

Required Reading Worldwide

Students are heading back to school – both high school and college – and are about to tackle some intense reading lists. Here are some examples of some of the types of books – both fiction and non-fiction – which show up on some international “required reading” lists.

U.S. and Canada

Pearl S. Buck – “The Good Earth”
Truman Capote – “In Cold Blood” [364.152 Cap]
William Shakespeare – “Julius Caesar” [822.33 Sha]
William Shakespeare – “The Tempest” [822.33 Sha]
Harper Lee – “To Kill a Mockingbird”
Mark Twain – “The Adv. Of Huckleberry Finn”
Herman Melville – “Billy Budd”
John Steinbeck – “The Grapes of Wrath”
J.R.R. Tolkien – “The Hobbit”
John Steinbeck – “Of Mice and Men”
Herman Hesse – “Siddhartha”
Mordecai Richter – “The Apprenticeship of Duddy Kravitz”
John Wyndham – “The Chrysalids”
Joseph Heller – “Catch 22”
William Shakespeare – “Hamlet” [822.33 Sha]
Margaret Atwood – “The Handmaid’s Tale”
John Marlyn – “Under the Ribs of Death” [NIL]
Erich Maria Remarque – “All Quiet on the Western Front”
John Knowles – “A Separate Peace”
Ken Kesey – “One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest”
S.E. Hinton – “The Outsiders”
William Shakespeare – “Romeo and Juliet” [822.33 Sha]
Willa Cather – “Death Comes for the Archbishop”
William Faulkner – “The Sound and the Fury”

Belgium

Andre Malraux – “Man’s Fate”
Maurice Druon – “Les Rois Maudits”
Marguerite Yourcenar – “Memories of Hadrian”
Emile Zola – “Theresa Raquin”
Louis F. Celine – “Voyage au Bout de la Nuit”

France

Marguerite Duras – “The North China Lover”
Charles Juliet – “Lambeaux”
Moliere – “La Malade Imaginaire”
Voltaire – “L’Ingenu”
Arthur Rimbaud – “Collected Poems”

Germany

Max Frisch – “Andorra”
Peter Harting – “Das War der Hirbel”
Friedrich Durrenmatt – “Der Besuch der alten Dame”

Theodor Fontane – “Effi Briest”
Johann Wolfgang Goethe – “Faust” [832 Goe]

Mexico

Carlos Fuentes – “Aura”
Gabriel Garcia Marquez – “One Hundred Years of Solitude”
Patrick Suskind – “Perfume”
Jose Emilio Pacheco – “Las Batallas en el Desierto”
Homer – “The Odyssey” [883 Hom]

Philippines

George Orwell – “Animal Farm”
J.D. Salinger – “Catcher in the Rye”
Arthur Miller – “Death of a Salesman” [812.08 Mil]
Jose Rizal – “El Filibusterismo”
Jose Rizal – “Noli Me Tangere”

Russia

Leo Tolstoy – “Anna Karenina”
Fyodor Dostoevsky – “Crime and Punishment”
Mikhail Bulgakov – “Heart of a Dog”
Mikhail Lermontov – “A Hero of Our Time”
Leo Tolstoy – “War and Peace”

United Kingdom

Barry Hines – “A Kestrel for a Knave”
Thomas Hardy – “Return of the Native”
Clive King – “Stig of the Dump”
Morton Rhue – “The Wave”
Cynthia Harnett – “The Woolpack”

Ukraine

Alexander Pushkin – “Eugene Onegin”
Nikolai Gogol – “The Government Inspector”
Nikolai Gogol – “The Overcoat and Other Stories”
Taras Shevchenko – “Selected Poems”
Fyodor Dostoevsky – “The Idiot”

Venezuela

Miguel de Cervantes – “Don Quixote de la Mancha”
Anne Frank – “The Diary of Anne Frank” [940.548 Fra]
Julio Cortazar – “Hopscotch”
Jorge Isaacs – “Maria”
Pedro Paramo – “Juan Rulfo”

This list was modified and expanded slightly from a list that appeared on AbeBooks.com. Not all titles may be in the libraries’ collection – take advantage of our InterLibrary Loan service. List compiled to accompany a “Back to School Reading” book display at Bennett Martin Public Library in August 2010. Lincoln City Libraries – Lincoln, Nebraska