

# Henry County Schools

*Office of English/Language Arts*

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## *District Text Exemplar List*



Learning and Leadership Services



The Henry County Office of English/Language Arts is proud to provide the initial draft of our district text exemplar reading list for continued stakeholder input and revisions.

Our text exemplar list is not a comprehensive book list. It does not mandate a particular text for a particular grade nor does it prohibit a particular text from a particular grade. It is simply a recommendation from district ELA leadership for authentic standards driven instructional selections.

### **Our Text Exemplar Philosophy**

We strongly believe that effective standards based ELA instruction require complex text. These texts allow students to interact with words, images, and ideas in ways that develop their abilities in reading, listening, viewing, thinking, speaking, writing, and using media and technology.

Because these text and like instructional materials are a primary resource for English language arts teachers, they must be selected wisely.

As provided by our Department of Education's guidelines for text exemplar lists, some key considerations in our district include:

- Reading volume matters for adolescents; encourage students to read widely and to choose books and other reading materials related to their interests.
- Challenging books and other reading materials can be accessible with teacher support (e.g., by building background knowledge, previewing vocabulary, and providing reading guides).
- Identify texts in sets that work together to prepare students to read more challenging texts.
- Identify books and other reading materials that represent a variety of interests and Lexile levels.
- Exercise caution concerning the social appropriateness of fiction or non-fiction written above grade level.
- Ensure that the books and other reading materials selected represent a variety of cultures and viewpoints.

### **Our Text Exemplar Selection Process**

Department chairpersons gathered several times to recommend reading selections and solicit feedback from department members throughout the 2013-2014 school year.

Our compiled first draft was distributed for review and commentary on March 7. The deadline for additions and deletions with appropriate rationales was March 28.

The second draft was distributed for review and commentary on April 2. Final approval by district chairpersons occurred during the summer of 2014.

# 6th Grade

## Grade Six Fiction Exemplars

*Hatchet* by Gary Paulsen

*Freak the Mighty* by Rodman Philbrick

*A Wrinkle in Time* by Madeleine L'Engle

*The Dark is Rising* by Susan Cooper

*The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe* by

*Little Women* by Louisa May Alcott

## Grade Six Fiction Exemplars

*The Lightning Thief* by Rick Riordan

*D'Aulaires Book of Greek Myths* by Ingrid  
and Edgar Parin D'Aulaire

*Dragonwings* by Laurence Yep

## Grade Six Nonfiction Exemplars

"The Hero's Journey" by Zachary Hamby

"Shrouded in Myth" by Jessica Fisher Neidl



## Grade Seven Fiction Exemplars

*Tears of a Tiger* by Sharon Draper

*Forged by Fire* by Sharon Draper

*The Hobbit* by J. R. R. Tolkien

*The Giver* by Lois Lowry

*The Outsiders* by S. E. Hinton

*Roll of Thunder Hear My Cry* by Mildred D.  
Taylor

## Grade Seven Fiction Exemplars

*A Long Walk to Water* by Linda Sue Park

## Grade Seven Nonfiction Exemplars

*Gifted Hands* by Ben Carson

*The Narrative of the Life of Frederick  
Douglass* by Frederick Douglass

*While the World Watched* by Carolyn Maull  
McKinstry



### **Grade Eight Fiction Exemplars**

*To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee

*The Diary of Anne Frank* by Anne Frank  
and B.M. Mooyaart

*That was Then, This is Now* by S. E. Hinton

### **Grade Eight Fiction Exemplars**

*Bad Boy* by Walter Dean Myers

*Across Five Aprils* by Irene Hunt

*Monster* by Walter Dean Myers



### **Ninth Grade Literature and Composition Fiction Exemplars**

*Romeo and Juliet* by William Shakespeare  
or any Shakespearean Comedy

*Lord of the Flies* by William Golding

*The Odyssey* by Homer

*The Secret Life of Bees* by Sue Monk Kidd

*Maus* by Artie Spiegelman

*Life of Pi* by Yann Martel

### **Ninth Grade Literature and Composition Fiction Exemplars**

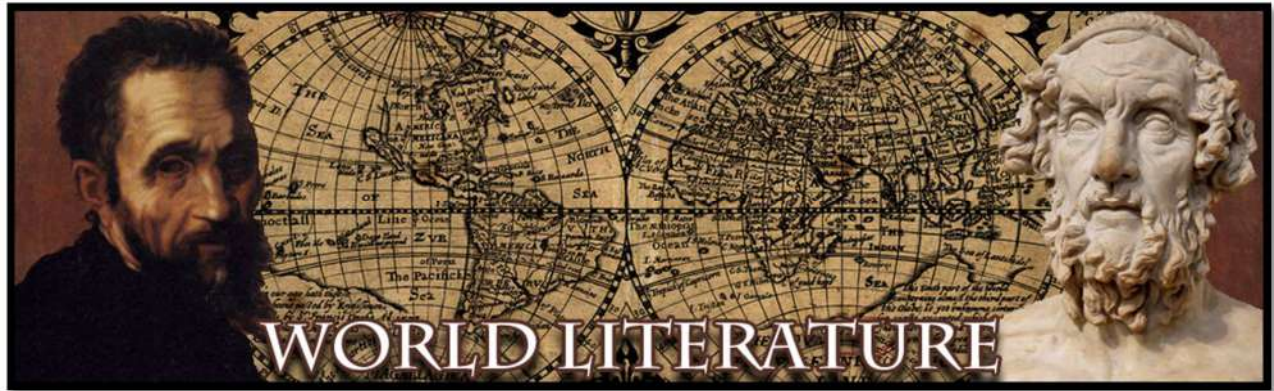
*Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury

*1984* by George Orwell

### **Ninth Grade Literature and Composition Nonfiction Exemplars**

*The Hot Zone* by Richard Preston

*I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings* by Maya  
Angelou



**World Literature and Composition  
Fiction Exemplars**

*Macbeth* by William Shakespeare or any  
Shakespearean History Play

*In the Time of Butterflies* by Julia Alvarez

*The Joy Luck Club* by Amy Tan

*The Book Thief* by Markus Zusak

*The Metamorphosis* by Franz Kafka

**World Literature and Composition  
Fiction Exemplars**

*The Stranger* by Albert Camus

*Night* by Elie Wiesel

*Things Fall Apart* by Chinua Achebe

*Oedipus Rex* or any work in the Oedipus  
cycle by Sophocles

*Animal Farm* by George Orwell



**American Literature and Composition  
Fiction Exemplars**

*The Things They Carried* by Tim O'Brien

*The Water is Wide* by Pat Conroy

*A Lesson Before Dying* by Ernest Gaines

*The Scarlet Letter* by Nathaniel Hawthorne

*The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald

**American Literature and Composition  
Fiction Exemplars**

*Their Eyes Were Watching God* by Zora  
Neale Hurston

*The Crucible* by Arthur Miller

*Death of a Salesman* by Arthur Miller

# BRITISH LITERATURE

## **British and Commonwealth Literature and Composition Fiction Exemplars**

*Never Let Me Go* by Kazuo Ishiguro

*Atonement* by Ian McEwan

*Frankenstein* by Mary Shelly

*Dr. Jeckyll and Mr. Hyde* by Robert Louis  
Stevenson

*The Portrait of Dorian Gray* by Oscar Wilde  
or any play by Oscar Wilde of similar  
literary value

## **British and Commonwealth Literature and Composition Fiction Exemplars**

*Pygmalion* by George Bernard Shaw

*Pride and Prejudice* by Jane Austen or any  
Jane Austen novel

*Othello* by William Shakespeare or any  
Shakespearean tragedy