

Literature

Readability Scores

American Literature

Unit 1

“The World on a Turtle’s Back” Iroquois

Difficulty Level: Average

Readability: Lexile 850, Fry 6, Dale-Chall 5.2

“Coyote and the Buffalo” retold by Mourning Dove

Difficulty Level: Easy

Readability: Lexile 710, Fry 6/7, Dale-Chall 5.4

from *The Way to Rainy Mountain* by N. Scott Momaday

Difficulty Level: Average

Readability: Lexile 1000, Fry 8, Dale-Chall 6.4

from *La Relación* by Álvar Núñez Cabeza de Vaca

Difficulty Level: Average

Readability: Lexile 1010, Fry 10, Dale-Chall 6.3

“The Interesting Narrative of the Life of Olaudah Equiano” by Olaudah Equiano

Difficulty Level: Average

Readability: Lexile 1220, Fry: College, Dale-Chall 6.9

from *The General History of Virginia* by John Smith

Difficulty Level: Challenging

Readability: Lexile 1680, Fry 8, Dale-Chall 8.0

from *Of Plymouth Plantation* by William Bradford

Difficulty Level: Challenging

Readability: Lexile 1370, Fry 10, Dale-Chall 6.7

“To My Dear and Loving Husband”/ “Upon the Burning of Our House, July 10th, 1666”

both by Anne Bradstreet/ “Huswifery” by Edward Taylor

Difficulty Level: Average

from *Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God* by Jonathan Edwards

Difficulty Level: Challenging

Readability: Lexile 1210, Fry 9, Dale-Chall 6.6

The Crucible Act I by Arthur Miller

Difficulty Level: Average

The Crucible Act II by Arthur Miller
Difficulty Level: Average

The Crucible Act III by Arthur Miller
Difficulty Level: Average

The Crucible Act IV by Arthur Miller
Difficulty Level: Average

“The Crucible and McCarthyism”
Difficulty Level: Average

“Speech in the Virginia Convention” by Patrick Henry
Difficulty Level: Challenging
Readability: Lexile 990, Fry 9, Dale-Chall 7.4

The Declaration of Independence by Thomas Jefferson
Difficulty Level: Challenging
Readability: Lexile 1320, Fry 12, Dale-Chall 8.9

from *The Crisis* by Thomas Paine
Difficulty Level: Average
Readability: Lexile 1180, Fry 10, Dale-Chall 7.5

“Letter to the Reverend Samson Occom” by Phillis Wheatley/ “Letter to John Adams” by Abigail Adams
Difficulty Level: Average
Readability: Lexile 1230, Fry 9, Dale-Chall 7.9

from *The Autobiography* by Benjamin Franklin
Difficulty Level: Average
Readability: Lexile 1390, Fry 8, Dale-Chall 7.2

American Literature
Unit 2

“The Devil and Tom Walker” by Washington Irving
Difficulty Level: Challenging
Readability: Lexile 1120, Fry 9, Dale-Chall 7.3

“Thanatopsis” by William Cullen Bryant
Difficulty Level: Challenging

“A Psalm of Life”/ “The Tide Rises, The Tide Falls” both by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow
Difficulty Level: Average

“The Chambered Nautilus”/ “Old Ironsides” both by Oliver Wendell Holmes
Difficulty Level: Average

“Snowbound A Winter Idyll” by John Greenleaf Whittier/ “The First Snowfall” by James
Russell Lowell
Difficulty Level: Average

from *Self-Reliance* by Ralph Waldo Emerson
Difficulty Level: Challenging
Readability: Lexile 1010, Fry 10, Dale-Chall 7.0

from *Nature* by Ralph Waldo Emerson
Difficulty Level: Challenging
Readability: Lexile 980, Fry 7, Dale-Chall 6.8

from *Woman in the Nineteenth Century* by Margaret Fuller
Difficulty Level: Challenging
Readability: Lexile 1170, Fry 7, Dale-Chall 7.0

“The Fall of the House of Usher” by Edgar Allan Poe
Difficulty Level: Challenging
Readability: Lexile 1440, Fry 9, Dale-Chall 8.6

“The Masque of the Red Death” by Edgar Allan Poe
Difficulty Level: Challenging
Readability: Lexile 1240, Fry 8, Dale-Chall 8.0

“The Raven” by Edgar Allan Poe
Difficulty Level: Average

“The Minister’s Black Veil” by Nathaniel Hawthorne
Difficulty Level: Challenging
Readability: Lexile 1260, Fry 10, Dale-Chall 7.8

American Literature
Unit 3

Selected Poetry by Walt Whitman
Difficulty Level: Average

Selected Poetry by Emily Dickinson
Difficulty Level: Challenging

from *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass* by Frederick Douglass
Difficulty Level: Average
Readability: Lexile 970, Fry 7, Dale-Chall 6.1

from *Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl* by Harriet Jacobs
Difficulty Level: Average
Readability: Lexile 810, Fry 6, Dale-Chall 5.9

“The Gettysburg Address” by Abraham Lincoln
Difficulty Level: Challenging
Readability: Lexile 1170, Fry 8, Dale-Chall 7.0

“The Emancipation Proclamation January 1, 1863” by Abraham Lincoln
Difficulty Level: Challenging
Readability: Lexile 1990, Fry 11, Dale-Chall 9.4

“Voices from the Civil War”
Difficulty Level: Average

“An Occurrence at Owl Creek Bridge” by Ambrose Bierce
Difficulty Level: Average
Readability: Lexile 1000, Fry 9, Dale-Chall 6.9

American Literature Unit 4

from *The Autobiography of Mark Twain* by Mark Twain
Difficulty Level: Average
Readability: Lexile 1120, Fry: College, Dale-Chall 7.1

from *Life on the Mississippi* by Mark Twain
Difficulty Level: Average
Readability: Lexile 1120, Fry 9, Dale-Chall 6.5

“The Notorious Jumping Frog of Calaveras County” by Mark Twain
Difficulty Level: Average
Readability: Lexile 1620, Fry: College, Dale-Chall 7.5

“The Outcasts of Poker Flat” by Bret Harte
Difficulty Level: Average
Readability: Lexile 1170, Fry 11, Dale-Chall 7.8

“A Wagner Matinee” by Willa Cather
Difficulty Level: Average
Readability: Lexile 1470, Fry: College, Dale-Chall 7.6

“The Open Boat” by Stephen Crane
Difficulty Level: Challenging
Readability: Lexile 980, Fry 7, Dale-Chall 6.3

“The Wreck of the *Commodore*”
Difficulty Level: Average

“The Law of Life” by Jack London
Difficulty Level: Average
Readability: Lexile 910, Fry 9, Dale-Chall 6.5

“The Story of an Hour” by Kate Chopin
Difficulty Level: Average
Readability: Lexile 970, Fry 10, Dale-Chall 6.2

“The Yellow Wallpaper” by Charlotte Perkins Gilman
Difficulty Level: Average
Readability: Lexile 930, Fry 7, Dale-Chall 5.8

“April Showers” by Edith Wharton
Difficulty Level: Average
Readability: Lexile 1010, Fry 9, Dale-Chall 6.8

American Literature Unit 5

Selected Poetry by Langston Hughes
Difficulty Level: Average

“My City” by James Weldon Johnson/ “If We Must Die” by Claude McKay
Difficulty Level: Average

“Any Human to Another” by Countee Cullen/ “Storm Ending” by Jean Toomer/ “A
Black Man Talks of Reaping” by Arna Bontemps
Difficulty Level: Average

“How It Feels to Be Colored Me” by Zora Neale Hurston
Difficulty Level: Average
Readability: Lexile 920, Fry 11, Dale-Chall 6.4

“Thoughts on the African-American Novel” by Toni Morrison
Difficulty Level: Challenging
Readability: Lexile 1130, Fry: College, Dale-Chall 7.0

“Richard Cory”/ “Miniver Cheevy” both by Edwin Arlington Robinson/ “Lucinda Matlock” by Edgar Lee Masters
Difficulty Level: Average

“Chicago”/ “Grass” both by Carl Sandburg
Difficulty Level: Average

Selected Poetry by Robert Frost
Difficulty Level: Average

“The Death of the Hired Man” by Robert Frost
Difficulty Level: Average

“In a Station of the Metro” by Ezra Pound/ “Helen” by H.D./ “This Is Just to Say”/
“Spring and All” both by William Carlos Williams
Difficulty Level: Average

“anyone lived in a pretty how town” by E.E. Cummings/ “Poetry” by Marianne Moore/
“Recuerdo” by Edna St. Vincent Millay
Difficulty Level: Challenging

“The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock” by T.S. Eliot
Difficulty Level: Challenging

“Winter Dreams” by F. Scott Fitzgerald
Difficulty Level: Average
Readability: Lexile 1100, Fry: College, Dale-Chall 6.6

“In Another Country” by Ernest Hemingway
Difficulty Level: Average
Readability: Lexile 1050, Fry 6, Dale-Chall 5.4

“Photo Essay: The Grapes of Wrath”
Difficulty Level: Average
Readability: Lexile 1200, Fry: College, Dale-Chall 7.6

“The Jilting of Granny Weatherall” by Katherine Anne Porter
Difficulty Level: Challenging
Readability: Lexile 820, Fry 6, Dale-Chall 5.4

“A Worn Path” by Eudora Welty
Difficulty Level: Average
Readability: Lexile 770, Fry 12, Dale-Chall 5.1

“A Rose for Emily” by William Faulkner
Difficulty Level: Average
Readability: Lexile 1120, Fry 11, Dale-Chall 6.4

“The Life You Save May Be Your Own” by Flannery O’Connor
Difficulty Level: Average
Readability: Lexile 1000, Fry 7, Dale-Chall 5.6

“A New Kind of War” by Ernest Hemingway
Difficulty Level: Average
Readability: Lexile 990, Fry 9, Dale-Chall 5.7

“A Book of Great Short Stories” by Dorothy Parker
Difficulty Level: Average
Readability: Lexile 1030, Fry 9, Dale-Chall 7.0

“The Duty of Writers” by E.B. White
Difficulty Level: Challenging
Readability: Lexile 1210, Fry: College, Dale-Chall 7.7

American Literature Unit 6

“Why Soldiers Won’t Talk” by John Steinbeck
Difficulty Level: Average
Readability: Lexile 940, Fry 9, Dale-Chall 6.4

“The Death of the Ball Turret Gunner” by Randall Jarrell
Difficulty Level: Average

“Adam” by Kurt Vonnegut Jr.
Difficulty Level: Average
Readability: Lexile 740, Fry 8, Dale-Chall 6.2

“Ambush” by Tim O’Brien
Difficulty Level: Average
Readability: Lexile 940, Fry 9, Dale-Chall 5.6

“Letter from a Birmingham Jail” by Martin Luther King Jr.
Difficulty Level: Challenging
Readability: Lexile 1250, Fry 12, Dale-Chall 8.3

from *Stride Toward Freedom* by Martin Luther King Jr.
Difficulty Level: Challenging
Readability: Lexile 1060, Fry: College, Dale-Chall 8.8

“Necessary to Protect Ourselves” Interview with Malcolm X by Les Crane
Difficulty Level: Challenging
Readability: Lexile 1320, Fry 8, Dale-Chall 7.3

“Martin Luther King Jr.: He Showed Us the Way”
Difficulty Level: Average

from *Coming of Age in Mississippi* by Anne Moody
Difficulty Level: Average
Readability: Lexile 880, Fry 10, Dale-Chall 5.9

“My Dungeon Shook: Letter to My Nephew on the One Hundredth Anniversary of the Emancipation” by James Baldwin
Difficulty Level: Challenging
Readability: Lexile 1040, Fry 12, Dale-Chall 6.1

“Mother Tongue” by Amy Tan
Difficulty Level: Average
Readability: Lexile 1120, Fry 10, Dale-Chall 6.7

from *In Search of Our Mothers’ Gardens* by Alice Walker
Difficulty Level: Average
Readability: Lexile 1140, Fry 8, Dale-Chall 6.4

“Straw into Gold: The Metamorphosis of the Everyday” by Sandra Cisneros
Difficulty Level: Average
Readability: Lexile 920, Fry: College, Dale-Chall 6.5

“Life for My Child is Simple”/ “Primer for Blacks” both by Gwendolyn Brooks
Difficulty Level: Average

“Adolescence—III”/ “Testimonial” both by Rita Dove
Difficulty Level: Average

“Forgetfulness”/ “The Man in the Moon” both by Billy Collins
Difficulty Level: Average