A-Level Biology – Wider Reading List

Depending on your areas of interest there are a large number of “popular” science books to inspire you. I have only given you some ideas below.

Genetics

- The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks. Skloot, R.
- The Language of the genes. Jones, S.
- The Serpent’s Promise. Jones, S
- In the blood. Jones, S.
- Y: the Descent of Men. Jones, S.
- Genome. Ridley, M.

Evolution

- The Beak of the Finch. Weiner, J
- Almost Like a Whale. Jones, S.
- A Devil's Chaplain. Dawkins, R.
- The Selfish Gene. Dawkins, R.
- The Blind Watchmaker. Dawkins, R.
- Wonderful Life. Gould, SJ.
- Dinosaur in a Haystack. Gould,
- Trilobite. Fortey, RA.
- The Rise and fall of the Third Chimpanzee. Diamond, J.
- The Ancestor's Tale. Dawkins, R.
- The Thinking Ape: Evolutionary Origins of Intelligence. Byrne, R.
- The Kiwi's Egg; Charles Darwin and Natural Selection. Quammen, D.
- The Greatest Show on Earth. Dawkins, R.
- The Seven Daughters of Eve. Sykes B.

Physiology

- Why Elephants Have Big Ears. Lavers, C.
- The Energy of Life. Brown, G.
- Keep on Running. Newcastle Leech Duester
- Power, sex, suicide: mitochondria and the meaning of life. Lane, N.
- Oxygen. Lane, N.
- Life at the Extremes. Frances Ashcroft

Immunology

- Immunology: A Comparative Approach. Turner RJ
- Friendly Fire: Explaining Auto-immune disease. Isenerg, E.

Neuroscience/Psychology

- The Man Who Mistook His Wife for a Hat. Sacks, O.
- An Anthropologist on Mars. Sacks, O.
- Awakenings. Sacks, O.
- Mapping the Mind. Carter, R.
- How the Mind Works. Pinker, S.
- The Brain Story. Greenfield, S.

Microbiology

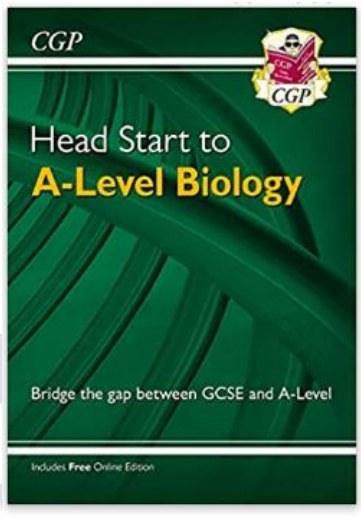
- Missing microbes: Martin Blaser
- Gut: The inside story of the body's most underrated organ: Guilia Enders

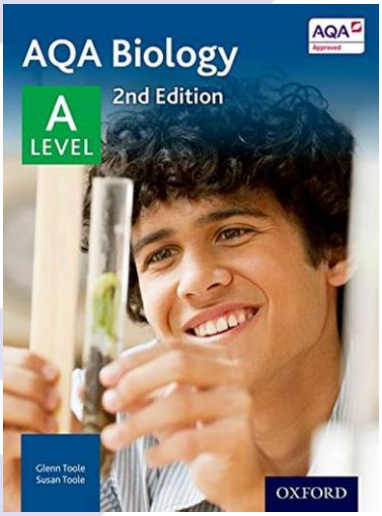
Other Sources of Information

Revision Guide:

A very good resource is “Head Start to A-level Biology” published by CGP and available from Amazon. This guide bridges the gap between GCSE and A-level Biology knowledge and will be **essential when completing transition tasks and preparing for the entry exam.**

https://www.amazon.co.uk/Head-Start-level-Biology-Level





Textbook:

You will require access to the following textbook in all of your Biology lessons:

AQA Biology, 2nd Edition (2015) by Glen Toole and Susan Toole, Oxford University Press (ISBN 978-0198351771).

The course textbook is available from Amazon:
https://www.amazon.co.uk/AQA-Biology-Level-Student-Book/dp/0198351771

A digital version of the textbook is available on the Kerboodle website. Please make sure that you bring a laptop (or similar device) to all lessons should you wish to access the digital version of the textbook.

Scientific Journals:

Reading beyond the specification is essential if you wish to obtain top grades in A-level Biology. Subscribing to a scientific journal is an excellent way to remain abreast of scientific developments. You could also purchase individual publications should you find they cover a topic of interest.

https://www.newscientist.com/

https://www.scientificamerican.com/

https://www.nature.com/

https://magazines.hachettelearning.com/magazines/biological-sciences-review/

Useful Websites:

https://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/biology/a-level/biology-7402/specification/specification-at-a-glance

https://www.missestruch.co.uk/

https://www.physicsandmathstutor.com/

https://www.savemyexams.com/a-level/biology/

https://snaprevise.co.uk/

https://mmerevise.co.uk/

https://www.ted.com/topics/biology

https://www.khanacademy.org/science/hs-bio

Remember to consult the various news websites for recent developments.