesses the fatal shooting of her childhood friend, Khalil, by a white police officer. After the incident, Starr is thrust into the spotlight, as the case becomes a national issue, sparking protests and media attention. As she navigates the pressure from both her community and her predominantly white private school, Starr struggles to find her voice and decide how to respond to the injustice. The media portrays Khalil as a drug dealer, further complicating the community's fight for justice. As tensions rise, Starr learns to confront her fears and speak out, both for Khalil and for the larger issues of police brutality and racial inequality.

The novel explores the complexities of identity, race, and the impact of systemic racism. Throughout her journey, Starr finds support from her family and friends, ultimately making a stand that brings her closer to her community and to herself.

The story challenges readers to think critically about justice, activism, and the power of speaking truth to power.

## The Fault in Our Stars

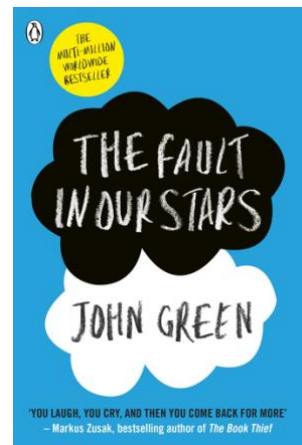
By John Green

Published in 2013 - 352 pages

Sprachniveau: ★ ★ ★

Sprachstil: easy to read, basic vocabulary, understandable, imaginable

Genre: young adult novel



## Personal recommendation:

“It’s a good book if you want to cry, a very emotional and touching story” – Sara Maric

## Plot:

The Fault in Our Stars by John Green follows Hazel Grace Lancaster, a 16-year-old girl with cancer, who meets Augustus Waters, a charming and witty boy in remission from osteosarcoma, at a support group for cancer patients. Despite her initial reluctance, Hazel and Augustus form a deep connection as they bond over their shared experiences of illness and their love of literature. Hazel introduces Augustus to her favorite book, *An Imperial Affliction*, and together they embark on a journey to meet the book's reclusive author in Amsterdam. However, their meeting with the author proves disappointing, and Hazel's health worsens, leading to a heartbreaking realization that life can't always be controlled or planned. As they face the realities of their illnesses, their love grows, and they find meaning in each other and in their short time together. The novel explores themes of love, mortality, and the search for meaning in the face of illness, ultimately highlighting the importance of living fully and authentically, even in the face of inevitable loss. The story ends with Augustus's death, but Hazel's love for him and the impact of their relationship remains central to her life.

**The Midnight Library:**

by Natt Haig

Published in 2023 - 320 pages

**Sprachniveau:** ★ ★ ★

**Sprachstil:** easy to read, simple, thought-provoking

**Genre:** Science-Fiction, Fantasy, Philosophical Fiction



**Personal recommendation:**

„ I totally recommend it. Especially for people who are interested in philosophy. I liked the end of the book and what the story wants to tell you” – Sara Maric

**Plot:**

The Midnight Library by Matt Haig tells the story of Nora Seed, a woman struggling with regret and depression after a series of life setbacks. After a suicide attempt, she finds herself in the Midnight Library, a mysterious space between life and death, where books represent different versions of her life—each one shaped by the choices she could have made. As she opens these books, Nora experiences alternate realities where she made different decisions, from pursuing a career in music to staying in a relationship or moving to a different city. Along the way, she discovers how her actions, both big and small, have shaped her life and the lives of others. Through these journeys, Nora learns to confront her regrets and realizes that life is full of possibilities, and that even the most painful experiences have value. Ultimately, she must decide whether to return to her original life or embrace a new path. The novel explores themes of regret, self-discovery, and the importance of mental health, offering a hopeful message about finding meaning and peace in life.

## One of the girls

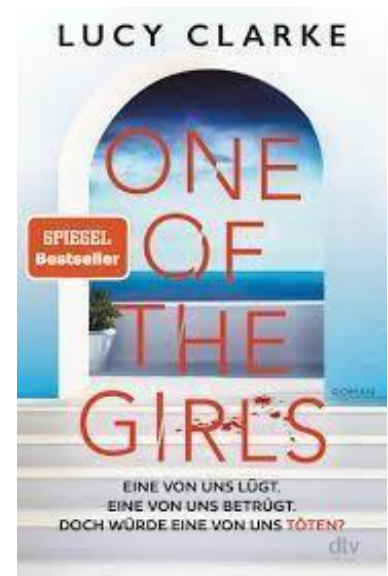
By Lucy Clarke

Published in - pages

**Sprachniveau:** ☆☆☆

**Sprachstil:** modern language, easy to understand

**Genre:** Thriller



### **Personal recommendation:**

*I loved the book because the ending was really surprising.*

- Jolina Schulz

### **Plot:**

It was supposed to be the perfect weekend away. Six very different women travel to a sun-soaked Greek island for a bachelorette trip, to celebrate Lexi's upcoming wedding. There are Bella: Lexi's childhood friend who is still wild, Fen: Bella's girlfriend, Robyn: Single mother and childhood friend to both Bella and Lexi, Ana: Lexi's newest friend from yoga class, and Eleanor: socially awkward, soon-to-be sister-in-law.

From the glorious ocean views to the quaint tavernas and whitewashed streets, the vacation seems too good to be true. But dangerous undercurrents run beneath the sunset swims and midnight cocktails – because each of the women is hiding a secret. Someone is determined to make sure that Lexi's marriage never happens – and that one of them doesn't leave the island alive.

Gripping, twisty, and full of sun-soaked suspense, this timely thriller examines the joys of female friendship...as well as the deadly consequences when a relationship goes wrong.

## iBoy

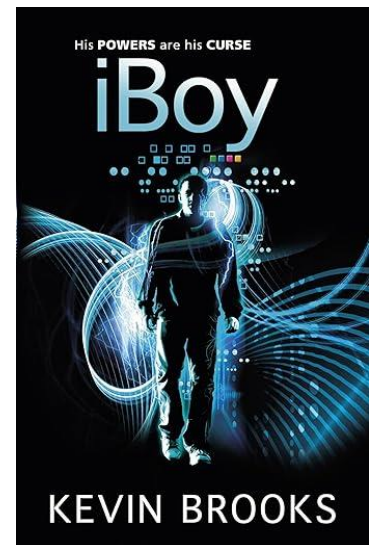
By Kevin Brooks

published in 2010 - pages: 284

**Sprachniveau:** ★★ ★

**Sprachstil:** modern language, standard vocabulary

**Genre:** fantasy, thriller



### **Personal recommendation:**

I loved how technology is mixed with fantasy.

- Leon Kressierer

### **Plot:**

Tom Harvey, a 16-year-old living in the crime-ridden London estate "Crow Town," is hit by an iPhone thrown from a high-rise. The phone's fragments embedded in his brain, granting him cyber-like powers to access the internet, track communications, and manipulate data— his abilities dependent on having a signal. After learning his best friend Lucy was raped by gang members, Tom uses his powers to protect her and seek revenge.

# The Perks of being a Wallflower

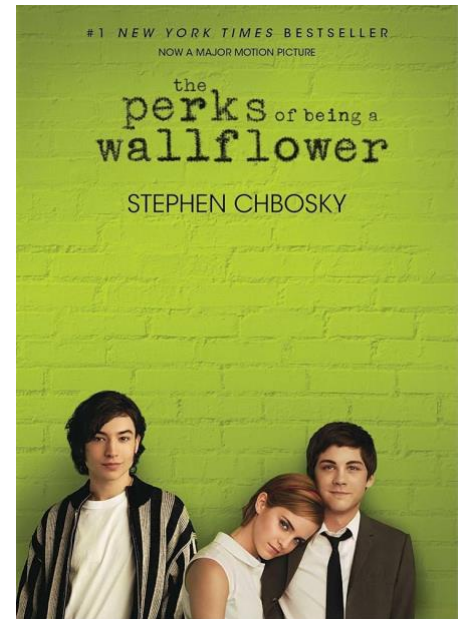
By Stephen Chbosky

Published in 1999 – pages: 213

**Sprachniveau:** ★ ★ ★

**Sprachstil:** modern language, standard vocabulary

**Genre:** Young Adult/Coming of age



## **Personal recommendation:**

*This is a wonderful story about living your life to the fullest and the importance of friendship. It opens your eyes and makes you appreciate what you have instead of taking it for granted. A must read for everyone.*

- Gabriela Crespo Kandilova

## **Plot:**

Charlie's not the biggest geek in high school, but he's by no means popular. Shy, introspective, intelligent, yet socially awkward, Charlie is a wallflower, standing on the threshold of life whilst watching everyone else live theirs. As Charlie tries to navigate his way through uncharted territory – the world of first dates and mix tapes, family dramas and new friends – he realises that he can't stay on the sidelines forever. There comes a time when you have to see what life looks like from the dance floor.

The story follows 15- year- old Charlie's journey through his first year of high school in the early 1990s while dealing with the suicide of his only middle-school friend, Michael. He becomes friends with Patrick and his stepsister Sam, who integrate him into their friend group and show him how great life can be. Throughout the book, Charlie begins to come out of his shell and starts participating more in events. The novel is structured as a series of letters that Charlie writes to an unnamed friend and these documents chronicle Charlie's trials, tribulations, and triumphs as he goes through his freshman year of high school.

# Alex Rider: Stormbreaker

By Anthony Horowitz

**Sprachniveau:** ★ ★ ★

**Sprachstil:** modern language, standard vocabulary

**Genre:** action, spy

**Personal recommendation:**

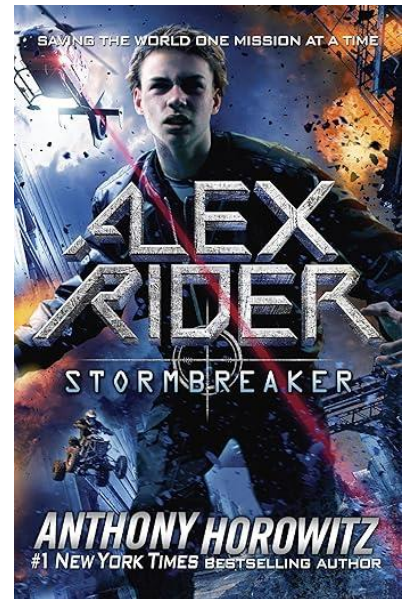
I love the fast-paced writing style.

- Leon Kressierer

**Plot:**

“Alex Rider: Stormbreaker” is the thrilling first book in the Alex Rider series. It follows Alex Rider, a 14-year-old boy whose life changes completely after his uncle, Ian Rider, dies under mysterious circumstances. Alex soon learns that his uncle was a spy for MI6 and was killed while investigating a powerful new computer called the Stormbreaker. MI6 recruits Alex to continue the mission, leveraging his unique skills and training from his uncle.

Thrown into a world of danger and espionage, Alex goes undercover to uncover the secrets of the Stormbreaker and its creator, Herod Sayle. Along the way, he faces life-threatening challenges, including deadly traps and armed enemies. Despite his age, Alex uses his intelligence, courage, and quick thinking to stop a plot that could harm millions. The book is packed with action, suspense, and twists, making it an exciting read for young and adult readers alike.



# Daisy Jones & the Six

By Taylor Jenkins Reid

Published in - pages

**Sprachniveau:** ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

**Sprachstil:** modern language

**Genre:** Drama

**Series:** On Amazon Prime



## **Personal recommendation:**

*I enjoyed getting to know the background information on the music industry.*

- Jolina Schulz

## **Plot:**

Daisy Jones & The Six is about a band formed in the 1970's. Daisy is a young beautiful teenager living with hippy parents who really don't care much about what she does. She comes and goes as she pleases, becomes a regular at nightclubs, and starts getting into the groupie scene of sex, drugs, and Rock n Roll. Everyone who meets her is stunned by her beauty and her carefree attitude. Daisy loves to write songs, and with a beautiful and unique voice, she wants to make her own music. She gets a record deal but unfortunately none of her songs are what the executives are looking for. Being strong-willed, Daisy refuses to do any work as she will not sing other people's music. The Six is a band on the rise, getting more and more recognition with each gig they get, and their lead singer Billy writes all their music. Daisy and The Six share the same manager, and when Billy writes a song that management thinks would be better for a female voice, he suggests Daisy. She is a great fit for the band, and her voice and presence will bring more people to their shows. After the first tour together, the band decides to make Daisy a permanent part of the band and rename themselves Daisy and The Six.

# A good girl's guide to murder:

By Holly Jackson

Published in 2019 – pages: 432

**Sprachniveau:** ★ ★ ★ ★

**Sprachstil:** modern language, British colloquial language, terms regarding police work

**Genre:** Young Adult Mystery Thriller



## **Personal recommendation:**

*This is a great book for all murder mystery fans. The plot twists are very unexpected, and the top suspects change almost every two chapters, making it impossible to guess who the culprit is. The author included Pip's "Production Log entries" in which you can see her notes and interviews she's had with people about the case, which makes it very interesting. The ending is not at all what I expected.*

- Gabriela Crespo Kandilova

## **Plot:**

Everyone in Fairview knows the story.

Pretty and popular high school senior Andie Bell was murdered by her boyfriend, Sal Singh, who then killed himself. It was all anyone could talk about. And five years later, Pip sees how the tragedy still haunts her town.

But she can't shake the feeling that there was more to what happened that day. She knew Sal when she was a child, and he was always so kind to her. How could he possibly have been a killer?

Now a senior herself, Pip decides to reexamine the closed case for her final project, at first just to cast doubt on the original investigation. But soon she discovers a trail of dark secrets that might actually prove Sal innocent . . . and the line between past and present begins to blur. Someone in Fairview doesn't want Pip digging around for answers, and now her own life might be in danger.

# Malibu Rising

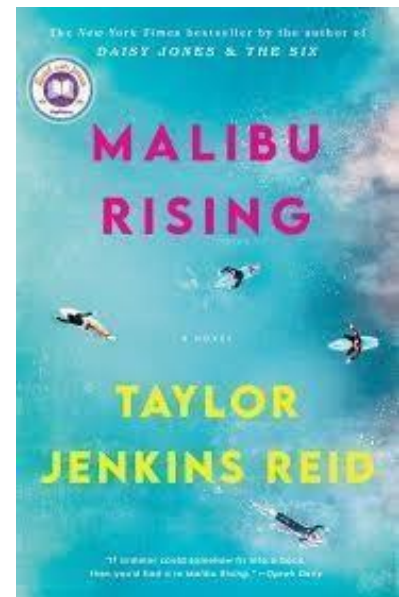
By Taylor Jenkins Reid

published in 2021 - pages: 432

**Sprachniveau:** ☆☆☆☆☆

**Sprachstil:** modern language, standard vocabulary

**Genre:** historical fiction



## **Personal recommendation:**

*I loved how the family relations are portrayed.*

- Jolina Schulz

## **Plot:**

Four famous siblings: Nina, the talented surfer and supermodel; brothers Jay and Hud, one a championship surfer, the other a renowned photographer; and their adored baby sister, Kit threw an epic party to celebrate the end of the summer. But over the course of twenty-four hours, their lives will change forever.

Malibu: August 1983.

By midnight the party will be completely out of control. By morning, the Riva mansion will have gone up in flames. But before that first spark in the early hours before dawn, the alcohol will flow, the music will play, and the loves and secrets that shaped this family's generations will all come bubbling to the surface.

Malibu Rising is a story about one unforgettable night in the life of a family: the night they each have to choose what they will keep from the people who made them . . . and what they will leave behind.

# Carrie Soto is back

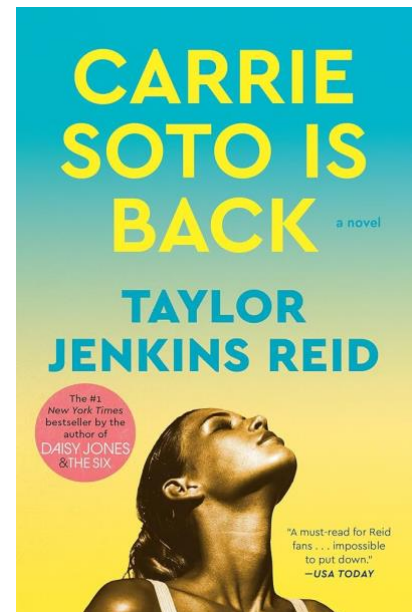
By Taylor Jenkins Reid

Published in 2022 – pages: 364

**Sprachniveau:** ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

**Sprachstil:** advanced vocabulary, technical terms related tennis, some Spanish and swear words, language

**Genre:** Historical fiction



## **Personal recommendation:**

*I absolutely love this book because it hooks you from the very first page. The writing is really good, and it feels like you are standing right next to Carrie during her matches. You see what the life of the best tennis player in the world is like and get to understand her motivation and why she plays so brutally, for which she is hated by the world. An absolute must read for tennis fans.*

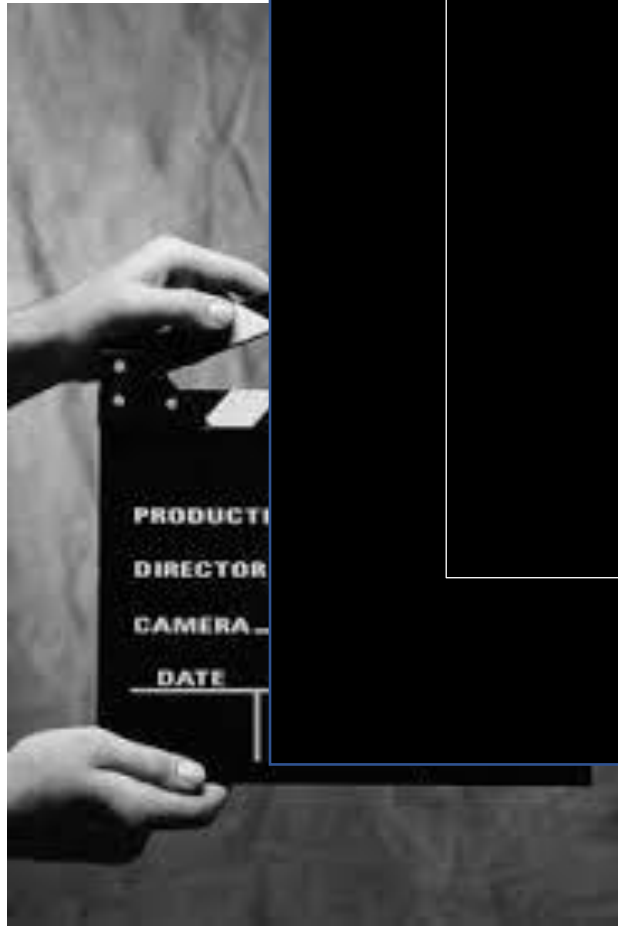
- Gabriela Crespo Kandilova

## **Plot:**

By the time Carrie retires from tennis, she is the best player the world has ever seen. She has shattered every record and claimed twenty Slam titles. And if you ask her, she is entitled to everyone. She sacrificed nearly everything to become the best, with her father as her coach. But six years after her retirement, Carrie finds herself sitting in the stands of the 1994 US Open, watching her record be taken from her by a brutal, stunning, British player named Nicki Chan.

At thirty-seven years old, Carrie makes the monumental decision to come out of retirement and be coached by her father for one last year in an attempt to reclaim her record. Even if the sports media says that they never liked the 'Battle-Axe' anyway. Even if her body doesn't move as fast as it did. And even if it means swallowing her pride to train with a man she once almost opened her heart to: Bowe Huntley. Like

her, he has something to prove before he gives up the game forever. In spite of it all:  
Carrie Soto is back, for one epic final season.



Films  
Films  
Films  
Films  
Films

# Kingsman: The secret service

By Matthew Vaughn  
Published in 2014



**Sprachstil:** modern, British English, formel

**Sprachniveau:** ☆☆☆

**Genre:** action, comedy

## **Personal recommendation:**

*Kingsman: The Secret Service is the perfect mix of awesome action scenes, a touch of humor, and that smart British style makes the movie really entertaining. If you're into clever spy stories with a modern twist, this one's definitely worth watching!*  
- Helena La

## **Actors:**

- Taron Egerton - Eggsy (Gary Unwin)
- Colin Firth - Harry Hart (Galahad)
- Samuel L. Jackson - Richmond Valentine
- Sophie Cookson - Roxy

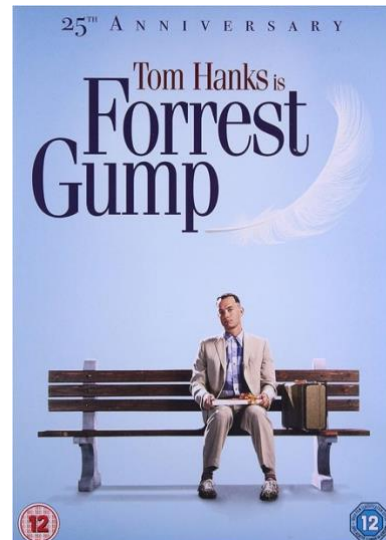
## **Plot:**

In Kingsman: The Secret Service, the young outsider Eggsy is chosen by a secret British spy organization, the "Kingsman." Along with other candidates, he has to stop the billionaire Richmond Valentine, who has a plan to reduce the world's population. Eggsy must prove himself to become a true agent and save the world.

**Streaming provider:** Disney+, Amazon prime

# Forrest Gump

By Robert Zemeckis  
Published in 1994



**Sprachstil:** American English, modern, formal

**Sprachniveau:** ☆☆☆

**Genre:** Historical drama, Romance, Comedy, Biography, Drama

## **Personal recommendation**

*I really recommend Forrest Gump. It's not just entertaining, but also teaches you important lessons about life. It shows that being kind and staying true to yourself matters more than being the smartest or richest. The film also teaches you about important historical events in a way that's easy to understand. It made me appreciate life more and the small moments that matter*

- Helena La

## **Actors:**

- Tom Hanks - Forrest Gump
- Robin Wright – Jenny Curran
- Gary Sinise – Lieutenant
- Dan Taylor Mykelti Williamson – Bubba Blue
- Sally Field – Mrs. Gump

## **Plot:**

Forrest Gump tells the story of a kind-hearted man with a low IQ who unexpectedly influences many major historical events in the U.S. during the 20th century. Through his simple, honest nature, Forrest becomes a war hero, a successful businessman, and an inspiration to many. The film follows his journey as he looks back on his life, from growing up in the South with his supportive mother to his deep love for Jenny, a woman he never stops caring for. Despite his challenges, Forrest proves that life's value lies in love, perseverance, and being true to oneself.

**Streaming providers:** Amazon Prime

# Pitch Perfect

By Jason More

Published in 2012

**Sprachniveau:** ☆ ☆ ☆

**Sprachstil:** American English, modern language,

**Genre:** comedy, romance

## **Actors:**

- Anna Kendrick - Beca Mitchell
- Rebel Wilson - Amy
- Brittany Snow - Chloe Beale
- Anna Camp - Aubrey Posen
- Skylar Astin - Jesse



## **Personal recommendation:**

*I enjoyed the music aspect of the movie a lot. The entertainment is perfectly combined with the importance of friendship and humorous scenes.*

- Jolina Schulz

## **Plot:**

Beca is new at college, but instead of looking for new contacts and parties, she goes her own way. By an unfortunate coincidence, she ends up with the Bellas, the A Capella singing group at her college. They're a diversely talented bunch but also very complicated. Surprisingly, Beca manages to turn the chaotic mix into a real group. Now they're trying their best to win at the International Championship of Collegiate A Cappella.

**Streaming Providers:** Amazon Prime & Netflix

# The Greatest Showman

By Michael Gracey

published in 2018

**Sprachniveau:** ★★ ★

**Sprachstil:** modern, British English

**Genre:** comedy, romantic, music, drama

**Personal recommendation:**

*"The Greatest Showman " is a really good film with cool songs. You can learn British english easily.*

*- Helena La*



**Actors:**

Hugh Jackman – P.T. Barnum

Zac Efron – Phillip Carlyle

Zendaya – Anne Wheeler

Michelle Williams – Charity Barnum

Rebecca Ferguson – Jenny Lind

Keala Settle – Lettie Lutz

**Plot:**

"The Greatest Showman" is about P.T. Barnum, a man who starts a circus with unique people. He becomes rich and famous but forgets what really matters. In the end, he learns that family and friends are more important than fame.

**Streaming Provider:** Disney+, Amazon prime

# Interstellar

By Jonathan Nolan and Christopher Nolan  
Published in 2014

**Sprachniveau:** ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

**Sprachstil:** modern, American English, advanced vocabulary,

**Genre:** Epic science fiction



## **Personal recommendation:**

*Interstellar* is an intriguing film, which reveals a personal drama of a man and shows what a single person is capable of doing in a dangerous situation. This film teaches to never give up and to always keep going, even through extreme difficulties. An interesting fact is that *Interstellar* was assisted by real scientist, that's why it looks very realistic

- Arina

## **Actors:**

- Matthew McConaughey
- Anne Hathaway
- Jessica Chastain
- Timothée Chalamet

## **Plot**

During a massive dust storm, Joseph Cooper and his daughter Murphy find an encoded message in a pattern of dust on Murphy's bedroom floor. Cooper deduces that it's caused by a gravitational anomaly and decodes the message to find coordinates to NASA's secret base.

Upon arriving at the base, they are apprehended by Dr. John Brand's team. Brand reveals NASA's plan to save humanity from famine caused by climate change by leaving Earth to find a new home. Additionally, Brand explains they plan to use a wormhole (theorized to have been created by more advanced, intelligent beings) to explore a distant star system of planets orbiting a massive black hole. Since Cooper is a former pilot, Brand invites him to pilot the spacecraft that they will use to travel through this wormhole.

**Streaming Provider:** Netflix, Apple TV, Amazon Prime

# Suicide Squad

By David Ayer

Published in 2016

**Sprachstil:** modern, American English

**Sprachniveau:** ★ ★ ★

**Genre:** action

**Personal recommendation:**

If you want something fun and loud, Suicide Squad is a good choice. It's not super serious, but the characters are interesting and the action scenes are exciting. – Mia

**Actors:**

- **Margot Robbie – Harley Quinn**
- **Jared Leto – Joker**
- **Will Smith – Deadshot**

**Plot:** The government puts together a team of dangerous criminals from prison to do secret missions. They are called the "Suicide Squad" because the missions are so risky. The team includes people like Harley Quinn, Deadshot, and Killer Croc. If they succeed, they get shorter prison time—but if they disobey, they could die.

**Streaming providers:** Netflix, Amazon prime



# Top Gun

By Tony Scott

Published in 1986

**Sprachstil:** modern, American English

**Sprachniveau:** ★ ★ ★

**Genre:** action

## **Personal recommendation:**

If you want to see an exciting film about the life of a jet pilot, this classic is the perfect choice for you.

- Leon

## **Actors:**

- Tom Cruise - Lt. Pete „Maverick“ Mitchell
- Kelly McGillis - Charlotte „Charlie“ Blackwood
- Anthony Edwards - Nick „Goose“ Bradshaw

## **Plot:**

Top Gun is an action drama starring Tom Cruise as Pete "Maverick" Mitchell, a talented but reckless U.S. Navy pilot. Selected to attend the elite Top Gun flight school, Maverick competes against the best pilots while struggling with his past and the loss of his father. His bold flying style clashes with others, especially rival "Iceman." Alongside thrilling aerial combat scenes, the film features a romance with instructor Charlie. Known for its iconic soundtrack and high-speed action, Top Gun became a pop culture classic, celebrating themes of bravery, competition, and personal growth in the world of naval aviation.

**Streaming providers:** Amazon prime, WOW, Joyn



# Spider-Man Homecoming

By Jon Watts

Published in 2017

**Sprachstil:** modern, American English

**Sprachniveau:** ☆☆☆

**Genre:** Action



## **Personal recommendation:**

It's a fun and exciting movie. Tom Holland is great as Spider-Man. The story is about a teenager who wants to be a hero. There is action, humor, and cool scenes. It's a good movie for Marvel fans and others too.

-Konstantin

## **Actors:**

Tom Holland as Spider-Man

Zendaya as Michelle

Robert Downey jr.as Iron-Man

## **Plot:**

After helping the Avengers, teenager Peter Parker returns home, trying to balance high school life with being Spider-Man. He wants to prove himself as a real hero but faces a new threat the Vulture, a dangerous arms dealer. As Peter learns what it means to be a hero, he realizes that he doesn't need to be an Avenger to make a difference.

**Streaming provider:** Netflix, Amazon Prime and WOW

# Karate Kid

By John G. Avildsen

Published 1984

**Sprachstil:** The dialogue uses everyday English with emotional and youthful tones.

**Sprachniveau:** ★ ★ ★

**Genre:** Drama, Action



## **Personal Recommendation:**

I highly recommend *The Karate Kid (1984)*. It's not just a classic coming-of-age film, but also a powerful story about confidence, discipline, and personal growth. The characters are relatable, the lessons are meaningful, and the relationship between Daniel and Mr. Miyagi is truly heartwarming. It's an inspiring movie that leaves a lasting impact, especially for young people.

-Tristan

## **Actors:**

- Ralph Macchio as Daniel LaRusso
- Pat Morita as Mr. Miyagi
- William Zabka as Johnny Lawrence
- Elisabeth Shue as Ali Mills
- Martin Kove as John Kreese

## **Plot:**

A teenager moves to a new city, faces bullying, and learns karate from a wise mentor to defend himself and grow stronger.

## **Streaming Provider:**

Available on platforms like Netflix, Amazon Prime Video, or Apple TV

# Little Women

By Greta Gerwig  
Published in 2019

**Sprachstil:** American English, blend of formal and modern language, refined version of historical speech

**Sprachniveau:** ☆☆☆☆

**Genre:** children- family drama, coming-of-age drama



## Personal recommendation:

“I highly recommend *Little Women* because it tells a touching story about family, growing up, and following your dreams. The characters feel real, and their struggles are easy to relate to, even though the story takes place in the past. The movie is both emotional and inspiring, with beautiful acting and strong messages.” – Sara

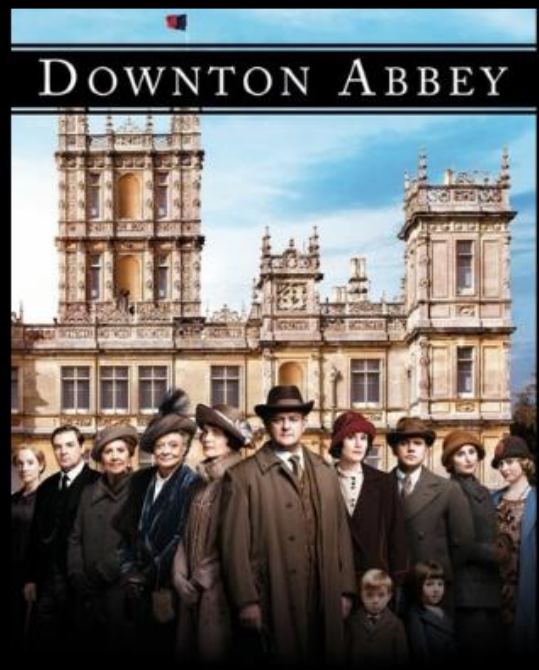
## Actors:

- Saoirse Ronan
- Emma Watson
- Florence Pugh
- Eliza Scanlen
- Timothée Chalamet
- Meryl Streep

## Plot:

*Little Women* follows the lives of the four March sisters—Jo, Meg, Beth, and Amy—as they grow up in Civil War-era New England, each pursuing their dreams and navigating love, loss, and family bonds. Jo, an aspiring writer, struggles with societal expectations and her desire for independence. Through their individual journeys, the sisters learn about identity, sacrifice, and the enduring strength of sisterhood.

**Streaming provider:** Netflix, Amazon Prime Video



# Serien



# Downton Abbey

## - A new era -

By Julian Fellowes  
published in 2010 - 6 saisons

**Sprachniveau:** ★ ★ ★ ★

**Sprachstil:** British English, Formal, polite (Upper-class)

**Genre:** historical & family drama



### **Personal recommendation:**

*"Downton Abbey" is a cool show if you want to see what life was like in the past, especially for rich people in Britain. The story is really interesting, and it's also a good way to hear British English and learn some new words. Definitely worth watching!*

- Helena La

### **Actors:**

Hugh Bonneville – Robert Crawley  
Maggie Smith – Violet Crawley  
Michelle Dockery – Mary Crawley  
Laura Carmichael – Edith Crawley  
Jessica Brown Findlay – Sybille Crawley  
Dan Stevens – Matthew Crawley  
Jim Carter – Mr. Carson

### **Plot:**

Downton Abbey is a British TV series that follows the lives of the wealthy Crawley family and their servants in the early 20th century. The story begins with the inheritance of the family estate, Downton Abbey, after the death of the heir to the title and focuses on the challenges and relationships of the family members and the staff.

Major events like World War I, changing social norms, and personal struggles shaping the characters' lives. The series shows both the aristocratic family's drama and the lives of the servants who work for them, highlighting the differences between their worlds while also exploring their interconnected stories.

**Streaming provider:** Netflix, Amazon Prime

# Lost

by Jeffrey Lieber, JJ.Abrams and  
Damon Lindelof

**Sprachniveau:** ☆☆☆☆

**Sprachstil:** realistic, emotional and American English

**Genre:** Mystery and drama



## **Personal recommendation:**

If you enjoy a great storyline LOST is perfect for you besides mystery. LOST is also very funny and improves your English.

-Konstantin Maul

## **Actors:**

- Evangeline Lilly as Kate Austen
- Yunjin Kim as Sun Yin
- Sonya Walger as Penelope Widmore
- Naveen William Sidney as Sahid
- Terry O'Quinn as Jon Locke
- Jorge Garcia as Hugo Reyes
- Josh Holloway was Sawyer
- Matthew Fow as Jack Shephard
- Michael Emerson as Benjamin Linus

## **Plot:**

Lost follows the survivors of a plane crash on a mysterious tropical island. As they struggle to stay alive, they uncover strange occurrences, hidden dangers, and secrets about the island and about each other. Flashbacks and flash forwards reveal their pasts and futures, blending survival drama with science fiction and mystery.

**Streaming provider:** Amazon Prime, Disney+, Apple TV and Netflix

# Sherlock Holmes

By Steven Moffat and Mark Gatiss  
Published in 2010 - 4 seasons

**Sprachniveau:** ★ ★ ★

**Sprachstil:** modern, British English, complex

**Genre:** mystery, crime, drama

**Personal recommendation:**

*The serie "Sherlock" is really exciting and full of clever twists. The English is modern, and there are a lot of wordplays and technical terms, but if you pay attention, I think you are able to follow. I highly recommend it if you enjoy mysteries and action!*

*-Helena La*



**Actors:**

- Benedict Cumberbatch - Sherlock Holmes
- Martin Freeman - Dr. John Watson
- Mark Gatiss - Mycroft Holmes
- Una Stubbs - Mrs. Hudson
- Andrew Scott - Jim Moriarty
- Louise Brealey - Molly Hooper
- Rupert Graves - DI Greg Lestrade

**Plot:**

„Sherlock“ follows the brilliant but eccentric detective Sherlock Holmes and his friend Dr. John Watson as they solve mysterious crimes in London. The show mixes classic Sherlock Holmes stories with modern twists and features fast-paced, thrilling investigations with plenty of surprising turns.

**Streaming provider:** Netflix, Amazon prime

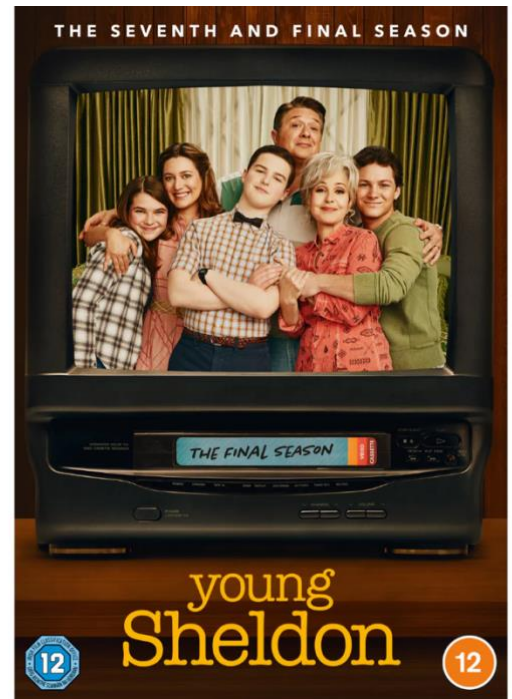
# Young Sheldon

By Chuck Lorre and Steven Molaro

**Sprachniveau:** ★ ★

**Sprachstil:** American English, less complex

**Genre:** Comedy, Sitcom



## **Actors:**

Iain Armitage - Sheldon Cooper  
Zoe Perry - Mary Cooper  
Lance Barber - George Cooper Sr.  
Annie Potts - Meemaw (Connie Tucker)  
Montana Jordan - George "Georgie" Cooper Jr.  
Raegan Revord - Missy Cooper

## **Plot:**

*Young Sheldon* is a prequel to *The Big Bang Theory*, focusing on Sheldon Cooper's childhood in East Texas during the late 1980s and early 1990s. The series explores how the young genius — who struggles to fit in socially — navigates life in a typical Texan family and skips grades to attend high school at just 9 years old.

**Streaming Providers:** Amazon Prime, Netflix

# PODCASTS



# 6 Minute English

By BBC

**Sprachniveau:** ☆ ☆

**Sprachstil:** modern language, easy to understand

**Genre:** English learning

**Length:** 6 minutes



## **Personal recommendation:**

*If you don't have much time but still want to improve your English, this podcast is perfect.*

- Leon Kressierer

## **Plot:**

*6 Minute English* is a BBC podcast that helps people learn English in just six minutes. Each episode talks about an interesting topic, like technology, health, or culture, while teaching useful words and phrases. The hosts speak slowly and clearly, making it easy to follow. With fun discussions and real-life examples, it's a great way to improve listening skills and learn new vocabulary in a short and simple way.

# The English We Speak

By BBC Learning English

**Sprachniveau:** ☆ ☆

**Sprachstil:** modern language

**Genre:** English learning

**Length:** 3 minutes



## **Personal recommendation:**

*I enjoyed the podcast because it improves your English skills in short time.*

- Konstantin

## **Plot:**

*The English We Speak* is a short and fun BBC podcast that teaches common English phrases and slang. Each episode explains a useful expression, like “spill the beans” or “under the weather,” in a simple way with clear examples. The hosts use everyday conversations to show how people use these phrases in real life. The podcast is great for English learners who want to sound more natural when speaking. With short episodes and easy explanations, it helps listeners quickly understand and use new phrases in daily conversations. It’s a fun and easy way to improve English skills in just a few minutes.

## American English Podcast

By Shana Thompson

**Sprachniveau:** ★ ★ ★ (variiert von Folge zu Folge)

**Sprachstil:** modern American Englisch

**Genre:** culture, Englisch learning

**Length:** 5 – 40 minutes



### **Plot:**

The American English podcast teaches the U.S. language and Culture through expressions, pronunciation tips, and cultural stories.

This podcast has already 188 episodes and has different kinds of formats:

1. 5-Minute English: focuses on specific phrases or cultural topics  
=> length of about 5 minutes
2. Regular Episodes: topics vary, as topics like pronunciation, grammar and cultural matters  
=> length of about 30 to 40 minutes

# The Unexplainable Disappearance of Mars Patel

By Gen-Z Media

**Sprachniveau:** ☆ ☆ ☆

**Sprachstil:** fast-paced, for younger listeners

**Genre:** mystery and adventure with elements of  
science fiction

**Length:** 30 – 60 minutes

## **Personal recommendation:**

*“The Unexplainable Disappearance of Mars Patel” is a thrilling mystery podcast full of adventure and suspense. Perfect for teens, it keeps you hooked with its exciting plot and engaging characters. If you love puzzles and sci-fi twists, this is a must-listen.*

## **Plot:**

*Mars Patel, a 12-year-old boy, embarks on a thrilling mystery when his friends start disappearing without a trace. Together with his close friends, Aurora, Theo, and Caddie, Mars uncovers a secret organization involved in advanced technology and hidden experiments. As they unravel the mystery, the group faces dangerous challenges and learns that the disappearances are part of a much larger, more dangerous plan. The story is filled with suspense, friendship, and adventure, leaving the characters on the verge of making life-changing decisions.*

# Science Vs

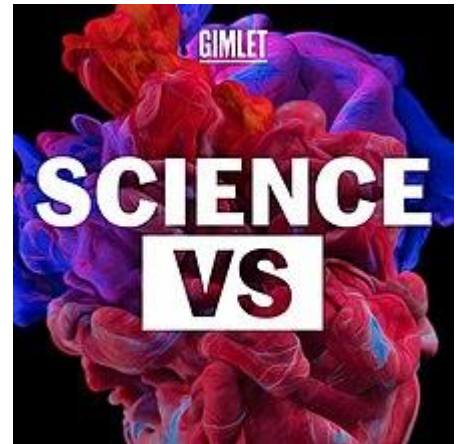
By Wendy Zuckerman

**Sprachniveau:** ☆ ☆ ☆

**Sprachstil:** modern language, easy to understand

**Genre:** Science

**Length:** 30 – 50 minutes



## **Personal recommendation:**

*This podcast is perfect for English learners that love science and want to improve their knowledge and vocabulary.*

- Leon Kressierer

## **Plot:**

*Science Vs* is a podcast that looks at popular ideas and debates to see what science really says. Hosted by Wendy Zukerman, it covers topics like diets, climate change, and ghosts, breaking down facts with humor and clear explanations. The show checks myths, trends, and news stories using real research, making science fun and easy to understand. It helps listeners separate truth from fiction in a fun, smart way.

# Stuff You Should Know

By Josh Clark and Chuck Bryant

**Sprachniveau:** ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

**Sprachstil:** modern language, specific vocabulary

**Genre:** Society & Culture

**Length:** 20 – 80 minutes



## **Personal recommendation:**

*I like how all the subjects are explained in a simple, funny way.*

- Leon Kressierer

## **Plot:**

*Stuff You Should Know* is an educational and entertaining podcast hosted by Josh Clark and Chuck Bryant, covering a vast range of topics, from science and history to pop culture and mysteries. With well-researched insights and humor, they break down complex subjects into engaging, accessible discussions that make learning fun and intriguing.

# Crime Junkie

By Ashley Flowers and Brit Prawat



**Sprachniveau:** ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

**Sprachstil:** modern language

**Genre:** True Crime

**Length:** 30 – 60 minutes

## **Personal recommendation:**

*I enjoyed the exciting way the stories are told.*

- Leon Kressierer

## **Plot:**

*Crime Junkie* is a true crime podcast hosted by Ashley Flowers and Brit Prawat, where they tell real-life stories about crimes, missing people, and mysteries. They research cases in detail and share them in a way that's easy to follow. The podcast also helps raise awareness and support for victims while keeping listeners hooked with engaging storytelling. Fans love how the hosts make crime stories interesting and easy to understand.

# Songs



# Perfect

by Ed Sheeran



**Language Level:** ★ ★

**Language Style:** Romantic and emotional, uses clear and poetic language

**Genre:** Pop / Love Ballad

## **Personal Recommendation:**

*I suggest "Perfect" by Ed Sheeran because it's a beautiful love ballad with deep emotions and a calm, touching melody. The song is great for romantic occasions and creates a warm atmosphere.*

## **Topics:**

### **Romantic Love:**

- The song is a declaration of true love. Ed sings about a strong connection with someone he sees as perfect for him.

### **Beautiful Moments:**

- It describes special, peaceful moments — dancing under the stars, being close, and feeling safe with each other.

### **Growing Together:**

- The lyrics also talk about growing up and building a future with someone you truly love.

### **Emotion and Honesty:**

- The song is full of real feelings. It's honest, simple, and relatable for anyone who's in love.

# Bored

by Joeyy



**Language Level:** ★ ★ ★

## **Language Style:**

- The lyrics have a relaxed, conversational tone.
- The song uses modern slang and pop culture references.
- There's irony in the chorus, showing boredom with a rich lifestyle.
- Vivid imagery brings the artist's world to life.

**Genre:** Hip-Hop

## **Personal Recommendation:**

*I would recommend listening to "Bored" by Joeyy — it's an upbeat track with a great rhythm, clever and ironic lyrics, and a laid-back vibe that blends modern slang with sharp storytelling.*

## **Topics:**

### **Boredom:**

- The artist feels bored and unsatisfied despite his success.
- His lifestyle doesn't bring him true happiness.

### **Materialism and Consumerism:**

- The song criticizes chasing wealth and possessions.
- It shows how material things can feel empty.

### **Self-Expression and Identity:**

- Fashion and lifestyle express who the artist is.
- Appearance plays a big role in identity.

### **Irony and Self-Awareness:**

- The lyrics are ironic about the lavish lifestyle.
- He knows the contradictions he lives.

# Empire State of Mind by Jay-Z ft. Alicia Keys

**Language Level:** ★ ★ ★

**Language Style:**

- Poetic and reflective
- Typical of hip-hop and rap
- Combines metaphors, storytelling, and real-life references
- Includes cultural references and urban slang

**Genre:** Hip-Hop/Rap



**! Racist and offensive words shouldn't be used !**

**Personal recommendation:**

*I highly recommend “Empire State of Mind” by Jay-Z featuring Alicia Keys. It's a powerful tribute to New York, with emotional lyrics and a memorable chorus. Jay-Z shares his story, and Alicia Keys' vocals make it an inspiring anthem.*

**Topics:**

**Tribute to New York City:**

The song honors New York's energy and greatness.

**Dreams and Ambition:**

It shows dreams can come true through hard work.

**Reality of Urban Life:**

It reflects the tough side of city life.

**Pride and Identity:**

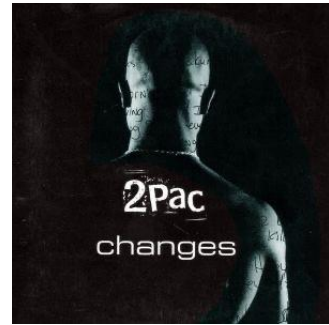
Jay-Z takes pride in his roots and success.

**Inspiration and Motivation:**

The song encourages people to chase their goals

## Changes

by Tupac



**Language Level:** ★ ★ ★ ★

**Language Style:** Honest, political, powerful – uses slang and emotional language

**Genre:** Hip-Hop / Rap

**! Racist and offensive words shouldn't be used !**

### **Personal Recommendation:**

*I strongly suggest "Changes" by 2Pac. It's a powerful song with deep lyrics about racism, poverty, violence, and the need for change in society. The message is still relevant today.*

### **Topics:**

#### **Racism and Injustice:**

-2Pac addresses racism, inequality, and police brutality faced by Black Americans.

#### **Poverty and Crime:**

-He reflects on life in poor neighborhoods, where crime feels like the only way out.

#### **Desire for Peace and Change:**

-Despite the struggles, he expresses hope and a wish for unity and change.

#### **Inner Conflict:**

-The song reveals his inner pain and feeling trapped by an unfair system.

#### **Social Criticism:**

-2Pac calls out the government and society for ignoring minority struggles.

## Faust Arp

by Radiohead



**Language Level:** ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

**Language Style:** - metaphorical

- Poetic and the lyrics are structured like a stream of disconnected thoughts or images, lacking full sentences.
- Very abstract therefore interpretation is required

**Genre:** Experimental Rock

**Personal recommendation:**

*I recommend listening to "Faust Arp" by Radiohead. It is a very soothing and relaxing song where you can let your imagination roam freely.*

**Topics:**

**Identity and loss of self:**

-The song plays with the idea of losing oneself or one's integrity, possibly through conformity or manipulation.

**Language manipulation and critique:**

- The line "People are frightened" may refer to fear politics and the shaping of public opinion.
- The distortion of language as a tool for control could be a central theme.

**Modern alienation:**

- Personal relationships seem distant, entangled with insecurity and a lack of control.

# What Happened to Virgil

by Lil Durk ft. Gunna

Language Level: ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Language Style: -controversial style

-typical of hip-hop and rap

-uses straightforward language with some

slang and cultural references



Genre: Hip-Hop/Rap

**! Racist and offensive words shouldn't be used !**

## Personal recommendation:

*I highly recommend listening to "What Happened to Virgil" by Lil Durk featuring Gunna. It's a emotional song with heartfelt lyrics, smooth production and serious topics like paying tribute to Virgil Abloh.*

## Topics:

### **Tribute to Virgil Abloh:**

-The song honors Virgil Abloh as a symbol of creativity and cultural impact. Virgil Abloh was a groundbreaking designer and founder of Off-White.

### **Pain and Losses:**

-Lil Durk reflects on the emotional pain of losing loved ones.

### **Legacy and Inspiration:**

-It highlights how inspiring legacies can shape future generations.

### **Betrayal and Trust:**

-Themes of betrayal and trust issues run through his personal and career life.

### **Success and Pressure:**

The song shows the pressure and sacrifices that come with fame.

## Empire

by Big Ghost Ltd, Westside Gunn, Conway the Machine

Language Level: ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Language Style :

- The artists assert their dominance and success in rap.
- They incorporate gangster film themes to create a cinematic feel.
- Each verse tells part of their journey and struggles.

Genre: Hip-Hop/ Boom-Bap

**!Racist and offensive words shouldn't be used!**



### Personal Recommendation:

*I would recommend listening to "Empire" by Big Ghost Ltd, Westside Gunn and Conway the Machine. It is a meaningful song describing the struggles and achievements of the artists.*

### Topics:

#### **Resilience and Survival:**

- The song focuses on overcoming challenges and staying strong through adversity.

#### **Street Life and Hustle:**

- It depicts the daily grind and realities of life in the streets.

#### **Loyalty and Betrayal:**

- The lyrics explore complex issues of trust and loyalty in relationships.

#### **Cultural Pride:**

- The song celebrates heritage and the influence of upbringing on identity.

# Apps



## Duolingo



**Sprachniveau:** can be adapted on your individual level

**Personal recommendation:**

It's a very useful app for those who are struggling with the basic knowledge or want to improve the most important skills for studying. It also sends notifications, which help to remember to learn new things in the right time.

**Way of work:**

- You can choose, if you need to be focused on Vocabulary, Grammar or Pronunciation.
- There are lessons in a play form and you're getting progress through levels and everyday exercises.
- The learning content is adapted to the individual level.
- It's also free for everyone and has access on any device.

# HelloTalk



**Sprachniveau:** You can practice at any language level

**Personal recommendation:**

This app is one of the best opportunities to improve your speaking skills and learn to talk to the native speakers. It's not only helpful for school, but also for the possible future conversations with the native speakers and understanding.

**Way of work:**

- You have a focus on communication in a more relaxed setting and get to learn new interesting people.
- It's a good possibility to talk with the native speakers through messages, voicemessages and videos.
- If you need help, you can get the translation right in the chat.
- The app gives motivation by learning with other people.
- It's free for everyone and has access on any device.

# Babbel



This app is subscription based – not free

Sprachniveau: can be adapted on your individual level

## Personal recommendation:

What I really appreciate about Babbel is how **interactive** and **easy-to-follow** the lessons are. It doesn't overwhelm you with a huge amount of information all at once. Instead, it breaks everything down into manageable chunks that make learning feel more like a natural progression. Each lesson feels like a mini conversation, so you're constantly applying what you learn in real-life contexts – whether it's ordering food, booking a hotel, or making small talk.

## Way of work:

- Structured courses
- Interactive Exercises e.g. Multiple-choice questions, fill-in-the-blanc activities, listening and speaking practice or pronunciation exercises
- Speech recognition technology
- Cultural insights
- Personalised learning
- Flexibility
- Offline learn
- **Subscription model: monthly plan, 3-month plan or an annual**

"We hope you enjoyed  
our guide as much as  
we enjoyed sharing it  
with you - thank you  
for being a part of it!"

Stay tuned...

Jolina

Helena

Mia

Sara

Leon

Felix

Tristan

Konstantin

Diego

Arina

Gabriela

Fr. Pompl