



CANA ACADEMY®

A painting of a young woman with dark hair, wearing a white short-sleeved blouse and a long dark skirt, standing barefoot in a field. She is looking off to the side. In the background, there are rolling green fields, a red sun setting behind a line of trees, and a few small buildings. The sky is a mix of orange, yellow, and blue. The overall style is impressionistic.

CLASSIC BOOKS READING LIST

GRADES NINE THROUGH TWELVE

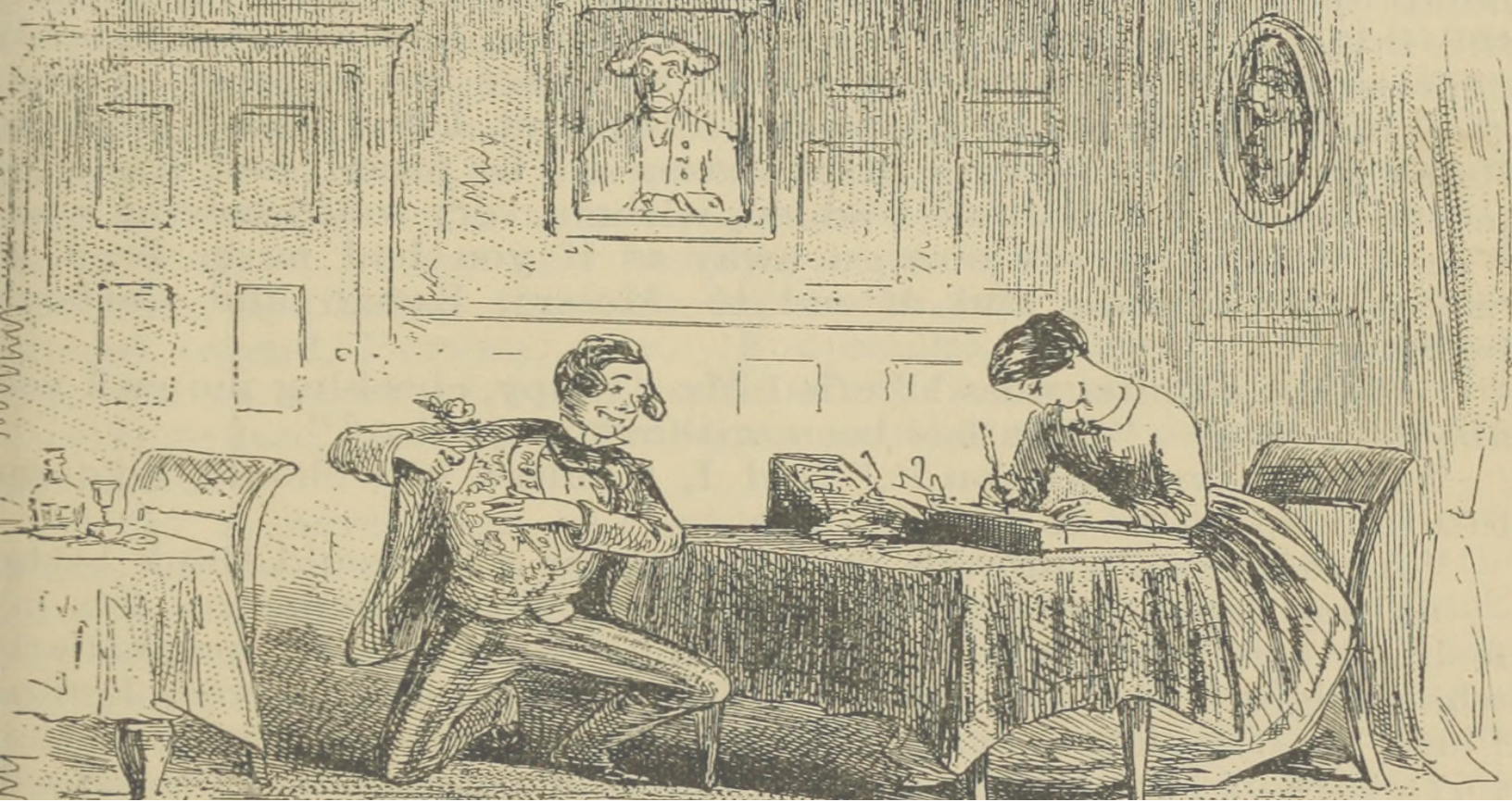
*Jules Breton
1881*

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As a way to serve parents and teachers seeking to build a robust reading culture, the Cana Academy team has assembled a list of classics for high-school readers. We hope this collection helps your readers continue to grow in their love of great literature.

High-school students still benefit from hearing great stories read aloud; this list contains books for independent reading and reading aloud. It also includes some non-fiction appropriate for high-school students. Any of the books could be used in formal curricula. We also recommend consulting our reading list for grades 1-8 for more titles, some of which may suit younger high-school students.



9th GRAD ADE

Fiction:

Billy Budd, Sailor, Herman Melville

Strong Poison, Have His Carcase, Gaudy Night, Busman's Honeymoon, Dorothy Sayers

Nine Tailors, Dorothy Sayers

The Space Trilogy: Out of the Silent Planet, Perelandra, and That Hideous Strength, C.S. Lewis

The Last of the Mohicans, James Fenimore Cooper

Witness for the Prosecution, Agatha Christie

Jane Eyre, Charlotte Brontë

The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn, Mark Twain

The Turn of the Screw, Henry James

Pride and Prejudice, Jane Austen

Persuasion, Jane Austen

My Ántonia, Willa Cather

Personal Recollections of Joan of Arc, Mark Twain (historical fiction)

North and South, Elizabeth Gaskell

My Life and Hard Times, James Thurber

The Old Man and the Sea, Ernest Hemingway

The Red Badge of Courage, Stephen Crane

Robinson Crusoe, Daniel Defoe

The Screwtape Letters, C.S. Lewis

The Man Who Was Thursday, G.K. Chesterton

Nicholas Nickleby, Charles Dickens

When Hell Was in Session, Jeremiah Denton (mature)

Short Stories:

"Gift of the Magi," O. Henry

"Revelation," Flannery O'Connor

"Parker's Back," Flannery O'Connor

"Neighbor Rosicky," Willa Cather

"The Palace Thief," Ethan Canin

Plays:

The Importance of Being Earnest, Oscar Wilde

Our Town, Thornton Wilder

Romeo and Juliet, Shakespeare¹

¹As with all the texts on this list by Shakespeare, we recommend the Folger Library edition. While the editors retain the full, rich language of the Bard, the format helps the contemporary reader.

Non-fiction:

West with the Night, Beryl Markham

Undaunted Courage, Stephen E. Ambrose

The Rise of Theodore Roosevelt, Edmund Morris

Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, Frederick Douglass



10th GRADE

Fiction:

Emma, Jane Austen

Les Misérables, Victor Hugo

Death Comes for the Archbishop, Willa Cather

Cry, the Beloved Country, Alan Paton

A Room with a View, E.M. Forster

Bleak House, Charles Dickens

A Tale of Two Cities, Charles Dickens

Wives and Daughters, Elizabeth Gaskell

Crime and Punishment, Fyodor Dostoyevsky

The Count of Monte Cristo, Alexandre Dumas (It is imperative that only the censored/abridged version be used.)

Animal Farm, George Orwell

Kristin Lavransdatter, Sigrid Undset (mature)

The Scarlet Letter, Nathaniel Hawthorne

Short Stories:

Stories of Anton Chekhov, Anton Chekhov

The Short Stories of F. Scott Fitzgerald, F. Scott Fitzgerald

Plays:

A Man for All Seasons, Robert Bolt

A Midsummer Night's Dream, Shakespeare

Henry IV, Shakespeare

Henry V, Shakespeare

Non-fiction:

Out of Africa, Isak Dinesen

Survival in Auschwitz, Primo Levi (mature)

Fear No Evil, Natan Sharansky (mature)

The Second Treatise of Civil Government, John Locke

Seabiscuit, Laura Hillenbrand

John Adams, David McCullough



11th GR A D E

τι δὲ τηχάνομεν πρότερον ἡρεκόπεις, ὅππῃ τὸ μέσον εἰς ἡσσαι
μήτε τὴν ὑπεβολὴν, μήτε τὴν ἑλλησιν. τὸ δὲ μέσον εἶναι, ὡς ὁ
θεὸς λόγος λέγει τοῦτο διέλομεν. ἐν πάσαις γὰρ ταῖς ἡμέραις
καὶ θάπτε καὶ ἐπὶ τῶν αἰώνων ἐπὶ πᾶσι σκοπὸς, πρὸς ὃν δὲ
τὸν λόγον ἔχον, ἐπιτείνεις καὶ ἀνίκοι, καὶ τίς ἐστὶν ὁ
αἰς μετὰ φανέν εἶναι, τῆς ὑπεβολῆς καὶ τῆς ἑλλείψεως, οὐκ
τὰ τὸν ὁρῶν λόγον. ἐστὶ δὲ τὸ μὲν εἰπὴν οὕτως
δὲ σαφές, καὶ γὰρ ἐν ταῖς αἰήταις ἐπιμελείαις, περὶ οὗ
δήμι, τοῦτο μὲν εἰπὴν ὅτι οὔτε πλείω οὔτε ἐλάττω
βαθύνειν, ἀλλὰ τὰ μέσα, καὶ οὗς ὁ θεὸς λόγος
ἔχων αὐτὸς οὐδὲν αὐτὸν εἰδὴν πλέον, οἷον ποῖα

Fiction:

Our Mutual Friend, Charles Dickens

The Age of Innocence, Edith Wharton

The House of the Seven Gables, Nathaniel Hawthorne

Moby Dick, Herman Melville

The Great Gatsby, F. Scott Fitzgerald

Heart of Darkness, Joseph Conrad

All Quiet on the Western Front, Erich Maria Remarque (mature)

The Iliad, Homer

The Odyssey, Homer

The Aeneid, Virgil

Ivanhoe, Sir Walter Scott

Fathers and Sons, Turgenev

Short Stories:

The Short Stories of Ernest Hemingway, Ernest Hemingway

Plays:

Oedipus Rex, *Oedipus at Colonus*, and *Antigone*, Sophocles

The Oresteia, Aeschylus

Twelfth Night, Shakespeare

Merchant of Venice, Shakespeare

Much Ado About Nothing, Shakespeare

The Skin of Our Teeth, Thornton Wilder

The Crucible, Arthur Miller

Murder in the Cathedral, T.S. Eliot

Non-Fiction:

Grant, Ron Chernow (lengthy)

The American Revolution: A History, Gordon S. Wood

Five Dialogues, (*Euthyphro*, *Apology*, *Crito*, *Meno*, *Phaedo*), Plato

Unbroken, Laura Hillenbrand (mature)

History of the Peloponnesian War, Thucydides (Landmark edition)

Nicomachean Ethics, Aristotle

The Law, Frédéric Bastiat

Confessions, Augustine of Hippo

On the Incarnation, Athanasius

The Desert Fathers: Sayings of the Early Christian Monks, Benedicta Ward
(translator)

MACBETH

TRAGEDIA DE W.
SHAKESPEARE.
VERSION ALEGA
DE F. DRES-BA-
RRETT.

12th

GRADDE



Fiction:

Brideshead Revisited, Evelyn Waugh

Anna Karenina, Leo Tolstoy

The Brothers Karamazov, Fyodor Dostoyevsky

Wise Blood, Flannery O'Connor

Old School, Tobias Wolff

Nineteen Eighty-Four, George Orwell (mature)

The Portrait of a Lady, Henry James

Middlemarch, George Eliot (Mary Ann Evans)

Don Quixote, Cervantes

The Painted Veil, William Somerset Maugham

The Divine Comedy, Dante

Paradise Lost, Milton

A Death in the Family, James Agee

The Sound and the Fury, William Faulkner

The Great Divorce, C.S. Lewis

One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich, Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn

Short Stories:

Selected Stories of Alice Munro, Alice Munro

"Good Country People," Flannery O'Connor

"The Dead," James Joyce

"After Rain" (from the collection of the same name), William Trevor

Plays:

Hamlet, Shakespeare

Macbeth, Shakespeare

King Lear, Shakespeare

Non-Fiction:

Treatise on Law (from *Summa Theologica*), Thomas Aquinas

A Room of One's Own, Virginia Woolf

Night, Elie Wiesel (mature)

The Republic, Plato

Mystery and Manners, Flannery O'Connor

The Politics, Aristotle

Capitalism and Freedom, Milton Friedman

Democracy in America, Alexis de Tocqueville

Images:

Tenth Grade section banner image: *Murder in the Cathedral*, {{PD-Art | PD-old-70 | author unknown | Britain}}

Eleventh Grade section banner image: *Nicomachean Ethics*, PD-old-70

Twelfth Grade section banner image: *A Traxedia de Macbeth* 1972 Shakespeare.jpeg, uploaded by UploadWizard, used under Attribution-Share Alike 4.0 International: <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/deed.en>