**List: What Common Core authors suggest high schoolers should read**

By [Valerie Strauss](http://www.washingtonpost.com/people/valerie-strauss) December 5, 2012



**Grades 9–10 Text Exemplars**

Stories
Homer. The Odyssey
Ovid. Metamorphoses
Gogol, Nikolai. “The Nose.”
De Voltaire, F. A. M. Candide, Or The Optimist
Turgenev, Ivan. Fathers and Sons
Henry, O. “The Gift of the Magi.”
Kafka, Franz. The Metamorphosis

Steinbeck, John. The Grapes of Wrath
Bradbury, Ray. Fahrenheit 451
Olsen, Tillie. “I Stand Here Ironing.”
Achebe, Chinua. Things Fall Apart
Lee, Harper. To Kill A Mockingbird
Shaara, Michael. The Killer Angels
Tan, Amy. The Joy Luck Club
Álvarez, Julia. In the Time of the Butterflies
Zusak, Marcus. The Book Thief

Drama.
Sophocles. Oedipus Rex.
Shakespeare, William. The Tragedy of Macbeth.
Ibsen, Henrik. A Doll’s House
Williams, Tennessee. The Glass Menagerie
Ionesco, Eugene. Rhinoceros
Fugard, Athol. “Master Harold”…and the boys.

Poetry
Shakespeare, William. “Sonnet 73.”
Donne, John. “Song.”
Shelley, Percy Bysshe. “Ozymandias.”
Poe, Edgar Allan. “The Raven.”
Dickinson, Emily. “We Grow Accustomed to the Dark.”
Houseman, A. E. “Loveliest of Trees.”
Johnson, James Weldon. “Lift Every Voice and Sing.”
Cullen, Countee. “Yet Do I Marvel.”
Auden, Wystan Hugh. ”Musée des Beaux Arts.”
Walker, Alice. “Women.”
Baca, Jimmy Santiago. “I Am Offering This Poem to You.”.

Informational Texts: English Language Arts
Henry, Patrick. “Speech to the Second Virginia Convention.”
Washington, George. “Farewell Address.”
Lincoln, Abraham. “Gettysburg Address.”
Lincoln, Abraham. “Second Inaugural Address.”
Roosevelt, Franklin Delano. “State of the Union Address.”
Hand, Learned. “I Am an American Day Address.”
Smith, Margaret Chase. “Remarks to the Senate in Support
of a Declaration of Conscience.”
King, Jr., Martin Luther. “Letter from Birmingham Jail.”
King, Jr., Martin Luther. “I Have a Dream: Address Delivered at the March on Washington, D.C., for Civil Rights on August 28, 1963.”
Angelou, Maya. I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings
Wiesel, Elie. “Hope, Despair and Memory.”
Reagan, Ronald. “Address to Students at Moscow State University.”
Quindlen, Anna. “A Quilt of a Country.”

Informational Texts: History/Social Studies
Brown, Dee. Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee:
An Indian History of the American West
Connell, Evan S. Son of the Morning Star: Custer and the Little Bighorn
Gombrich, E. H. The Story of Art, 16th Edition
Kurlansky, Mark. Cod: A Biography of the Fish That Changed the World
Haskins, Jim. Black, Blue and Gray: African Americans in the Civil War
Dash, Joan. The Longitude Prize
Thompson, Wendy. The Illustrated Book of Great Composers
Mann, Charles C. Before Columbus: The Americas of 1491

Informational Texts: Science, Mathematics, and Technical Subjects
Euclid. Elements
Cannon, Annie J. “Classifying the Stars.”
Walker, Jearl. “Amusement Park Physics.”.
Preston, Richard. The Hot Zone: A Terrifying True Story
Devlin, Keith. Life by the Numbers
Hoose, Phillip. The Race to Save Lord God Bird
Hakim, Joy. The Story of Science: Newton at the Center
Nicastro, Nicholas. Circumference: Eratosthenes and the Ancient Quest to Measure the Globe
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency/U.S. Department of Energy. Recommended Levels of Insulation

**Grades 11–CCR Text Exemplars**

Stories
Chaucer, Geoffrey. The Canterbury Tales
de Cervantes, Miguel. Don Quixote
Austen, Jane. Pride and Prejudice
Poe, Edgar Allan. “The Cask of Amontillado.”
Brontë, Charlotte. Jane Eyre
Hawthorne, Nathaniel. The Scarlet Letter
Dostoevsky, Fyodor. Crime and Punishment
Jewett, Sarah Orne. “A White Heron.”
Melville, Herman. Billy Budd, Sailor
Chekhov, Anton. “Home.”
Fitzgerald, F. Scott. The Great Gatsby
Faulkner, William. As I Lay Dying
Hemingway, Ernest. A Farewell to Arms
Hurston, Zora Neale. Their Eyes Were Watching God
Borges, Jorge Luis. “The Garden of Forking Paths.”
Bellow, Saul. The Adventures of Augie March
Morrison, Toni. The Bluest Eye

Garcia, Cristina. Dreaming in Cuban
Lahiri, Jhumpa. The Namesake

Drama
Shakespeare, William. The Tragedy of Hamlet
Molière, Jean-Baptiste Poquelin. Tartuffe
Wilde, Oscar. The Importance of Being Earnest
Wilder, Thornton. Our Town: A Play in Three Acts
Miller, Arthur. Death of a Salesman
Hansberry, Lorraine. A Raisin in the Sun
Soyinka, Wole. Death and the King’s Horseman: A Play

Poetry
Li Po. “A Poem of Changgan.”
Donne, John. “A Valediction Forbidding Mourning.”
Wheatley, Phyllis. “On Being Brought From Africa to America.”
Keats, John. “Ode on a Grecian Urn.”
Whitman, Walt. “Song of Myself.”
Dickinson, Emily. “Because I Could Not Stop for Death.”
Tagore, Rabindranath. “Song VII.”
Eliot, T. S. “The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock.”
Pound, Ezra. “The River Merchant’s Wife: A Letter.”
Frost, Robert. “Mending Wall.”
Neruda, Pablo. “Ode to My Suit.”
Bishop, Elizabeth. “Sestina.”
Ortiz Cofer, Judith. “The Latin Deli: An Ars Poetica.”
Dove, Rita. “Demeter’s Prayer to Hades.”
Collins, Billy. “Man Listening to Disc.”

Informational Texts: English Language Arts
Paine, Thomas. Common Sense
Jefferson, Thomas. The Declaration of Independence
United States. The Bill of Rights (Amendments One through Ten
of the United States Constitution)
Thoreau, Henry David. Walden
Emerson, Ralph Waldo. “Society and Solitude.”
Porter, Horace. “Lee Surrenders to Grant, April 9th, 1865.”
Chesterton, G. K. “The Fallacy of Success.”
Mencken, H. L. The American Language, 4th Edition
Wright, Richard. Black Boy
Orwell, George. “Politics and the English Language.”
Hofstadter, Richard. “Abraham Lincoln and the Self-Made Myth.”
Tan, Amy. “Mother Tongue.”
Anaya, Rudolfo. “Take the Tortillas Out of Your Poetry.”

Informational Texts: History/Social Studies
Tocqueville, Alexis de. Democracy in America
Declaration of Sentiments by the Seneca Falls Conference
Douglass, Frederick. “What to the Slave Is the Fourth of July?: An Address  Delivered in Rochester, New York, on 5 July 1852.”
An American Primer. Edited by Daniel J. Boorstin
Lagemann, Ellen Condliffe. “Education.”
McPherson, James M. What They Fought For 1861–1865
The American Reader: Words that Moved a Nation, 2nd Edition
Amar, Akhil Reed. America’s Constitution: A Biography
McCullough, David. 1776
Bell, Julian. Mirror of the World: A New History of Art
FedViews by the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco

Informational Texts: Science, Mathematics, and Technical Subjects
Paulos, John Allen. Innumeracy: Mathematical Illiteracy and Its Consequences
Gladwell, Malcolm. The Tipping Point: How Little Things Can Make a Big Difference
Tyson, Neil deGrasse. “Gravity in Reverse: The Tale of Albert Einstein’s ‘Greatest Blunder.’”
Calishain, Tara, and Rael Dornfest. Google Hacks: Tips & Tools for Smarter Searching, 2nd Edition
Kane, Gordon. “The Mysteries of Mass.”
Fischetti, Mark. “Working Knowledge: Electronic Stability Control.”
U.S. General Services Administration. Executive Order 13423: Strengthening Federal Environmental, Energy, and Transportation Management
Kurzweil, Ray. “The Coming Merger of Mind and Machine.”
Gibbs, W. Wayt. “Untangling the Roots of Cancer.”
Gawande, Atul. “The Cost Conundrum: Health Care Costs in McAllen, Texas.”