

### **Suggested High School Book List**

(This is not meant to be an all-inclusive list. Some titles are easier than others and would be more appropriate for early high school years or readers who are just dipping their toes into more challenging literature. Titles that are known to be very challenging or the material contains some materials parents may want to monitor or censor are marked with an \*.) – Please preview titles you select beforehand to make sure it fits your family's comfort level.

I highly recommend finding and using an anthology that has a broad selection of poetry by these and other poets and excerpts of chapters of some of the more challenging authors on this list. This way your child has some exposure to these works and the anthology usually provides a good background and explanation of the overall piece of work and the author's works.

Also, for some of the titles, you may wish to read the book together and then watch the movie, or just watch the movies. (Again, depending upon the title, the parent may want to preview the movie to be forewarned of any content that may be out of your comfort zone.)

Note to Parents: These books have been selected based on their literary and story content as well as their rich language and they have stood the test of time.

Achebe, Chinua. Things Fall Apart.

Angelo, Maya. I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings.

Austen, Jane. Pride and Prejudice, Emma, Sense and Sensibility, Vanity Fair  
Beowulf\*

Blake, William. Poems\*

Bradbury, Ray. Fahrenheit 451\*

Bronte, Charlotte. Jane Eyre\*.

Bronte, Emily. Wuthering Heights\*.

Buck, Pearl S. Good Earth.

Bunyan, John. The Pilgrim's Progress\*

Cather, Willa. O Pioneers!

Chaucer, Geoffrey. The Canterbury Tales\*.

Crane, Stephen. The Red Badge of Courage.

Cooper, James Fenimore. The Last of the Mohicans, The Deerslayer (Leatherstocking Tales)

Dante, The Divine Comedy\*

Defoe, Daniel. Robinson Crusoe.

Dickens, Charles. Great Expectations, Oliver Twist, David Copperfield, A Tale of Two Cities\*.

Dickinson, Emily\*. Poems

Douglass, Frederick. Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass.

Dostoevsky, Fyodor. Crime and Punishment.\*

Doyle, Sir Arthur Conan. Hound of the Baskervilles, The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes.

Dumas, Alexandre. The Count of Monte Carlo, The Three Musketeers.

Eliot, George. Silas Marner

Eliot, T.S. The Waste Land and other Poems.\*

Ellison, Ralph. Invisible Man.

Emerson, Ralph Waldo. Nature.\*  
Fitzgerald, F. Scott. The Great Gatsby.  
Franklin, Benjamin. Autobiography of Benjamin Franklin.  
Golding, William. Lord of the Flies.  
Hemingway, Ernest. The Old Man and the Sea, The Sun Also Rises\*.  
Hawthorne, Nathaniel. Scarlet Letter\*, The House of Seven Gables.  
Herriot, James. All Creatures Great and Small.  
Homer. The Iliad, The Odyssey.\*  
Hughes, Langston. Poems.  
Hugo, Victor. The Hunchback of Notre Dame, Les Miserables\*  
Hurston, Zora Neale. Their Eyes Were Watching God.  
Keats, John. Poems.  
Kelly, Eric P. The Trumpeter of Krakow.  
Kipling, Rudyard. Captains Courageous.  
Knowles, John. A Separate Peace.  
Lee, Harper. To Kill a Mockingbird  
Lewis, C. S. Mere Christianity\*, The Screwtape Letters\*.  
Lowry, Lois. The Giver  
Melville, Herman. Moby Dick\*  
Miller, Arthur. The Crucible, Death of a Salesman.  
Milton, John. Paradise Lost and others\*  
Montgomery, Lucy Maud. Anne of Green Gables.  
O' Dell, Scott. The Black Pearl, The Hawk That Dare not Hunt by Day, The King's Fifth  
O. Henry. Short Stories, The Gift of the Magi.  
Orczy, Baroness. The Scarlet Pimpernel\*.  
Orwell, George. Animal Farm, 1984.  
Paton, Alan. Cry, The Beloved Country.  
Poe, Edgar Allen. Poems and Short Stories.\*  
Potok, Chaim. The Chosen.  
Remarque, Erich Maria. All Quiet on the Western Front.  
Saavedra, Miguel. Don Quixote of the Mancha\*.  
Scott, Sir Walter, Ivanhoe\*.  
Shakespeare, William\*. (His plays – comedies, tragedies and poetry) Romeo and Juliet, Hamlet, Macbeth, A Midsummer Night's Dream  
Shaw, George Bernard, Pygmalion.  
Shelley, Mary W. Frankenstein.  
Steinbeck, John. The Pearl, Of Mice and Men\*, The Grapes of Wrath  
Stevenson, Robert Louis. Treasure Island, Kidnapped, Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde.  
Stowe, Harriet Beecher. Uncle Tom's Cabin.  
Swift, Jonathan. Gulliver's Travels\*.  
Thoreau, Henry David. Walden\*.  
Tolkien, J. R. R. The Hobbit, The Lord of the Rings series  
Tolstoy, Leo\*. War and Peace, Anna Karenina.  
Twain, Mark (Samuel Clemens), Roughing It, A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court, Adventures of Huckleberry Finn, Life on the Mississippi, The Adventures of Tom Sawyer  
Virgil. The Aeneid\*.  
Weisel, Elie. Night.  
Wells, H. G. The Time Machine, The War of the Worlds.  
White, T. H. The Once and Future King\*  
Wilder, Thornton. The Bridge of San Luis Rey, Our Town