UNIT STUDIES FOR CRITICAL THINKING, READING, AND WRITING

**Literature & Thought** provides a wealth of opportunities for students to develop critical reading, writing, and thinking skills through the close reading of complex texts. With unparalleled flexibility to meet today’s curriculum needs, the program is designed to engage students and promote active discourse.

**DEVELOP CRITICAL READERS & WRITERS**

Each of the 25 anthologies has a central essential question to guide reading, writing, and discussion. Each unit within an anthology focuses on a critical thinking skill. Through a cluster of related readings, students learn to:

- apply close reading skills, reading deeply for meaning
- compare and contrast texts
- engage in active discourse
- learn and apply specific critical thinking, analytical, and evaluation skills
- respond and share ideas through writing, speaking, and listening activities

**What is Justice?**

The question above is the essential question that you will consider as you read this book. The literature, activities, and organization of the book will lead you to think critically about this question and to develop a deeper understanding of justice.

To help you shape your answer to the broad essential question, you will read and respond to four sections, or clusters. Each cluster addresses a specific question and thinking skill:

- **Cluster One** What’s fair—what’s not? **Evaluate**
- **Cluster Two** Who judges? **Analyze**
- **Cluster Three** Punishment or mercy? **Compare/Contrast**
- **Cluster Four** Thinking on your own **Synthesize**

Notice that the final cluster asks you to think independently about your answer to the essential question—What is justice?

**ACTIVE DISCOURSE & LITERACY**

Discussion guides assist teachers in engaging students in sharing ideas and evidence with the whole class, a small group, or in peer conversations.

Students develop communication and literacy skills as they collaborate to uncover meaning; gain new perspectives; and respond through discussion, writing, and a range of media.

Learn more at perfectionlearning.com/secondary-language-arts
ENCOURAGE CLOSE READING

Delve into a writer’s work using powerful questions and sophisticated textual analysis tools.

- Identify, label, and categorize textual evidence using annotation and highlighting tools.
- Collect evidence, ideas, and questions automatically using the digital notebook.
- Transfer ideas and evidence into selection and unit writing and discussion prompts.
- Use the close reading handbook in each student edition to improve students’ reading strategies and their collection and usage of textual evidence.

ENHANCE COLLABORATIVE LEARNING

Designed for collaborative learning, Literature & Thought Interactive editions provide a powerful tool set for exploring a text.

- Foster student engagement using the discussion wall.
- Encourage critical conversations using the point-of-use digital teaching support.
- Review and compare students’ annotations and notes. Share with the class or a small group.
SUPPORT ALL LEARNERS

State-of-the-art assistive reading technology supports struggling learners, English learners, and readers of various learning abilities and differences.

- translation into over 60 languages!
- text-to-speech for each language
- in-line tools support readers of differing abilities—including dyslexia, ADHD, autism, and cerebral palsy
  —highlighting lines of text
  —changing colors and fonts
  —visualizing word meanings through illustrations, syllabification, and parts of speech

DEVELOP SELF-DIRECTED WRITERS

Using PowerWrite online writing tools, students learn to self-evaluate their writing throughout the writing process.

- customizable rubrics for all forms of writing with student self-scoring
- built-in peer review opportunities
- real-time ability to monitor and comment on students’ writing progress
Lesson Planning
Plan and manage implementation over two to six weeks using lesson plans and pacing guides.

- Create context using introductory essays, visuals, concept vocabulary, and timelines.
- Help students identify their own positions and ideas prior to reading using the Anticipation Guide.
- Incorporate text sets into the unit using a range of literature at a variety of reading levels.

Instructional Support
- interactive minilessons for critical thinking skills, reading skills/strategies, and textual analysis
- writing expectations and rubrics
- support for analyzing photos, art, and other media
- suggestions, prompts, and strategies for engaging students in collaborative learning using the Teacher Guide and the Great Books Discussion Guide
- assessment options including vocabulary tests, writing activities, and longer project suggestions

Program Components
Interactive Editions
- Student
- Teacher
Print Editions
- Student
- Teacher
Great Books Discussion Guides

ROBUST TEACHING SUPPORT
Whether implementing Literature & Thought in print, digital, or a blended model, all teachers have access to the digital support tools, including
Historical Events & Eras

Dark Days: America’s Great Depression

Essential Question
What Was the Great Depression?

Cluster Questions & Critical Thinking Skills
1. How Were People Affected? Evaluating
2. What Was the New Deal? Summarizing
3. How Tough Were the Times? Analyzing
4. Thinking on Your Own Synthesizing

60% Informational Selections (articles, oral histories, letter, memoir, and essay)
40% Literary Selections (short stories and poems)

Free at Last: The Struggle for Civil Rights

Essential Question
How Do We Achieve the Ideal of Equal Rights for All?

Cluster Questions & Critical Thinking Skills
1. What Are the Roots of the Civil Rights Movement? Analyzing
4. Thinking on Your Own Synthesizing

60% Informational Selections (autobiographies, speeches, essays, articles, vignette, U.S. Supreme Court decision, interview, and memorium)
40% Literary Selections (short stories and poems)

From There to Here: The Immigrant Experience

Essential Question
Should We Keep America’s Immigration Door Open?

Cluster Questions & Critical Thinking Skills
1. Who Were the Immigrants and Why Did They Come? Investigating
2. What First Experiences Did Immigrants Have? Analyzing
3. Did Immigrant Expectations Match Reality? Comparing and Contrasting
5. Thinking on Your Own Synthesizing

70% Informational Selections (essays, autobiographies, narratives, pamphlet, oral history, biography, and commentary)
30% Literary Selections (poems, short stories, ballad, and song)

The Harlem Renaissance

Essential Question
What Was the Harlem Renaissance?

Cluster Questions & Critical Thinking Skills
1. What Was Life Like During the Harlem Renaissance? Describing
2. What Did Harlem Renaissance Writers Say About Being Black? Analyzing
3. What Contributions Were Made to American Art and Culture? Generalizing
4. Thinking on Your Own Synthesizing

55% Informational Selections (essays, articles, vignette, memoir, personal narrative, and journal)
45% Literary Selections (short stories and poems)
### A House Divided: America's Civil War

**Essential Question**

*Why Is the Civil War Considered a Defining Moment in American History?*

**Cluster Questions & Critical Thinking Skills**

1. 1861–1862: What Were They Fighting For?  
   - Generalizing
2. 1863: A Turning Point?  
   - Comparing and Contrasting
3. 1864–1865: What Was the Price of the War?  
   - Evaluating
4. Thinking on Your Own  
   - Synthesizing

**60% Informational Selections** (articles, eyewitness accounts, diaries, speeches, essay, petition, press report, and excerpt)

**40% Literary Selections** (short stories, poems, and historical fiction)

### Times of Change: Vietnam and the 60s

**Essential Question**

*What Effect Did the Decade of the 60s Have on the United States?*

**Cluster Questions & Critical Thinking Skills**

1. What Were the Roots of the Conflict?  
   - Summarizing
2. What Was the War Experience?  
   - Analyzing
3. What Was Happening Back Home?  
   - Generalizing
4. Thinking on Your Own  
   - Synthesizing

**60% Informational Selections** (articles, memoirs, essays, oral histories, autobiographies, speech, interview, and vignette)

**40% Literary Selections** (song lyrics, short stories, and poems)

### Voices of the Holocaust

**Essential Question**

*Could a Holocaust Happen Here?*

**Cluster Questions & Critical Thinking Skills**

1. How Could the Holocaust Happen?  
   - Analyzing
2. How Were Victims Oppressed?  
   - Comparing and Contrasting
3. Was There Resistance?  
   - Generalizing
4. Why Should We Remember?  
   - Synthesizing
5. Thinking on Your Own  
   - Synthesizing

**50% Informational Selections** (autobiographies, letters, historical accounts, biography, oral history, essay, diary, speech, article, and report)

**50% Literary Selections** (short stories and poems)

### Wide Open Spaces: American Frontiers

**Essential Question**

*What Is the Lure of the Frontier?*

**Cluster Questions & Critical Thinking Skills**

1. What Were the Explorers Seeking?  
   - Analyzing
2. What Were the Effects of Manifest Destiny?  
   - Comparing and Contrasting
3. Who Were the People of the Frontier?  
   - Summarizing
4. Thinking on Your Own  
   - Synthesizing

**50% Informational Selections** (journals, essays, oral history, newspaper article, letter, biography, eyewitness account, and article)

**50% Literary Selections** (short stories and poems)
Literary Themes

And Justice for All

Essential Question
What Is Justice?

Cluster Questions & Critical Thinking Skills
2. Who Judges?                                   Analyzing
3. Punishment or Mercy?                          Comparing and Contrasting
4. Thinking on Your Own                           Synthesizing

50% Informational Selections (articles, speech, letter, essay, commentary, biography, and anecdote)
50% Literary Selections (short stories, folk tales, poems, satire, monologue, and drama)

The Best of Friends

Essential Question
What Is the Value of Friendship?

Cluster Questions & Critical Thinking Skills
1. What is a Friend?                            Defining
2. What Would You Do for a Friend?              Analyzing
3. Friend or Enemy?                             Evaluating
4. Thinking on Your Own                          Synthesizing

25% Informational Selections (articles, autobiography, personal reminiscence, essay, and eulogy)
75% Literary Selections (short stories and poems)

Decisions, Decisions

Essential Question
How Do I Make a Decision?

Cluster Questions & Critical Thinking Skills
1. What Influences a Decision?                 Analyzing
2. Good Decision or Bad Decision?             Evaluating
3. What Are the Possible Consequences of Our Decisions? Predicting
4. Thinking on Your Own                        Synthesizing

25% Informational Selections (speech, first-person account, article, autobiography, newspaper column, essay, maxim, and personal narrative)
75% Literary Selections (short stories, poems, and fable)

Family Matters

Essential Question
Does Family Matter?

Cluster Questions & Critical Thinking Skills
1. What Is a Family?                            Defining
2. How Are We Influenced by Family?            Comparing and Contrasting
3. How Do Families Deal with Problems?         Evaluating
4. Thinking on Your Own                          Synthesizing

25% Informational Selections (personal narratives, articles, and humor column)
75% Literary Selections (short stories, poems, and dramatic monologue)
“The more I used the text with the students, the more impressed I became. These are really premium pieces of literature. The excerpts get right to the crux of the issue. I could pick this up and use a tremendous amount without doing anything extra. It’s really the important information. Students were asking to read ahead. I enjoyed this more than any other text in my years of teaching.”

—English/Drama Teacher, Shenandoah Valley Academy, New Market, Virginia
**Literary Genres**

**Echoes from Mt. Olympus**

**Essential Question**  
Why Do Myths Endure?

**Cluster Questions & Critical Thinking Skills**
1. What Are the Qualities of the Gods and Goddesses? .................................................... Generalizing
3. How Does Myth Explain Human Nature? ................................................................. Evaluating
4. Thinking on Your Own ....................................................................................... Synthesizing

15% **Informational Selections** (essays and personal narrative)  
85% **Literary Selections** (myths, poems, short stories, hymn, and epic)

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**Flights of Fantasy**

**Essential Question**  
Why Read Fantasy?

**Cluster Questions & Critical Thinking Skills**
1. What Is a Fantasy? .......................................................................................... Defining
2. What Can Fantasy Teach Us? ........................................................................ Analyzing
3. What’s Real and How Do You Know? ................................................................. Evaluating
4. Thinking on Your Own ....................................................................................... Synthesizing

15% **Informational Selections** (essay and article)  
85% **Literary Selections** (short stories and poems)

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**The Main Event**

**Essential Question**  
What Is the Value of Sport?

**Cluster Questions & Critical Thinking Skills**
1. What Is Sport? .......................................................................................... Defining
2. What Does It Mean to Be an Athlete? ................................................................. Analyzing
3. Is Winning Everything? ...................................................................................... Inferring
4. Thinking on Your Own ....................................................................................... Synthesizing

50% **Informational Selections** (articles, essays, interviews, and autobiography)  
50% **Literary Selections** (short stories, poems, and cartoon)

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**Mysterious Circumstances**

**Essential Question**  
Why Are We Fascinated by Mystery?

**Cluster Questions & Critical Thinking Skills**
1. What Makes a Mystery? ...................................................................................... Defining
2. Whodunit? ...................................................................................................... Investigating
3. How Do You Solve a Mystery? ........................................................................ Logical Thinking
4. Thinking on Your Own ....................................................................................... Synthesizing

25% **Informational Selections** (articles and essay)  
75% **Literary Selections** (short stories, poems, and drama)
I love the Literature & Thought series and so do my students. It helped them gain prior knowledge for their U.S. History class as we focused on literature dealing with Vietnam, Civil Rights, WWII and the Civil War.”

—Teacher, Peekskill, New York
Government & Current Events

**Individual Rights: The Blessings of Liberty**

**Essential Question**
*What Prevents Tyranny?*

**Cluster Questions & Critical Thinking Skills**
1. How Would Society Be Different Without the First Amendment?  
2. How Well Does Federalism Protect Individual Rights?  
3. Why Are Suspects’ Rights Important?  
4. Thinking on Your Own

80% Informational Selections (speeches, U.S. Supreme Court decisions, primary sources, letters, editorials, articles, analysis, historical account, biographical essay, web archive, web commentary, argument, news story, blog, report, and website)

20% Literary Selections (poems and novel excerpt)

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**The Three Branches of Government**

**Essential Question**
*Which Branch Is Most Powerful?*

**Cluster Questions & Critical Thinking Skills**
1. How Well Does Congress Represent the People?  
2. What Makes a President Great?  
3. How Does the Supreme Court Effect Change?  
4. Thinking on Your Own

80% Informational Selections (essays, historical analyses, speeches, personal account, interview, argument, and court opinion)

20% Literary Selections (poems, novel excerpt, and humorous)

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**We the People: Foundations of American Government**

**Essential Question**
*Does the Constitution Work Today?*

**Cluster Questions & Critical Thinking Skills**
1. What Ideas Shaped the Founders?  
2. How Should Government Power Be Divided?  
3. What Constitutional Compromises Matter Today?  
4. Thinking on Your Own

95% Informational Selections (essays, columns, primary sources, articles, speeches, analyses, argument and analysis, blog, historical account, and survey)

5% Literary Selections (humorous)
**Thematic Text Sets**

Further extend study of the *Literature & Thought* titles using thematically-related, engaging novels and informational texts. These titles provide opportunities for students to relate the readings from a *Literature & Thought* title to aligned longer works.

### Historical Events & Eras

#### American Frontier

**Lexile 680–1090**

- *Black Frontiers: A History of African American Heroes in the Old West, Schlissel*
- *Blood and Thunder: An Epic of the American West, Sides*
- *The Cherokee Trail, Etkin*
- *Children of the Wild West, Freedman*
- *Giants in the Earth, Rilaag*
- *Mr. Tucket, Paulsen*
- *My Antonia, Cather*
- *Shane, O Pioneers!, Cather*
- *The Sign of the Beaver, Schaefer*
- *The Youngest Carver of His Time, DeFelice*

**Lexile 570–1190**

- *DeFeo, Esmeralda Rising, Ryan*
- *The Great Depression, McPherson*
- *The Great Gatsby, F. Scott Fitzgerald*
- *The Grapes of Wrath, Steinbeck*
- *The Portable Harlem Renaissance Reader, Freedman*
- *The Red Badge of Courage, Crane*
- *Secrets of a Civil War Submarine: Solving the Mysteries of the H.L. Hunley, Walker*
- *Soldier's Heart, Paulsen*
- *The Three Marys of Medoj, Prins & Henk Steenhuis*
- *With Every Drop of Blood, Collier & Collier*

#### Civil Rights

**Lexile 760–1140**

- *The Autobiography of Malcolm X, X with Haley*
- *The Boy in the Striped Pajamas, Boyne*
- *The Boy, Proctor*
- *The Forbidden Schoolhouse: The True and Dramatic Story of Prudence Crandall and Her Students, Jurmain*
- *Freedom Walkers: The Story of the Montgomery Bus Boycott, Freedman*
- *March: Book One, Lewis*
- *March: Book Two, Lewis*
- *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass: An American Slave, Douglass*
- *The Road to Freedom: My Story of the 1965 Selma Voting Rights March, Lowery*
- *The Watsons Go to Birmingham—1963, Cartis*
- *A Wreath for Emmett Till, Nelson*

**Lexile 780–1280**

- *The Dream Keeper and Other Poems, Hughes*
- *The Harlem Renaissance, Ta-Nehisi Coates*
- *The Holocaust, Bachrach*
- *Letters from Rifka, Besse*
- *Water for Elephants, Gruen*
- *The Joy Luck Club, Tan*
- *The Things They Carried, O'Brien*
- *The Portable Harlem Renaissance Reader, Freedman*
- *The Red Badge of Courage, Crane*
- *The Things They Carried, O'Brien*

**Lexile 610–1300**

- *Across Five Aprils, Hunt*
- *Across Five Aprils, Hunt*
- *The Killer Angels, Shaara*
- *The Lincoln: A Photobiography, Freedman*
- *The Red Badge of Courage, Crane*
- *Secrets of a Civil War Submarine: Solving the Mysteries of the H.L. Hunley, Walker*
- *Soldier's Heart, Paulsen*
- *The Sign of the Beaver, Schaefer*
- *The Writings of Martin Luther King, Jr., Works of Martin Luther King, Jr., for Students, Teachout*
- *The Writings of Martin Luther King, Jr., Works of Martin Luther King, Jr., for Students, Teachout*
- *With Every Drop of Blood, Collier & Collier*

**Lexile 580–1170**

- *A Wreath for Emmett Till, Besse*
- *Blood and Thunder: An Epic of the American West, Sides*
- *Children of the Wild West, Freedman*
- *Giants in the Earth, Rilaag*
- *Mr. Tucket, Paulsen*
- *My Antonia, Cather*
- *Shane, O Pioneers!, Cather*
- *The Sign of the Beaver, Schaefer*
- *The Sign of the Beaver, Schaefer*
- *The Three Marys of Medoj, Prins & Henk Steenhuis*
- *With Every Drop of Blood, Collier & Collier*

**Lexile 660–1210**

- *The African American Family Album, Hoobler & Hoobler*
- *Children of the River, Crew*
- *Dreaming of Cuba, Garcia*
- *Enrique’s Journey: The True Story of a Boy Determined to Reunite With His Mother (young adult), Nazario*
- *Immigrant Kids, Freedman*
- *The Joy Luck Club, Tan*
- *Letters from Rifka, Besse*
- *The Namesake: A Novel, Lahiri*
- *The New Kids: Big Dreams and Brave Journeys at a High School for Immigrant Teens, Hauser*
- *Reaching Out, Jimenez*
- *Undocumented: A Dominican Boy’s Odyssey from a Homeless Shelter to the Ivy League, Peralta*
- *Year of Impossible Goodbyes, Choi*

#### Immigration

**Lexile 710–930**

- *Bloods: An Oral History of the Vietnam War by Black Veterans, Terry Bachrach*
- *The Best Dog in Vietnam, Crowe*
- *Cracker! The Best Dog in Vietnam, Crowe*
- *The Golden Day, Gruen*
- *The Things They Carried, O'Brien*
- *Undocumented: A Dominican Boy’s Odyssey from a Homeless Shelter to the Ivy League, Peralta*
- *What They Fought For: 1861–1865, Shaara*
- *The War by Black Veterans, Terry Bachrach*

**Lexile 710–930**

- *Blue Willow, Gates*
- *Children of the Dust Bowl, Stanley Burks*
- *Esperanza Rising, Ryan*
- *The Grapes of Wrath, Steinbeck*
- *The Great American Dust Bowl, Brown*
- *The Great Gatsby, Fitzgerald*
- *Growing Up, Baker*
- *Habla: A Multilingual Anthology of the American Dream, Hunt*
- *Ida Early Comes Over the Mountain, Burch*
- *In the Time of the Butterflies, Kingston*
- *The Journey of Reconciliation, King*
- *In Search of My Korean War, O’Brien*
- *The Longest Winter, Paulsen*
- *Of Mice and Men, Steinbeck*
- *Plato’s Cave, Waldrop, Omolade*
- *Plato’s Republic, Wang*
- *The Portable Harlem Renaissance Reader, Freedman*
- *The Story of My Boyhood and Youth, Twain*
- *The Things They Carried, O’Brien*
- *The War by Black Veterans, Terry Bachrach*
- *The Words of All Mankind, Atwood*

**Lexile 710–930**

- *A Rumor of War, Caputo*
- *The Things They Carried, O’Brien*
- *Turning 15 on the Road to Freedom: My Story of the 1965 Selma Voting Rights March, Lowery*
### Literary Themes

#### Decisions
Lexile 670–1130
- *All American Boys*, Reynolds & Kiely (NF)
- *Bystander*, Preller
- *Choosing Up Sides*, Ritter
- *The Contender*, Lipsyte
- *A Day No Pigs Would Die*, Peck
- *Gabi, a Girl in Pieces*, Quintero
- *Ghost Hawk*, Cooper (NF)
- *A Hope in the Unseen: An American Odyssey from the Inner City to the Ivy League, Suskind
- *Twisted*, Anderson

#### Family
Lexile GN300–980
- *The Bean Trees*, Kingsolver (NF)
- *Beautiful Boy: A Father's Journey Through His Son's Addiction*, Sheff
- *Black Box*, Schmidt
- *The Glory Field*, Myers
- *House of the Red Fish*, Salisbury
- *The Outsiders*, Rountree
- *A Raisin in the Sun*, Hansberry
- *Walk Two Moons*, Creech
- *The Outsiders*, Hinton (NF)
- "A Hope in the Unseen: An American Odyssey from the Inner City to the Ivy League, Suskind"

#### Friendship
Lexile HL590–1110
- *An Abundance of Katherines*, Green
- *Bluefish*, Schmatz
- *Bridge to Terabithia*, Fugard
- *Darius & The Real*, Myers
- *If I Ever Get Out of Here*, Gammage
- *Lizzie Bright and the Buckminster Boy*, Steinbeck
- *Master Harold… and the Boys*, Fugard
- *Of Mice and Men*, Steinbeck
- *The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants*, Brashares
- *Stargirl*, Spinelli
- "The Vigilante Poets of Selwyn Academy, Hattemer"

#### Heroism
Lexile 680–1220
- *Bud, Not Buddy*, Curtis
- *Chains*, Anderson
- *Flags of Our Fathers: Heroes of Iwo Jima*, Bradley
- *Flygirl*, Smith
- *Frozen in Time: An Epic Story of Survival and a Modern Quest for Lost Heroes of World War II*, Zuckoff
- *Heart of a Samurai*, Nelson
- *I Am Malala: The Girl Who Stood Up for Education and Was Shot by the Taliban*, Yousafzai
- *Mountains Beyond Mountains: The Quest of Dr. Paul Farmer, a Man Who Would Cure the World* (young adult), Kidder
- *Rosa Parks: My Story, Parks with Haskins
- *Something for Joey*, Peck
- *The Warrior's Heart: Becoming a Man of Compassion and Courage*, Greitens

#### Identity
Lexile 570–1190
- *The Awakening*, Chopin
- *Boost*, Mackel
- *The Catcher in the Rye*, Salinger
- *The Chocolate War*, Cormier
- *Girls Like Us*, Giles
- *The Midwife’s Apprentice*, Cushman
- "A Separate Peace, Knowles"
- The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle, Avi
- *Turtle in Paradise*, Holm
- *Uglies*, Westerveld
- The Unfinished Life of Addison Stone, Griffin
- *What Hearts*, Brooks

#### Justice
Lexile 610–1260
- *Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee: An Indian History of the American West*, Brown
- *Driver’s Ed*, Cooney
- *Farewell to Manzanar*, Houston & Houston
- *Holes*, Savich
- *Left for Dead: A Young Man’s Search for Justice for the USS Indianapolis*, Nelson
- *The Merchant of Venice Parallel Text*, Shakespeare
- *Nothing but the Truth*, Avi
- *Race to Incarcerate: A Graphic Retelling*, Sampson
- *Scorpions*, Myers
- *To Kill a Mockingbird*, Lee
- *Under the Blood-Red Sun*, Salisbury

#### Survival
Lexile 550–1210
- *Between a Rock and a Hard Place*, Rahtjen
- *Call It Courage*, Sperry
- *The Edge*, Smith
- *Hatchet*, Paulsen
- *The Honest Truth*, Gemeinhart
- *Red Sea*, Fisk
- *Stolen*, Christopher
- *Unbroken: A World War II Story of Survival, Resilience, and Redemption*, Hillenbrand
- *Walkabout*, Marshall
- *War Brothers: The Graphic Novel*, McKay
- *When I Was the Greatest*, Reynolds
- *Winterdance: The Fine Madness of Running the Iditarod*, Paulsen

Learn more at perfectionlearning.com/secondary-language-arts
Literary Genres

Ecology
Lexile 660–1200
The Ancient One, Barren
Earth-Friendly Waste Management, Wilcox
Eyes Wide Open: Going Behind the Environmental Headlines, Rachman
Hoot, Hoozzen
An Inconvenient Truth, Gore
The Knowledge: How to Rebuild Civilization in the Aftermath of a Cataclysm, Dartnell
Pilgrim at Tinker Creek, Dillard
Rachel Carson: Fighting Pesticides and Other Chemical Pollutants, Lantier
The Sixth Extinction: An Unnatural History, Kolbert
Tangerine, Bloor
Tracking Trash: Flotsam, Jetsam, and the Science of Ocean Motion, Burns
The Weirdo, Taylor

Humor
Lexile GN320–950
The Cat Ate My Gymsuit, Damager
The Complete Short Stories of Mark Twain, Twain
Dead End in Norvelt, Gantos
The Disreputable History of Frankie Landau-Banks, Lockhart
Everything on a Waffle, Harvath
Hold Me Closer: The Tiny Cooper Story, Levathan
No More Dead Dogs, Korman
100 Sideways Miles, Smith
Sisters, Telgemeier
Sway, Spears
Thwonek, Bauer

Mythology
Lexile GN540–1090
Antigone, Sophocles
Beowulf: A New Telling, Nye
The Epic of Gilgamesh: The Babylonian Epic Poem and Other Texts in Akkadian and Sumerian, George
Gods and Goddesses, Ganeri
Greek Gods and Heroes, Graves
Hercules: The Twelve Labors: A Greek Myth, Stone
The Lightning Thief, Riordan
The Lost Hero, Riordan
Mythology, Hamilton
Mythology: Timeless Tales of Gods and Heroes, Hamilton
The Odyssey, Homer
Poseidon: Earth Shaker, Nye

Science Fiction
Lexile GN570–1010
The Adoration of Jenna Fox, Pearson
Eva, Dickinson
The House of the Scorpion, Philbrick
Eva, Pearson
The Martian, Weir
The Last Book in the Universe, Farmer
The Adoration of Jenna Fox, Pearson
The Martian, Weir
The Last Book in the Universe, Farmer
Neil Gaiman

Fantasy
Lexile 600–940
Artemis Fowl, Colfer
Belzhar, Wolkow
Dealing with Dragons, Wrede
Daughter of the Dragon, McCaffrey
An Ember in the Ashes, Tahir
The Game of Love and Death, Brockengrough
The Girl Who Circumnavigated Fairyland in a Ship of Her Own Making, Valente
Inkheart, Funke
The Picture of Dorian Gray and Three Stories, Wilde
The Rainbow People, Yep
A Wrinkle in Time, L’Engle

Mythology
Lexile 680–1200
The Killer Angels, Shaara
The Federalist Papers, Hamilton
The Three Branches of Government, Hamilton

Liberty
Lexile 870–1350
Fahrenheit 451, Bradbury
The Federalist Papers, Hamilton
Lift Every Voice and Sing: Selected Poems, Johnson
New Boy, Houston
To Kill a Mockingbird, Lee
The Words We Live By: Your Annotated Guide to the Constitution, Monk

Sports
Lexile 750–1020
Baseball in April and Other Stories, Soto
Boys in the Boat: The True Story of an American Team’s Epic Journey to Win Gold at the 1936 Olympics (young reader’s adaptation), Brown
Call Me by My Name, Bradley
The Game of My Life: A True Story of Challenge, Triumph, and Growing up Autistic, McEwen
Heat, Lupica
Jim Thorpe: Original All-American, Bruchac
Losing Is Not An Option, Wallace
Running with the Kenyans: Discovering the Secrets of the Fastest People on Earth, Finn
Shoeless Joe, Kinsella
Whatever It Takes: Women on Women’s Sport, Sando & Winans, eds.

Government & Current Events

American Government
Lexile 610–1350
Abigail Adams: Witness to a Revolution, Bober
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Mythology: Timeless Tales of Gods and Heroes, Hamilton
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