

Common Core State Standards Grades 9–10 Text Exemplars

The following text samples primarily serve to exemplify the level of complexity and quality that the Standards require all students in a given grade band to engage with. Additionally, they are suggestive of the breadth of texts that students should encounter in the text types required by the Standards. The choices should serve as useful guideposts in helping educators select texts of similar complexity, quality, and range for their own classrooms. They expressly do not represent a partial or complete reading list.

See http://www.corestandards.org/assets/Appendix_B.pdf for more information.

Stories

Homer. [*The Odyssey*](#)

Ovid. [*Metamorphoses*](#)

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*](#)

Alvarez, Julia. [*In the Time of the Butterflies*](#)

Zusak, Marcus. [*The Book Thief*](#)

Drama

Shakespeare, William. [*The Tragedy of Macbeth*](#)

Ibsen, Henrik. [*A Doll's House*](#)

Williams, Tennessee. [*The Glass Menagerie*](#)

Poetry

Shakespeare, William. [*"Sonnet 73"*](#)

Poe, Edgar Allan. [*"The Raven"*](#)

Dickinson, Emily. [*"We Grow Accustomed to the Dark"*](#)

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*](#)

Haskins, Jim. [*Black, Blue and Gray: African Americans in the Civil War*](#)

Dash, Joan. [*The Longitude Prize*](#)

Informational Texts: Science, Mathematics, and Technical Subjects

Preston, Richard. [*The Hot Zone: A Terrifying True Story*](#)

Hoose, Phillip. [*The Race to Save Lord God Bird*](#)

Hakim, Joy. [*The Story of Science: Newton at the Center*](#)