

READING LIST FOR THE ENGLISH UNDERGRADUATE COMPREHENSIVE EXAM

*NAEL = THE NORTON ANTHOLOGY OF ENGLISH LITERATURE

*NAAL = THE NORTON ANTHOLOGY OF AMERICAN LITERATURE

Cædmon's Hymn

Beowulf

The Dream of the Rood

Sir Gawain and the Green Knight

Everyman

Chaucer, *The Canterbury Tales* [Selections in NAEL]

The Second Shepherd's Play

Sidney, *Astrophil and Stella* 1, 31, 45, 63, 108; "Defense of Poesy" [Selections in NAEL]

Spenser, *Amoretti* 1, 68, 75; *The Faerie Queene*, Book I

Shakespeare, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*; *Henry V*; *Hamlet*; *King Lear*; Sonnets 1, 15, 18, 116, 129, 130

Marlowe, *Doctor Faustus*

Donne, "The Flea," "The Canonization," "The Relic," "Song" ["Go and Catch a Falling Star"], "The Good Morrow," "The Sun Rising," "A Nocturnal upon Saint Lucy's Day," "The Ecstasy"; *Holy Sonnets*

Jonson, *Volpone*; "On My First Son," "To Penshurst," "To Heaven," "Ode on Cary and Morison"

Herbert, *The Temple* [Selections in NAEL]

Milton, "Lycidas"; *Paradise Lost*, Books IV and IX

Dryden, "Absalom and Achitophel"

Pope, *The Rape of the Lock*; "Epistle to Arbuthnot"

Wycherley, *The Country Wife*

Johnson, *The Vanity of Human Wishes*

Fielding, *Joseph Andrews*

Swift, *Gulliver's Travels*, "A Modest Proposal"

Austen, *Pride and Prejudice*

Blake, "The Lamb," "The Tyger"

Wordsworth, *Preface to Lyrical Ballads*, "The World Is Too Much with Us"; "Lines Composed A Few Miles Above Tintern Abbey..."; "The Solitary Reaper"

Coleridge, *The Rime of the Ancient Mariner*

P.B. Shelley, "Defense of Poetry" [Selections in NAEL]; "Mont Blanc"

M. Shelley, *Frankenstein*

Keats, "Ode on a Grecian Urn"

Carlyle, *Sartor Resartus* [Selections in NAEL]

Newman, *The Idea of a University* [Selections in NAEL]

Tennyson, *In Memoriam* [Selections in NAEL]

Harriet Jacobs, *Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl* [Selections in NAAL]

Hawthorne, *The Scarlet Letter*

Melville, "Billy Budd"

Thoreau, "Resistance to Civil Government" [aka. "Civil Disobedience"]

Emerson, "The Poet"

Brontë, *Jane Eyre*

R. Browning, "My Last Duchess"

Arnold, "Dover Beach"

Whitman, "Out of the Cradle Endlessly Rocking," "Crossing Brooklyn Ferry"
Dickinson, "Because I could not stop for death," "I Felt a Funeral, in my Brain," "The Robin's My Criterion for
Tune," "My Life Had Stood – A Loaded Gun"
Twain, *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*
Wilde, Preface to *The Picture of Dorian Grey*
Shaw, *Mrs. Warren's Profession*
Hopkins, "Pied Beauty," "The Windhover"
James, *The Turn of the Screw*
Yeats, "Easter 1916," "The Lake Isle of Innisfree," "The Second Coming," "Leda and the Swan"
Joyce, "The Dead"
Moore, "The Fish," "Poetry" [the 29-line version]
Frost, "Birches," "Mending Wall," "After Apple Picking"
Stevens, "Sunday Morning," "The Idea of Order at Key West"
T.S. Eliot, *The Waste Land*; "The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock"; "Tradition and the Individual Talent"
[Selections in NAEL]
Pound, "In a Station of the Metro," "Portrait d'une Femme," "The River Merchant's Wife: A Letter"
Owen, "*Dulce et Decorum Est*"
Woolf, *Mrs. Dalloway*
Faulkner, *As I Lay Dying*
W.C. Williams, "The Red Wheelbarrow," "This is Just to Say," "Spring and All"
L. Hughes, "The Negro Speaks of Rivers," "The Weary Blues"
Hemingway, "The Snows of Kilimanjaro"
G. Brooks, "We Real Cool," "To Those of My Sisters Who Kept Their Naturals"
Plath, "Colossus," "Lady Lazarus"
O'Neill, *Long Day's Journey into Night*
Lowell, "Skunk Hour"
Bishop, "The Armadillo"
Auden, "Musée de Beaux Arts," "In Memory of W.B. Yeats"
Thomas, "Do Not Go Gentle into That Good Night"
Hurston, *Their Eyes Were Watching God*
O'Connor, "Good Country People," "A Good Man is Hard to Find"
Beckett, *Waiting for Godot*
Friel, *Translations*
Larkin, "Church Going"
Stoppard, *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead*
Walcott, "A Far Cry from Africa"
Walker, "Everyday Use"
Heaney, "Digging"
Rushdie, *Haroun and the Sea of Stories*