

Mrs. Olson  
Brit. Lit.

### Senior Summer Independent Reading List

Many books in the classics section of this list are books that I think all students should read at some point in their education. The fiction books on this list come highly recommended from librarians, high school English teachers, and journalists. If a title sounds interesting to you, do a little research on it to see if it's a good fit. As always, make sure your parents are involved in the book selection process. If you would like to read something that is not on the list, check with your teacher first to make sure you won't be reading it during the school year.

#### Classics

St. Augustine, *Confessions*

Dante, *The Divine Comedy*

Chesterton, G.K., *Orthodoxy*

Heaney, Seamus (trans.), *Beowulf*

Homer, *The Odyssey*

I recommend translations by Robert Fagels for the following three epics.

Homer, *The Illiad*

Lewis, C.S., *Mere Christianity*

Virgil, *The Aenid*

Shakespeare, William

- King Lear
- A Midsummer Night's Dream
- Macbeth
- Othello
- Henry IV, parts 1 and 2
- Henry V

#### Fiction

Austen, Jane

- *Emma*
- *Pride and Prejudice*
- *Persuasion*

Butler, Samuel Taylor. *The Way of All Flesh*.

Burgess, Anthony. *A Clockwork Orange*.

Clarke, Suzanna. *Jonathan Strange and Mr. Norrel*.

Defoe, Daniel.

- *Moll Flanders*
- *Robinson Crusoe*

Dickens, Charles

- Bleak House
- David Copperfield
- Our Mutual Friend

Dostoyevsky, Fyodor

- *The Brothers Karamazov*
- *Crime and Punishment*
- *Notes from the Underground*

Doyle, Sir Arthur Cannon. *The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes.*

Eliot, George

- Adam Bede
- Middlemarch

Fielding, Henry. *Tom Jones.*

Forster, E. M.

- Howard's End
- A Room with a View
- A Passage to India

Greene, Graham

- *A Burnt Out Case*
- *The End of the Affair*
- *The Heart of the Matter*
- *The Power and the Glory*

Hardy, Thomas

- Far from the Madding Crowd
- Tess of the d'Urbervilles

Huxley, Aldous. *Brave New World.*

Ishiguro, Kazuo.

- *Never Let Me Go*
- *The Remains of the Day*

Lewis, C.S.

- Out of the Silent Planet
- Perelandria
- That Hideous Strength
- Till We Have Faces

McEwan, Ian

- *Atonement*
- *Saturday*

Tolstoy, Leo, *Anna Karenina*

Tolkien, J.R.R. *The Lord of the Rings* (trilogy)

Smith, Zadie. *White Teeth*.

Stevenson, Robert Louis. *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*.

Waugh, Evelyn. *Brideshead Revisited*.

Wodehouse, P.G. Any of the "Jeeves and Wooster" novels.

Woolf, Virginia. *Mrs. Dalloway*.