

Reading List, Part 1: English and American Literature

This list will guide you to key texts from the periods and genres covered in your study program. These texts and authors are also meant as recommendations for your final exams. Feel free to talk to your examiner if you want to include other texts or other authors in your exam lists.

English Literature

1. Novel and Short Story

15th-17th century

Geoffrey Chaucer (1342/43–1400)	<i>The Canterbury Tales</i>
Thomas More (1478–1535)	<i>Utopia</i>
Margaret Cavendish (1623–1673)	<i>The Blazing World</i>
Aphra Behn (1640–1689)	<i>Oroonoko, or The Royal Slave: A True History.</i>

18th-19th century

Daniel Defoe (1660–1731)	<i>Robinson Crusoe, Moll Flanders</i>
Jonathan Swift (1667–1745)	<i>Gulliver's Travels</i>
Samuel Richardson (1689–1761)	<i>Pamela or Virtue Rewarded</i>
Henry Fielding (1707–1754)	<i>The History of Tom Jones, The Adventures of Joseph Andrews</i>
Laurence Sterne (1713–1768)	<i>The Life and Opinions of Tristram Shandy</i>
Horace Walpole (1717–1797)	<i>The Castle of Otranto</i>
Oliver Goldsmith (1728–1774)	<i>The Vicar of Wakefield</i>
Charlotte Smith (1749–1806)	<i>Celestina, Desmond</i>
Frances Burney (1752–1840)	<i>Evelina</i>
William Godwin (1756–1836)	<i>The Adventures of Caleb Williams</i>
Ann Radcliffe (1764–1823)	<i>The Mysteries of Udolpho</i>
Maria Edgeworth (1767–1849)	<i>Castle Rackrent</i>
James Hogg (1770–1835)	<i>Private Memoirs and Confessions of a Justified Sinner</i>
Walter Scott (1771–1832)	<i>Waverley, The Heart of Midlothian</i>
Jane Austen (1775–1817)	<i>Emma, Pride and Prejudice, Northanger Abbey</i>
Mary Shelley (1797–1851)	<i>Frankenstein, or the Modern Prometheus</i>
Mary Seacole (1805–1881)	<i>Wonderful Adventures of Mary Seacole in Many Lands</i>
Elisabeth Barrett Browning (1806–1861)	<i>Aurora Leigh</i>
Elizabeth Gaskell (1810–1865)	<i>North and South</i>
William Thackeray (1811–1863)	<i>Vanity Fair</i>
Charles Dickens (1812–1870)	<i>Great Expectations, David Copperfield, Bleak House, Hard Times</i>
Charlotte Brontë (1816–1855)	<i>Jane Eyre, Villette</i>
Emily Brontë (1818–1848)	<i>Wuthering Heights</i>

George Eliot (1819–1880)	<i>Middlemarch, The Mill on the Floss</i>
Lewis Carroll (1832–1898)	<i>Alice's Adventures in Wonderland</i>
Samuel Butler (1835–1902)	<i>The Way of All Flesh</i>
Mary Elizabeth Braddon (1837–1915)	<i>Lady Audley's Secret</i>
Thomas Hardy (1840–1928)	<i>Tess of the d'Urbervilles, Jude the Obscure</i>
R. L. Stevenson (1850–1894)	<i>The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde, Treasure Island</i>
Oscar Wilde (1854–1900)	<i>The Picture of Dorian Gray</i>
Sarah Grand (1854–1943)	<i>The Heavenly Twins</i>
Olive Schreiner (1855–1920)	<i>The Story of an African Farm</i>
<u>20th -21st century</u>	
Joseph Conrad (1857–1924)	<i>Lord Jim, Heart of Darkness</i>
Rudyard Kipling (1865–1936)	<i>Kim</i>
H. G. Wells (1866–1946)	<i>The Time Machine</i>
E. M. Forster (1879–1970)	<i>A Passage to India</i>
James Joyce (1882–1941)	<i>A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man, Dubliners, Ulysses</i>
Virginia Woolf (1882–1941)	<i>To the Lighthouse, Mrs. Dalloway, Orlando</i>
D.H. Lawrence (1885–1930)	<i>Sons and Lovers, Women in Love</i>
Katherine Mansfield (1888–1923)	“Bliss”, “The Garden Party”
Jean Rhys (1890?–1979)	<i>Wide Sargasso Sea</i>
Sylvia Townsend-Warner (1893–1978)	<i>Summer Will Show</i>
Aldous Huxley (1894–1963)	<i>Brave New World</i>
George Orwell (1903–1950)	<i>Animal Farm, Nineteen Eighty-Four</i>
Evelyn Waugh (1903–1966)	<i>Brideshead Revisited</i>
Samuel Beckett (1906–1989)	<i>Malone Dies</i>
Daphne du Maurier (1907–1989)	<i>Rebecca</i>
William Golding (1911–1993)	<i>Lord of the Flies</i>
Patrick White (1912–1990)	<i>Voss</i>
Anthony Burgess (1917–1993)	<i>A Clockwork Orange</i>
Muriel Spark (1918–2006)	<i>The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie</i>
Iris Murdoch (1919-1999)	<i>The Sea, the Sea</i>
Doris Lessing (1919–2013)	<i>The Golden Notebook</i>
Kingsley Amis (1922–1995)	<i>Lucky Jim</i>
Nadine Gordimer (1923–2014)	<i>July's People</i>
Alan Sillitoe (1928–2010)	<i>The Loneliness of the Long-Distance Runner</i>
John Fowles (1926–2005)	<i>The French Lieutenant's Woman, The Magus</i>
Chinua Achebe (1930–2013)	<i>Things Fall Apart</i>
V. S. Naipaul (1932–2018)	<i>A House for Mr. Biswas</i>
David Malouf (1934–)	<i>An Imaginary Life</i>
David Lodge (1935–)	<i>Changing Places</i>
A. S. Byatt (1936–2023)	<i>Possession</i>
Margaret Drabble (1939–)	<i>Jerusalem the Golden</i>

Angela Carter (1940–1992)	<i>Nights at the Circus</i>
J. M. Coetzee (1940–)	<i>Disgrace, Foe</i>
Pat Barker (1943–)	<i>Regeneration</i>
Peter Carey (1943–)	<i>Oscar and Lucinda</i>
John Banville (1945–)	<i>The Sea</i>
Julian Barnes (1946–)	<i>Flaubert’s Parrot, The Sense of an Ending</i>
Marina Warner (1946–)	<i>Indigo</i>
Keri Hulme (1947–2021)	<i>Bone People</i>
Salman Rushdie (1947–)	<i>Midnight’s Children, The Moor’s Last Sigh</i>
Ian McEwan (1948–)	<i>Saturday, Atonement</i>
Martin Amis (1949–2023)	<i>Time’s Arrow</i>
Peter Ackroyd (1949–)	<i>Chatterton</i>
Graham Swift (1949–)	<i>Waterland</i>
Vikram Seth (1952–)	<i>An Equal Music</i>
Hilary Mantel (1952–2022)	<i>Wolf Hall</i>
Kazuo Ishiguro (1954–)	<i>The Remains of the Day, Never Let Me Go</i>
Hanif Kureishi (1954–)	“My Son the Fanatic”
Alan Hollinghurst (1954–)	<i>The Line of Beauty</i>
Andrea Levy (1956–2019)	<i>Small Island</i>
Caryl Phillips (1958–)	<i>The Nature of Blood</i>
Irvine Welsh (1958–)	<i>Trainspotting</i>
Tsitsi Dangarembga (1959–)	<i>Nervous Conditions</i>
Bernardine Evaristo (1959–)	<i>Girl, Woman, Other</i>
Ben Okri (1959–)	<i>The Famished Road</i>
Jeanette Winterson (1959–)	<i>Oranges Are Not the Only Fruit, The Passion</i>
Ali Smith (1962–)	<i>How to Be Both, Seasonal Quartet</i>
A. L. Kennedy (1965–)	<i>The Blue Book</i>
Monica Ali (1967–)	<i>Brick Lane</i>
David Mitchell (1969–)	<i>Cloud Atlas</i>
Kiran Desai (1971–)	<i>The Inheritance of Loss</i>
Zadie Smith (1975–)	<i>White Teeth</i>
Douglas Stuart (1976–)	<i>Shuggie Bain</i>
Paul Lynch (1977–)	<i>Prophet Song</i>
Sally Rooney (1991–)	<i>Normal People, Conversations with Friends</i>

2. Drama

16th-17th century

Thomas Kyd (1558–1594)	<i>The Spanish Tragedy</i>
Christopher Marlowe (1564–1593)	<i>Doctor Faustus, The Jew of Malta</i>
William Shakespeare (1564–1616)	<i>As You Like It, Twelfth Night, Measure for Measure, The Merchant of Venice, Richard II, Richard III, Macbeth, Hamlet, King Lear, Othello, Anthony and Cleopatra, The Winter’s</i>

Tale, The Tempest, Romeo and Juliet, Julius Caesar

Ben Jonson (1572–1637)

The Alchemist, Volpone

18th -19th century

William Congreve (1670–1729)

Love for Love, The Way of the World

John Gay (1685–1732)

The Beggar's Opera

George Lillo (1691–1739)

The London Merchant

Oliver Goldsmith (1728–1774)

She Stoops to Conquer

R.B. Sheridan (1751–1816)

The School for Scandal, The Rivals

Oscar Wilde (1854–1900)

The Importance of Being Earnest, Salomé

20th-21st century

Bernard Shaw (1856–1950)

Mrs. Warren's Profession, Major

Barbara, Pygmalion

John M. Synge (1871–1909)

The Playboy of the Western World

Sean O'Casey (1880–1964)

Juno and the Paycock, The Plough and the Stars

T. S. Eliot (1888–1965)

Murder in the Cathedral, The Cocktail Party

Samuel Beckett (1906–1989)

Waiting for Godot, Endgame

Christopher Fry (1907–2005)

Venus Observed, The Lady's not for Burning

Robert Bolt (1924–1995)

A Man for All Seasons

Peter Shaffer (1926–2016)

Equus, Amadeus

John Osborne (1929–1994)

Look Back in Anger

Brian Friel (1929–2015)

Translations

John Arden (1930–2012)

Sergeant Musgrave's Dance

Harold Pinter (1930–2008)

The Caretaker, The Homecoming, Betrayal

Arnold Wesker (1932–2016)

The Kitchen, Roots, The Old Ones

Edward Bond (1934–2024)

Saved, Lear, The Sea, Summer

Wole Soyinka (1934–)

A Dance of the Forests

Trevor Griffiths (1935–2024)

Comedians

Tom Stoppard (1937–)

Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead,

Travesties

Caryl Churchill (1938–)

Top Girls, Far Away

Martin Crimp (1956–)

Attempts on Her Life

Sarah Daniels (1956–)

Masterpieces

Winsome Pinnock (1961–)

Mules, One Under

Marina Carr (1964–)

Portia Coughlan

Tim Crouch (1964–)

The Author

Philip Ridley (1964–)

Mercury Fur, Radiant Vermin

Mark Ravenhill (1966–)

Shopping and Fucking

Roy Williams (1968–)

Fallout

David Greig (1969–)

The Events

Martin McDonagh (1970–)

The Beauty Queen of Leenane

Simon Stephens (1971–)

Pornography

Sarah Kane (1971–1999)	<i>Blasted, 4.48 Psychosis</i>
Penelope Skinner (1978–)	<i>Eigengrau, The Village Bike</i>
Mike Bartlett (1980–)	<i>Earthquakes in London, King Charles III</i>
Lucy Kirkwood (1984–)	<i>The Children</i>
Alice Birch (1986–)	<i>Revolt. She Said. Revolt Again.</i>
Ryan Calais Cameron (1988–)	<i>For Black Boys Who Have Considered Suicide</i>
	<i>When The Hue Gets Too Heavy</i>
Travis Alabanza (1995–)	<i>Burgerz, Sound of the Underground</i>
debbie tucker green (?–)	<i>Stoning Mary, Random</i>

3. Poetry

16th-17th century

Edmund Spenser (1552–1599)	<i>Amoretti, “Epithalamion”, The Faerie Queene</i>
Sir Phillip Sidney (1554–1586)	<i>Astrophil and Stella</i>
William Shakespeare (1564–1616)	<i>Sonnets</i>
John Donne (1572–1631)	<i>Songs and Sonnets, Divine Poems</i>
Lady Mary Wroth (1587-1652)	<i>Pamphilia to Amphilanthus</i>
George Herbert (1593–1633)	“Easter Wings”, “Virtue”, “The Collar”, “The Pulley”
	“Paradise Lost”
John Milton (1608–1674)	“In the Holy Nativity of Our Lord”
Richard Crashaw (1613–1649)	“The Garden”, “To His Coy Mistress”
Andrew Marvell (1621–1678)	“The Retreat”
Henry Vaughan (1621–1695)	“A Song for St. Cecilia’s Day”, “Alexander’s Feast”
John Dryden (1631–1700)	

18th-19th century

Anne Finch (1661–1720)	“The Introduction”
Alexander Pope (1688–1744)	“The Rape of the Lock”
Thomas Gray (1716–1771)	“Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard”
William Collins (1721–1759)	“Ode to the Evening”
William Cowper (1731–1800)	“The Task”, “A Man’s a Man”
Charlotte Smith (1749–1809)	<i>Elegiac Sonnets</i> , “Beachy Head”
William Blake (1757–1827)	<i>Songs of Innocence and of Experience</i>
Robert Burns (1759–1796)	“Tam o’Shanter”
William Wordsworth (1770–1850)	<i>Lyrical Ballads, with a Few Other Poems</i> , “The Prelude; or, The Growth of a Poet’s Mind”, “Lines Written a Few Miles Above Tintern Abbey”, “I Wandered Lonely as a Cloud”, “Upon Westminster Bridge”, “Ode: Intimations of Immortality”, “The Solitary Reaper”
Samuel Taylor Coleridge (1772–1834)	<i>Lyrical Ballads, with a Few Other Poems</i> , “The

Lord Byron (1788–1824)	Rime of the Ancient Mariner”, “Kubla Khan”, “Dejection”
P. B. Shelley (1792–1822)	“Prometheus”, <i>Manfred</i> , <i>Cain: A Mystery</i> , <i>Don Juan</i>
Felicia Hemans (1793–1835)	“Ode to the West Wind”, “To a Sky-lark”, “Mont Blanc”
John Keats (1795–1821)	“Properzia Rossi”, “Casabianca”
Elisabeth Barrett Browning (1806–1861)	“La Belle Dame sans Merci”, “Ode on a Grecian Urn”, “Ode to a Nightingale”, “Ode on Melancholy”, “To Autumn”
Alfred Tennyson (1809–1892)	<i>Sonnets from the Portuguese</i> “The Lady of Shalott”, “Ulysses”, “Locksley Hall”
Robert Browning (1812–1889)	“My Last Duchess”, “Fra Lippo Lippi”
Matthew Arnold (1822–1888)	“Dover Beach”, “The Scholar-Gipsy”
Christina G. Rossetti (1830–1894)	<i>Goblin Market and Other Poems</i>
Augusta Webster (1837–1894)	<i>Portraits</i>
Thomas Hardy (1840–1928)	“The Darkling Thrush”, “Hap”
G.M. Hopkins (1844–1889)	“Pied Beauty”, “The Windhover”, “The Wreck of the Deutschland”, “Carrion Comfort”
Amy Levy (1861–1889)	“Xantippe”
<u>20th-21st century</u>	
W. B. Yeats (1865–1939)	“The Second Coming”, “Leda and the Swan”, “Sailing to Byzantium”, “Among Schoolchildren”
T. E. Hulme (1883–1917)	“The Embankment”
D. H. Lawrence (1885–1930)	“Snake”, “Bavarian Gentians”
Edwin Muir (1887–1959)	“The Mythical Journey”
Wilfried Owen (1893–1918)	“Exposure”, “Strange Meeting”
Stevie Smith (1902–1971)	“Not Waving But Drowning”
William Empson (1906–1984)	“Homage to the British Museum”
W.H. Auden (1907–1973)	“Funeral Blues”, “In Memory of W. B. Yeats”, “Musée des Beaux Arts”, “The Shield of Achilles”
Dylan Thomas (1914–1953)	“Poem in October”, “Fern Hill”, “The Force that through the Green Fuse Drives the Flower”
Patricia Beer (1919–1999)	“Jane Austen at the Window”
D. J. Enright (1920–2002)	“A Polished Performance”
Philip Larkin (1922–1985)	“Church Going”
Charles Tomlinson (1927–2015)	“Farewell to Van Gogh”
Thom Gunn (1929–2004)	“On the Move”
Ted Hughes (1930–1998)	“The Thought-Fox”, “Crow”-poems
Derek Walcott (1930–2017)	<i>Omeros</i>

Les Murray (1938–2019)	“Aspects of Language and War on the Gloucester Road”
Seamus Heaney (1939–2013)	“Digging”, “Exposure”
Carol Rumens (1944–)	“An Easter Garland”
Eavan Boland (1944–2020)	“Woman in Kitchen”, “It’s a Woman’s World”
Medbh McGuckian (1950–)	“The Good Wife Taught Her Daughter”, “Ylang-Ylang”
Andrew Motion (1952–)	“Regime Change”
Carol Ann Duffy (1955–)	“Syntax”, <i>The World’s Wife</i>
Robin Robertson (1955–)	<i>The Long Take</i>
John Burnside (1955–2024)	“The Fair Chase”
Jackie Kay (1961–)	“First X”, “My Grandmother’s Pink River”
Kathleen Jamie (1962–)	“School Reunion”
Simon Armitage (1963–)	“Camera Obscura”, “The Unthinkable”
Patience Agbabi (1965–)	“The Doll’s House”
Alice Oswald (1966–)	“Full Moon”, “Body”
Daljit Nagra (1966–)	“Look We Have Coming to Dover”
Kae Tempest (1985–)	<i>Let Them Eat Chaos</i>

4. Other Genres

16th-17th century

Sir Philip Sidney (1554–1586)	“The Defense of Poesy”
Sir Francis Bacon (1561–1626)	<i>Essays or Counsels, Civil and Moral, New Atlantis</i>
Thomas Hobbes (1588–1679)	<i>Leviathan</i>
John Dryden (1631–1700)	“Of Dramatic Poesy: An Essay”
John Locke (1632–1704)	“An Essay Concerning Human Understanding”

18th-19th century

Joseph Addison (1672–1719)	<i>The Tatler, The Spectator</i>
Alexander Pope (1688–1744)	“An Essay on Man”, “An Essay on Criticism”
Samuel Johnson (1709–1784)	“Preface” to <i>The Plays of William Shakespeare</i>
Mary Wollstonecraft (1759–1797)	“A Vindication of the Rights of Woman”
William Wordsworth (1770–1850)	“Preface” to the Second Edition of the <i>Lyrical Ballads</i>
Thomas De Quincey (1785–1859)	“Murder Considered as a Fine Art”
P. B. Shelley (1792–1822)	“A Defence of Poetry”
Thomas Carlyle (1795–1881)	“The Hero as Poet”
Matthew Arnold (1822–1888)	“The Function of Criticism at the Present Time”
Walter H. Pater (1839–1894)	“Preface” and “Conclusion” to <i>Studies in the History of the Renaissance</i>
Alice Meynell (1847–1922)	“The Rhythm of Life”

Oscar Wilde (1854–1900) “The Decay of Lying”

20th-21st century

Virginia Woolf (1882–1941)

“A Room of One’s Own”

T. S. Eliot (1888–1965)

“Tradition and the Individual Talent”

Salman Rushdie (1947–)

Imaginary Homelands

American Literature

(Canadian authors are marked with an asterisk*.)

1. Novel and Short Story

19th century

Charles Brockden Brown (1771–1810)

Edgar Huntley; Wieland, or, the Transformation

Washington Irving (1783–1859)

“The Legend of Sleepy Hollow”, “Rip Van Winkle”

James Fenimore Cooper (1789–1851)

The Pioneers; The Last of the Mohicans

Nathaniel Hawthorne (1804–1864)

The Scarlet Letter, The Blithedale Romance,
“Young Goodman Brown”, “The Birthmark”

Edgar Allan Poe (1809–1849)

“The Fall of the House of Usher”, “The Tell-Tale Heart”, “Ligeia”, “The Murders in the Rue Morgue”

Harriet Beecher Stowe (1811–1896)

Uncle Tom’s Cabin

Herman Melville (1819–1891)

Moby-Dick, “Bartleby the Scrivener”, “Benito Cereno”

Louisa May Alcott (1832–1888)

Little Women

Mark Twain (1835–1910)

The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn, A Connecticut Yankee at King Arthur’s Court, “The Celebrated Jumping Frog of Calaveras County”

Bret Harte (1836–1902)

“The Luck of Roaring Camp”

William Dean Howells (1837–1920)

A Hazard of New Fortunes

Ambrose Bierce (1842–1914?)

“An Occurrence at Owl Creek Bridge”

Henry James (1843–1916)

Daisy Miller, The Portrait of a Lady, The Ambassadors, “The Beast in the Jungle”

George Washington Cable (1844–1925)

The Grandissimes

Sarah Orne Jewett (1849–1909)

“A White Heron”

Edward Bellamy (1850–1898)

Looking Backward: 2000-1887

Kate Chopin (1850–1904)

The Awakening, “Désirée’s Baby”

Charles Chesnutt (1858–1932)

“The Goophered Grapevine”, “The Wife of His Youth”

Charlotte Perkins Gilman (1860–1935)

“The Yellow Wallpaper”

Edith Wharton (1862–1937)

The House of Mirth, The Age of Innocence

Stephen Crane (1871–1900)

Maggie, The Red Badge of Courage, “The Bride Comes to Yellow Sky”

20th-21st century

O. Henry (1862–1910)

“The Gift of the Magi”

Theodore Dreiser (1871–1945)

Sister Carrie, “The City Awakes”

Willa Cather (1873–1947)

O Pioneers!, *My Antonia*

Gertrude Stein (1874–1946)

Three Lives

Jack London (1876–1916)

The Call of the Wild, “To Build a Fire”

Sherwood Anderson (1876–1941)

Winesburg, Ohio; “I Want to Know Why”

Upton Sinclair (1878–1968)

The Jungle

Sinclair Lewis (1885–1951)

Main Street

Katherine Anne Porter (1890–1980)

“Flowering Judas”

Zora Neale Hurston (1891–1960)

Their Eyes Were Watching God

Djuna Barnes (1892–1982)

Nightwood

Dashiell Hammett (1894–1961)

The Maltese Falcon

Jean Toomer (1894–1967)

Cane

F. Scott Fitzgerald (1896–1940)

The Great Gatsby, “Babylon Revisited”

John Dos Passos (1896–1970)

Manhattan Transfer

William Faulkner (1897–1962)

The Sound and the Fury, Absalom, Absalom!,

“Delta Autumn”, “A Rose for Emily”

Ernest Hemingway (1899–1961)

The Sun Also Rises, A Farewell to Arms, “Hills

Like White Elephants”, “Cat in the Rain”

Vladimir Nabokov (1899–1977)

Lolita, Pale Fire

John Steinbeck (1902–1968)

The Grapes of Wrath, Of Mice and Men

Nathanael West (1903–1940)

The Day of the Locust

Robert Penn Warren (1905–1989)

All the King’s Men

Richard Wright (1908–1960)

Native Son

Eudora Welty (1909–2001)

Short Stories

James Agee (1909–1955)

Let Us Now Praise Famous Men

Ralph Ellison (1914–1994)

Invisible Man

Bernard Malamud (1914–1986)

The Assistant, “The Jewbird”

Saul Bellow (1915–2005)

The Adventures of Augie March

Carson McCullers (1917–1967)

The Heart Is a Lonely Hunter

J. D. Salinger (1919–2010)

The Catcher in the Rye, Short Stories

Jack Kerouac (1922–1969)

On the Road

Kurt Vonnegut (1922–2007)

Slaughterhouse-Five

James Baldwin (1924–1987)

Go Tell It on the Mountain

Truman Capote (1924–1984)

In Cold Blood

Flannery O’Connor (1925–1964)

“A Good Man is Hard to Find”, “Good Country People”

Margaret Laurence* (1926–1987)

The Stone Angel, The Diviners

Philip K. Dick (1928–1982)

The Man in the High Castle

John Barth (1930–2024)

“Lost in the Funhouse,” *The Sot-Weed Factor*

Donald Barthelme (1931–1989)	Short Stories
Toni Morrison (1931–2019)	<i>Song of Solomon, Beloved, Jazz</i>
Alice Munro* (1931–2024)	“The Office”, “The Bear Came Over the Mountain”, “Fiction”
John Updike (1932–2009)	<i>Rabbit Run</i> , “Wife Wooing”
Cormac McCarthy (1933–2023)	<i>Blood Meridian, The Road</i>
Philip Roth (1933–2018)	<i>Portnoy’s Complaint</i>
Leonard Cohen* (1934–2016)	<i>Beautiful Losers</i>
N. Scott Momaday (1934–2024)	<i>The Way to Rainy Mountain, House Made of Dawn</i>
Carol Shields* (1935–2003)	<i>The Stone Diaries</i> , “Edith-Esther”, “Pardon”
Don DeLillo (1936–)	<i>White Noise, Underworld</i>
Rudolfo Anaya (1937–2020)	<i>Bless Me, Ultima</i>
Thomas Pynchon (1937–)	<i>The Crying of Lot 49, Gravity’s Rainbow</i>
Raymond Carver (1938–1988)	“Cathedral”
Margaret Atwood* (1939–)	<i>The Handmaid’s Tale, Alias Grace</i>
Michael Ondaatje* (1943–)	<i>The English Patient</i>
Alice Walker (1944–)	<i>The Color Purple</i>
Paul Auster (1947–2024)	New York Trilogy
William Gibson* (1948–)	<i>Neuromancer</i>
Leslie Marmon Silko (1948–)	<i>Ceremony</i>
Louise Erdrich (1954–)	<i>Love Medicine, Tracks</i>
Sandra Cisneros (1954–)	<i>The House on Mango Street</i>
Jonathan Franzen (1959–)	<i>The Corrections</i>
Jeffrey Eugenides (1960–)	<i>The Virgin Suicides</i>
David Foster Wallace (1962–2008)	<i>Infinite Jest</i>
Jennifer Egan (1962–)	<i>A Visit From the Goon Squad</i>
Bret Easton Ellis (1964–)	<i>American Psycho</i>
Sherman Alexie (1966–)	“Pawn Shop”
Mark Danielewski (1966–)	<i>House of Leaves</i>
Jhumpa Lahiri (1967–)	<i>Interpreter of Maladies</i>
Junot Diaz (1968–)	<i>The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao</i>
Colson Whitehead (1969–)	<i>The Intuitionist</i>

2. Drama

20th-21st century

Susan Glaspell (1876?–1948)	<i>Trifles</i>
Eugene O’Neill (1888–1953)	<i>The Emperor Jones, The Hairy Ape, Long Day’s Journey Into Night</i>
Elmer Rice (1892–1967)	<i>The Adding Machine</i>
Thornton Wilder (1897–1975)	<i>Our Town</i>
Lillian Hellman (1905–1984)	<i>The Little Foxes</i>

Clifford Odets (1906–1963)	<i>Waiting for Lefty</i>
Tennessee Williams (1911–1983)	<i>The Glass Menagerie, A Streetcar Named Desire</i>
Arthur Miller (1915–2005)	<i>Death of a Salesman, The Crucible</i>
Edward Albee (1928–2016)	<i>Who’s Afraid of Virginia Woolf, The Zoo Story</i>
Lorraine Hansberry (1930–1965)	<i>A Raisin in the Sun</i>
Amiri Baraka (1934–2014)	<i>Dutchman</i>
Arthur Kopit (1937–2021)	<i>Indians</i>
Luis Valdez (1940–)	<i>Zoot Suit</i>
Sam Shepard (1943–2017)	<i>True West</i>
August Wilson (1945–2005)	<i>Fences</i>
David Mamet (1947–)	<i>American Buffalo, Oleanna</i>
Marsha Norman (1947–)	<i>’night, Mother</i>
Anna Deavere Smith (1950–)	<i>Twilight: Los Angeles, 1992</i>
Tony Kushner (1956–)	<i>Angels in America</i>
Bruce Norris (1960–)	<i>Clybourne Park</i>
Suzan-Lori Parks (1963–)	<i>The America Play</i>
Lynn Nottage (1964–)	<i>Sweat</i>
The Wooster Group (1980–)	<i>Route 1 & 9</i>
Branden Jacobs-Jenkins (1984–)	<i>An Octoroon</i>
Tectonic Theater Project (1991–)	<i>The Laramie Project</i>

3. Poetry

(Most of the poems, short stories, and texts from section 4 can be found in recent editions of the *Norton Anthology of American Literature*.)

17th-18th century

Anne Bradstreet (1612–1672)	“The Author to Her Book”, “To my Dear and Loving Husband”
Edward Taylor (1642?–1729)	“Prologue” to <i>Preparatory Meditations</i> , “Upon a Spider Catching a Fly”, “Huswifery”
Philip Freneau (1752–1832)	“The Beauties of Santa Cruz”, “On Mr. Paine’s Rights of Man”, “The Wild Honey Suckle”, “The Indian Burying Ground”
Phillis Wheatley (1753–1784)	“On Being Brought from Africa to America”, “To the Right Honorable William, Earl of Dartmouth”

19th century

William Cullen Bryant (1794–1878)	“Thanatopsis”, “The Prairies”
Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803–1882)	“Concord Hymn”
Henry W. Longfellow (1807–1882)	“A Psalm of Life”, “Excelsior”
John Greenleaf Whittier (1807–1892)	<i>Snow-Bound: A Winter Idyl</i>

Edgar Allan Poe (1809–1849)	“Annabel Lee”, “The Raven”, “Sonnet—To Science”
Oliver Wendell Holmes (1809–1894)	“The Chambered Nautilus”
Walt Whitman (1819–1892)	“Song of Myself”, “Crossing Brooklyn Ferry”, “Out of the Cradle Endlessly Rocking”, “When Lilacs Last in the Dooryard Bloomed”
Emily Dickinson (1830–1886)	“The Soul Selects her Own Society”, “After Great Pain, a Formal Feeling Comes”, “Because I Could Not Stop for Death”, “I’m Nobody! Who are you?”
Emma Lazarus (1849–1887)	“The New Colossus”
Paul Laurence Dunbar (1872–1906)	“We Wear the Mask”
<u>20th-21st century</u>	
Robert Frost (1874–1963)	“Design”, “The Road Not Taken”, “Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening”
Gertrude Stein (1874–1946)	<i>Tender Buttons</i>
Carl Sandburg (1878–1967)	“Chicago”
Wallace Stevens (1879–1955)	“Sunday Morning”, “The Idea of Order at Key West”, “Anecdote of the Jar”, “Thirteen Ways of Looking at a Blackbird”
William Carlos Williams (1883–1963)	“By the road to the contagious hospital”, “The Red Wheelbarrow”, “This is Just to Say”
Ezra Pound (1885–1972)	“Hugh Selwyn Mauberley”, “In a Station of the Metro”, <i>Cantos</i>
Hilda Doolittle (1886–1961)	“Oread”
Marianne Moore (1887–1972)	“Poetry”
T. S. Eliot (1888–1965)	“The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock”, “The Waste Land”, <i>Four Quartets</i>
Claude McKay (1889–1948)	“If We Must Die”, “America”
E.E. Cummings (1894–1962)	“pity this busy monster, man unkind”, “next to of course god america I”, “Buffalo Bill’s”
Hart Crane (1899–1932)	<i>The Bridge</i>
Langston Hughes (1902–1967)	“The Negro Speaks of Rivers”, “I, Too”, “The Weary Blues”
Countee Cullen (1903–1946)	“Yet Do I Marvel”
Charles Olson (1910–1970)	“I, Maximus of Gloucester, to You”
Elizabeth Bishop (1911–1979)	“The Fish”
Robert Hayden (1913–1980)	“Middle Passage”
Muriel Rukeyser (1913–1980)	“The Book of the Dead”
John Berryman (1914–1972)	<i>Dream Songs</i>
Robert Lowell (1917–1977)	“For the Union Dead”, “Skunk Hour”
Gwendolyn Brooks (1917–2000)	“We Real Cool”, “Gay Chaps at the Bar”
Robert Creeley (1926–2005)	“For Love”, “The Messengers”
Allen Ginsberg (1926–1997)	“Howl”, “A Supermarket in California”

Frank O'Hara (1926–1966)	"The Day Lady Died"
John Ashbery (1927–2017)	"Soonest Mended", "Self-Portrait in a Convex Mirror"
Adrienne Rich (1929–2012)	"Snapshots of a Daughter-in-Law"
Gary Snyder (1930–)	"A Walk", Riprap"
Sylvia Plath (1932–1963)	"Daddy", "Lady Lazarus"
Audre Lorde (1934–1992)	"Coal", "Black Mother Woman"
Amiri Baraka (1934–2014)	"Black Art"
Margaret Atwood* (1939–)	"At the Tourist Center in Boston", "Variations on the Word Sleep"
Simon Ortiz (1941–)	"The Creation, According to Coyote"
Louise Glück (1943–2023)	"October"
Michael Ondaatje* (1943–)	"The Cinnamon Peeler", "To a Sad Daughter"
Jorie Graham (1950–)	<i>The Errancy</i>
Anne Carson* (1950–)	<i>Autobiography of Red</i>
Kenneth Goldsmith (1961–)	<i>Day</i>
Paul Beatty (1962–)	<i>Big Bank Take Little Bank</i>
Claudia Rankine (1963–)	<i>Citizen: An American Lyric</i>
Mark Nowak (1964–)	<i>Coal Mountain Elementary</i>
Philip Metres (1970–)	<i>Sand Opera</i>
Craig Santos Perez (1980–)	<i>from unincorporated territory</i>

4. Other Genres

17th-18th century

John Smith (1580–1631)	<i>The General History of Virginia, New England, and the Summer Isles</i>
John Winthrop (1587/88–1649)	"A Model of Christian Charity"
William Bradford (1590–1657)	<i>Of Plymouth Plantation</i>
Mary Rowlandson (1637–1711)	<i>A Narrative of the Captivity and Restoration of Mrs. Mary Rowlandson</i>
Cotton Mather (1663–1728)	<i>The Wonders of the Invisible World, Magnalia Christi Americana</i>
Jonathan Edwards (1703–1758)	"Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God"
Benjamin Franklin (1706–1790)	<i>The Autobiography, Poor Richard's Almanac, "The Way to Wealth"</i>
Hector St. J. de Crèvecoeur (1735–1813)	<i>Letters from an American Farmer</i>
Thomas Paine (1737–1809)	<i>Common Sense</i>
Thomas Jefferson (1743–1826)	<i>Notes on the State of Virginia, "The Declaration of Independence"</i>
Various authors	<i>The Federalist Papers</i>
Noah Webster (1758–1843)	<i>Dissertations on the English Language</i>

19th century

Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803–1882)	“The American Scholar”, “Nature”, “Self-Reliance”, “The Poet”
Abraham Lincoln (1809–1865)	“Gettysburg Address”
Edgar Allan Poe (1809–1849)	“The Philosophy of Composition”, “The Poetic Principle”
Margaret Fuller (1810–1850)	<i>Woman in the Nineteenth Century</i>
Harriet Jacobs (1813?–1897)	<i>Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl</i>
Frederick Douglass (1817?–1895)	<i>Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass</i>
Henry David Thoreau (1817–1862)	“Resistance to Civil Government (Civil Disobedience)”, “Walking”, <i>Walden</i>
James Russell Lowell (1819–1891)	<i>A Fable for Critics</i>
Henry James (1843–1916)	<i>The Art of Fiction</i>
Frederick Jackson Turner (1861–1932)	“The Significance of the Frontier in American History”
 <u>20th-21st century</u>	
John Muir (1838–1914)	<i>My First Summer in the Sierra</i>
Mary Hunter Austin (1868–1934)	<i>The Land of Little Rain</i>
W. E. B. DuBois (1868–1963)	<i>The Souls of Black Folk</i>
Ezra Pound (1885–1972)	<i>The ABC of Reading</i>
T. S. Eliot (1888–1965)	“Tradition and the Individual Talent”, “ <i>Ulysses</i> , Order, and Myth”
Booker T. Washington (1856–1915)	<i>Up from Slavery</i>
Langston Hughes (1902–1967)	“The Negro Artist and the Racial Mountain”
Northrop Frye* (1912–1991)	“Conclusion to a Literary History of Canada”
Martin Luther King (1929–1968)	“I Have a Dream”
John Barth (1930–2024)	“The Literature of Exhaustion”
Margaret Atwood* (1939–)	<i>Survival, Negotiating with the Dead</i>
Art Spiegelman (1948–)	<i>Maus</i>
Ta-Nehisi Coates (1975–)	<i>Between the World and Me</i>