

Suggested Texts for a Rigorous English 11 Course

Like the syllabus, the list of suggested texts was compiled through the *On Course for Success* study. It is not intended to be a comprehensive booklist for any single English 11 course. Rather, it represents a diverse collection of texts that have been taught in successful classrooms. It can be used as a point of comparison to a particular district's, school's, or teacher's current English 11 curriculum and as a means to prompt conversation and reflection among teachers within and across school districts.

Author	Title
Drama	
Euripides	<i>Medea</i>
Federico García Lorca	<i>Blood Wedding</i>
Lorraine Hansberry	<i>A Raisin in the Sun</i>
David Henry Hwang	<i>M. Butterfly</i>
Henrik Ibsen	<i>A Doll's House</i> <i>Hedda Gabler</i>
Jerome Lawrence & Robert E. Lee	<i>The Night Thoreau Spent in Jail</i>
Arthur Miller	<i>The Crucible</i> <i>Death of a Salesman</i>
Eugene O'Neill	<i>Desire Under the Elms</i>
Jean Paul Sartre	<i>No Exit</i>
William Shakespeare	<i>Hamlet</i> <i>Othello</i> <i>Macbeth</i> <i>The Tempest</i>
George Bernard Shaw	<i>Arms and the Man</i>
Sophocles	<i>Oedipus Rex</i> <i>Oedipus at Colonus</i>
Tom Stoppard	<i>Arcadia</i> <i>Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead</i>
Oscar Wilde	<i>The Importance of Being Earnest</i>
Tennessee Williams	<i>The Glass Menagerie</i>
August Wilson	<i>The Piano Lesson</i> <i>Two Trains Running</i>
Essay	
Mortimer Adler	"How to Mark a Book"
James Baldwin	"My Dungeon Shook: Letter to my Nephew on the One Hundredth Anniversary of the Emancipation"
Sarah Boxer	"Dark Forces"
Judy Brady	"Why I Want a Wife"
Bernard Drabeck	"Ban Shakespeare"
T. S. Eliot	"What Is Poetry?"
Ralph Waldo Emerson	"Self-Reliance"
Ellen Goodman	"The Company Man"
Barbara Grizzuti Harrison	"Moral Ambiguity"
Zora Neale Hurston	"How It Feels To Be Colored Me"
George Orwell	"Politics and the English Language"
Paul Roberts	"How to Say Nothing in 500 Words"

Author	Title
Suzanne Ruta	"A Life of Resistance"
Wallace Stegner	"The Town Dump"
Gloria Steinem	"Sisterhood"
Jonathan Swift	"A Modest Proposal"
Jo Goodwin Parker	"What is Poverty?"
Bailey White	"Good Housekeeping"
Fiction	
Chinua Achebe	<i>Things Fall Apart</i>
Paula Gunn Allen	<i>Deer Woman</i>
Rudolfo A. Anaya	<i>Bless Me, Ultima</i>
Margaret Atwood	<i>The Handmaid's Tale</i>
Jane Austen	<i>Sense and Sensibility</i>
John Barth	<i>Chimera</i>
Ray Bradbury	<i>Fahrenheit 451</i>
Olive Ann Burns	<i>Cold Sassy Tree</i>
Octavia Butler	<i>Kindred</i>
Lewis Carroll	<i>Alice's Adventures in Wonderland</i>
Willa Cather	<i>Death Comes for the Archbishop</i>
Kate Chopin	<i>The Awakening</i>
Joseph Conrad	<i>The Heart of Darkness</i>
Stephen Crane	<i>The Red Badge of Courage</i>
Tsitsi Dangarembga	<i>Nervous Conditions</i>
Fyodor Dostoyevsky	<i>The Grand Inquisitor</i>
Ralph Ellison	<i>Invisible Man</i>
Fumiko Enchi	<i>The Waiting Years</i>
F. Scott Fitzgerald	<i>The Great Gatsby</i>
Gustave Flaubert	<i>Madame Bovary</i>
Pat Frank	<i>Alas, Babylon</i>
Ernest J. Gaines	<i>A Lesson Before Dying</i>
Thomas Hardy	<i>The Mayor of Casterbridge</i>
Nathaniel Hawthorne	<i>The Scarlet Letter</i>
Ernest Hemingway	<i>A Farewell to Arms</i>
	<i>The Old Man and the Sea</i>
	<i>The Sun Also Rises</i>
Hermann Hesse	<i>Siddhartha</i>
Zora Neale Hurston	<i>Their Eyes Were Watching God</i>
Aldous Huxley	<i>Brave New World</i>
James Joyce	<i>Dubliners</i>
Barbara Kingsolver	<i>Animal Dreams</i>
C. S. Lewis	<i>The Screwtape Letters</i>
Claire Lispector	<i>The Hour of the Star</i>
Sir Thomas Malory	<i>Le Morte d'Arthur</i>
Gabriel García Marquez	<i>One Hundred Years of Solitude</i>
Herman Melville	<i>Moby-Dick</i>
Toni Morrison	<i>The Song of Solomon</i>
Alan Paton	<i>Cry, The Beloved Country</i>
Chaim Potok	<i>The Chosen</i>
J. D. Salinger	<i>The Catcher In The Rye</i>

Author	Title
Mary Shelley	<i>Frankenstein</i>
Alexander Solzhenitsyn	<i>One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich</i>
John Steinbeck	<i>The Grapes of Wrath</i> <i>Of Mice and Men</i>
Jonathan Swift	<i>Gulliver's Travels</i>
Mark Twain	<i>The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn</i>
Kurt Vonnegut	<i>Slaughterhouse Five</i>
Margaret Walker	<i>Jubilee</i>
Edith Wharton	<i>Ethan Frome</i>
Richard Wright	<i>Native Son</i>
Nonfiction	
Aristotle	<i>The Poetics</i>
Charles L. Blockson	<i>The Underground Railroad</i>
William Bradford	<i>Of Plymouth Plantation</i>
Rachel Carson	<i>The Sea Around Us</i>
Center for World Indigenous Studies	<i>Indians of All Nations: The Alcatraz Proclamation to the Great White Father and His People, 1969</i>
Merlin Donald	<i>A Mind So Rare: The Evolution of Human Consciousness</i>
W. E. B. DuBois	<i>The Souls of Black Folk</i>
Frederick Douglass	<i>Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, An American Slave</i>
Benjamin Franklin	<i>The Autobiography of Benjamin Franklin</i> <i>Poor Richard's Almanac</i>
Robert Johnson	<i>He: Understanding Masculine Psychology</i> <i>The Fisher King and the Handless Maiden: Understanding the Wounded Feeling Function in Masculine and Feminine Psychology</i>
Martin Luther King Jr.	<i>Stride Toward Freedom: The Montgomery Story</i>
Niccolò Machiavelli	<i>The Prince</i>
Anne Moody	<i>Coming of Age in Mississippi: An Autobiography</i>
Andrew Newberg, Eugene D'Aquili, & Vince Rause	<i>Why God Won't Go Away: Brain Science and the Biology of Belief</i>
Friedrich Nietzsche	<i>The Birth of Tragedy</i>
Thomas Paine	<i>Common Sense</i>
Plato	<i>The Republic</i>
William Strunk & E. B. White	<i>The Elements of Style</i>
Henry David Thoreau	<i>Walden</i>
Biblical Literature	
	The Book of Exodus
	The Book of Job
	The Book of Matthew
	Psalm 32:1-5
Sermon	
Jonathan Edwards	"Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God"
Historical Document	
Benjamin Banneker	Letter to Thomas Jefferson

Author	Title
Thomas Jefferson	Declaration of Independence of the United States of America
Elizabeth Cady Stanton & Lucretia Mott	The Declaration of Sentiments
Epic	
Dante Alighieri	<i>The Inferno</i>
Anonymous	<i>Sir Gawain and the Green Knight</i>
Geoffrey Chaucer	<i>The Canterbury Tales</i>
Seamus Heaney (Trans.)	<i>Beowulf</i>
Homer	<i>The Iliad</i>
Stephen Mitchell (Trans.)	<i>Gilgamesh: A New English Version</i>
Poem	
E. E. Cummings	"Ode to Phoebe (What Is a poet?)"
John Donne	"Death be not proud, though some have called thee"
Robert Frost	"Acquainted with the Night"
	"Mending Wall"
	"Out, Out"
Allen Ginsberg	"A Supermarket in California"
Pablo Neruda	"Full Powers"
Edgar Allan Poe	"The Bells"
	"Annabel Lee"
	"The Raven"
	"To Helen"
E. A. Robinson	"Karma"
Jimmy Santiago Baca	"Who Understands Me But Me"
William Shakespeare	Sonnets
Edward Taylor	"Upon A Spider Catching a Fly"
Walt Whitman	"Song of Myself"
Short Story	
Ambrose Bierce	"An Occurrence at Owl Creek Bridge"
	"A Horseman in the Sky"
Ray Bradbury	"The Murderer"
Willa Cather	"A Wagner Matinee"
Julio Cortázar	"House Taken Over"
Charlotte Perkins Gilman	"The Yellow Wallpaper"
Nathaniel Hawthorne	"The Minister's Black Veil"
Lucy Honig	"English as a Second Language"
Washington Irving	"The Devil and Tom Walker"
Franz Kafka	"Metamorphosis"
Bernard Malamud	"Armistice"
Herman Melville	"Bartleby the Scrivener"
Flannery O'Connor	"The Life You Save May Be Your Own"
Edgar Allan Poe	"The Black Cat"
	"The Fall of the House of Usher"
	"The Masque of the Red Death"
	"The Pit and the Pendulum"
	"The Tell-Tale Heart"
Mark Twain	"The Celebrated Jumping Frog of Calaveras County"
John Updike	"Separating"

Author	Title
Kurt Vonnegut	"Harrison Bergeron"
Speech	
John F. Kennedy	Inaugural Address
Abraham Lincoln	The Gettysburg Address
Martin Luther King Jr.	"I Have a Dream"
Documentary Film	
James Fortier & Millie Ketcheshawno	<i>We Hold The Rock</i>
Motion Picture	
Michael Curtiz (Dir.)	<i>The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn</i>