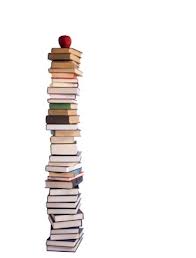
**List: What Common Core authors suggest high schoolers should read**

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.”