

Category	Author		Title	Description	Lexile
Biography	Allison	Andrew	<u><i>The Real Benjamin Franklin</i></u>	<p>There are many Benjamin Franklins -- or at least he has taken on many different forms in the history books of the last two centuries. Some historians have shown us an aged statesman whose wise and steady influence kept the Constitutional Convention together in 1787, while others have conjured up sensational tales of a lecherous old diplomat. Unfounded myths are now being repeated and embellished in school textbooks and educational television programs.</p> <p>Which of all these Benjamin Franklins, if any, is real? This book is an attempt to answer that question. <i>The Real Benjamin Franklin</i> seats us across the table from the one person who really knew Benjamin Franklin -- that is, Franklin himself -- and gives him an opportunity to explain his life and ideas in his own words. Part I of this book details his exciting biography, and Part II includes his most important and insightful writings, all carefully documented from original sources.</p>	740
Biography	Allison	Andrew	<u><i>The Real Thomas Jefferson</i></u>	<p>Jefferson is the central figure in American history, and...he may yet prove to be the central figure in modern history. So stated noted historian Henry Steele Commager. And as the English novelist Samuel Butler once wrote, Though God cannot alter the past--historians can. His observation is especially applicable to our changing perceptions of great historical personalities, most of whom are relentlessly reinterpreted by each new generation of biographers.</p> <p>There is no better example of this kind of metamorphosis than Thomas Jefferson, author of the American Declaration of Independence and third President of the United States. Since his death in 1826, he has been alternately vilified and deified by writers of varying motivations. In <i>The Real Thomas Jefferson</i>, by allowing Jefferson to explain his life and ideas in his own words, we have tried to ensure that his spirit, not ours, will breathe in these pages so that all who read them will become acquainted with Jefferson himself -- not another second-hand interpretation. His biography is set forth in Part I, and Part II brings together the most insightful passages from his writings, arranged by subject.</p>	760
Memoir	Crockett	David	<u><i>Davy Crockett: His Own Story: A Narrative of the Life of David Crockett</i></u>	David Crockett was an American folk hero, frontiersman, soldier, and politician. He is commonly referred to in popular culture by the epithet "King of the Wild Frontier". Crockett grew up in East Tennessee, where he gained a reputation for hunting and storytelling. He became famous during his lifetime for larger-than-life exploits.	900

Category	Author		Title	Description	Lexile
Autobiography	Douglass	Frederick	<u><i>Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass</i></u>	<i>The Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass</i> is an 1845 memoir and treatise on abolition written by famous orator and former slave Frederick Douglass during his time in Lynn, Massachusetts. It is generally held to be the most famous of a number of narratives written by former slaves during the same period. In factual detail, the text describes the events of his life and is considered to be one of the most influential pieces of literature to fuel the abolitionist movement of the early 19th century in the United States.	1140
Diary	Frank	Anne	<u><i>Diary of a Young Girl</i></u>	<p>Discovered in the attic where she spent the last years of her life, Anne Frank's remarkable diary has become a world classic—a powerful reminder of the horrors of war and an eloquent testament to the human spirit.</p> <p>In 1942, as Nazis occupied Holland, a thirteen-year-old Jewish girl and her family fled their home in Amsterdam and went into hiding. For the next two years, until their whereabouts were betrayed to the Gestapo, they and another family lived cloistered in the secret upstairs rooms of an old office building. Cut off from the outside world, they faced hunger, boredom, the constant cruelties of living in confined quarters, and the ever-present threat of discovery and death.</p> <p>In her diary Anne Frank recorded vivid impressions of her experiences during this period. By turns thoughtful, moving, and amusing, Anne's account offers a fascinating commentary on human courage and frailty and a compelling self-portrait of a sensitive and spirited young woman whose promise was tragically cut short.</p>	1020

Category	Author		Title	Description	Lexile
Memoir	Keller	Helen	<u><i>Helen Keller: The Story of My Life</i></u>	When she was 19 months old, Helen Keller (1880–1968) suffered a severe illness that left her blind and deaf. Not long after, she also became mute. Her tenacious struggle to overcome these handicaps — with the help of her inspired teacher, Anne Sullivan — is one of the great stories of human courage and dedication. In this classic autobiography, first published in 1903, Miss Keller recounts the first 22 years of her life, including the magical moment at the water pump when, recognizing the connection between the word "water" and the cold liquid flowing over her hand, she realized that objects had names. Subsequent experiences were equally noteworthy: her joy at eventually learning to speak, her friendships with Oliver Wendell Holmes, Edward Everett Hale and other notables, her education at Radcliffe (from which she graduated cum laude), and—underlying all—her extraordinary relationship with Miss Sullivan, who showed a remarkable genius for communicating with her eager and quick-to-learn pupil. These and many other aspects of Helen Keller's life are presented here in clear, straightforward prose full of wonderful descriptions and imagery that would do credit to a sighted writer. Completely devoid of self-pity, yet full of love and compassion for others, this deeply moving memoir offers an unforgettable portrait of one of the outstanding women of the twentieth century.	1090
Biography	Parry	Jay A.	<u><i>The Real George Washington</i></u>	There is properly no history; only biography, wrote Ralph Waldo Emerson. If that is true of the general run of mankind, it is particularly true of George Washington. The story of his life is the story of the founding of America. His was the dominant personality in three of the most critical events in that founding: the Revolutionary War, the Constitutional Convention, and the first national administration. Had he not served as America's leader in those three events, all would likely have failed -- and America, as we know it today, would not exist. Why, after two centuries, does George Washington remain one of the most beloved figures in our history? <i>The Real George Washington</i> answers that question by giving us a close look at this man who became the father of our country and the first American President. But rather than focus on the interpretations of historians, much of his exciting story is told in his own words. The second part of this 928-page book brings together the most important and insightful passages from Washington's writings, conveniently arranged by subject.	720

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History	Roosevelt and L	Theodore and Henry Cabot	<i>Hero Tales from American History</i>	HERO TALES FROM AMERICAN HISTORY: WASHINGTON, DANIEL BOONE AND THE FOUNDING OF KENTUCKY, GEORGE ROGERS CLARK AND THE CONQUEST OF THE NORTHWEST, THE BATTLE OF TRENTON, BENNINGTON, KING'S MOUNTAIN, THE STORMING OF STONY POINT, GOUVERNEUR MORRIS, THE BURNING OF THE "PHILADELPHIA", THE CRUISE OF THE "WASP", THE "GENERAL ARMSTRONG" PRIVATEER, THE BATTLE OF NEW ORLEANS, JOHN QUINCY ADAMS AND THE RIGHT OF PETITION, FRANCIS PARKMAN, "REMEMBER THE ALAMO", HAMPTON ROADS, THE FLAG-BEARER, THE DEATH OF STONEMALL JACKSON, THE CHARGE AT GETTYSBURG, GENERAL GRANT AND THE VICKSBURG CAMPAIGN, ROBERT GOULD SHAW, CHARLES RUSSELL LOWELL, SHERIDAN AT CEDAR CREEK, LIEUTENANT CUSHING AND THE RAM "ALBEMARLE", FARRAGUT AT MOBILE BAY, LINCOLN.