

Books To Build Great Americans - Young Adults

Genre	Author		Title	Description	Lexile Level
Science Fiction	Abbott	Edwin	Flatland	<i>Flatland: A Romance of Many Dimensions</i> is a satirical novella by the English schoolmaster Edwin Abbott. Abbott, first published in 1884. Written pseudonymously by "A Square", the book used the fictional two-dimensional world of <i>Flatland</i> to comment on the hierarchy of Victorian culture, but the novella's more enduring contribution is its examination of dimensions.	1280
Fiction	Achebe	Chinua	Things Fall Apart	<i>Things Fall Apart</i> is the first of three novels in Chinua Achebe's critically acclaimed African Trilogy. It is a classic narrative about Africa's cataclysmic encounter with Europe as it establishes a colonial presence on the continent. Told through the fictional experiences of Okonkwo, a wealthy and fearless Igbo warrior of Umuofia in the late 1800s, <i>Things Fall Apart</i> explores one man's futile resistance to the devaluing of his Igbo traditions by British political and religious forces and his despair as his community capitulates to the powerful new order. With more than 20 million copies sold and translated into fifty-seven languages, <i>Things Fall Apart</i> provides one of the most illuminating and permanent monuments to African experience. Achebe does not only capture life in a pre-colonial African village, he conveys the tragedy of the loss of that world while broadening our understanding of our contemporary realities.	890
Autobiography	Adams	Henry	The Education of Henry Adams	<i>The Education of Henry Adams</i> is the Pulitzer Prize winning autobiography of Henry Adams. 'The Education' is much more a record of Adams's introspection than of his deeds. It is an extended meditation on the social, technological, political, and intellectual changes that occurred over Adams's lifetime. Adams concluded that his traditional education at Harvard failed to help him come to terms with the rapid changes he saw in his lifetime; hence his need for self-education. Adams repeatedly laments that his formal education, grounded in the classics, history, and literature, as was then the fashion, did not give him the scientific and mathematical knowledge needed to grasp the scientific breakthroughs of the 1890s and 1900s. The organizing thread of the book is how the "proper" schooling and other aspects of his youth, was time wasted; thus his search for self-education through experiences, friendships, and reading. Many consider this the best autobiography ever written.	1200
Drama	Aeschylus		The Oresteia: Agamemnon: The Libation Bearers: The Eumenides	In the <i>Oresteia</i> Aeschylus addressed the bloody chain of murder and revenge within the royal family of Argos. As they move from darkness to light, from rage to self-governance, from primitive ritual to civilized institution, their spirit of struggle and regeneration becomes an everlasting song of celebration. In <i>Agamemnon</i> , a king's decision to sacrifice his daughter and turn the tide of war inflicts lasting damage on his family, culminating in a terrible act of retribution; <i>The Libation Bearers</i> deals with the aftermath of Clytemnestra's regicide, as her son Orestes sets out to avenge his father's death; and in <i>The Eumenides</i> , Orestes is tormented by supernatural powers that can never be appeased. Forming an elegant and subtle discourse on the emergence of Athenian democracy out of a period of chaos and destruction, <i>The Oresteia</i> is a compelling tragedy of the tensions between our obligations to our families and the laws that bind us together as a society.	1380
Drama	Aristophanes		The Complete Plays of Aristophanes	A brand-new translation of the world's greatest satirist. With a signature style that is at once bawdy and delicate, as well as a fearless penchant for lampooning the rich and powerful, Aristophanes remains arguably the finest satirist of all time. Collected here are all 11 of his surviving plays—newly translated by the distinguished poet and translator Paul Roche.	1470

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Literature	Austen	Jane	Pride and Prejudice	When Elizabeth Bennet first meets eligible bachelor Fitzwilliam Darcy, she thinks him arrogant and conceited; he is indifferent to her good looks and lively mind. When she later discovers that Darcy has involved himself in the troubled relationship between his friend Bingley and her beloved sister Jane, she is determined to dislike him more than ever. In the sparkling comedy of manners that follows, Jane Austen shows the folly of judging by first impressions and superbly evokes the friendships, gossip and snobberies of provincial middle-class life.	1030
Literature	Austen	Jane	Sense and Sensibility	Marianne Dashwood wears her heart on her sleeve, and when she falls in love with the dashing but unsuitable John Willoughby she ignores her sister Elinor's warning that her impulsive behaviour leaves her open to gossip and innuendo. Meanwhile Elinor, always sensitive to social convention, is struggling to conceal her own romantic disappointment, even from those closest to her. Through their parallel experience of love - and its threatened loss - the sisters learn that sense must mix with sensibility if they are to find personal happiness in a society where status and money govern the rules of love.	980
History	Bauer	Susan Wise	The History of the Medieval World: From the Conversion of Constantine to the First Crusade	<p>A masterful narrative of the Middle Ages, when religion became a weapon for kings all over the world.</p> <p>In her earlier work, <i>The History of the Ancient World</i>, Susan Wise Bauer wrote of the rise of kingship based on might. But in the years between the fourth and twelfth centuries, rulers had to find new justification for their power, and they turned to divine truth or grace to justify political and military action. Right began to replace might as the engine of empire.</p> <p>Not just Christianity and Islam but also the religions of the Persians, the Germans, and the Mayas were pressed into the service of the state. Even Buddhism and Confucianism became tools for nation building. This phenomenon—stretching from the Americas all the way to Japan—changed religion, but it also changed the state.</p> <p><i>The History of the Medieval World</i> is a true world history, linking the great conflicts of Europe to the titanic struggles for power in India and Asia. In its pages, El Cid and Guanggaeto, Julian the Apostate and the Brilliant Emperor, Charles the Hammer and Krum the Bulgarian stand side by side. From the schism between Rome and Constantinople to the rise of the Song Dynasty, from the mission of Muhammad to the crowning of Charlemagne, from the sacred wars of India to the establishment of the Knights Templar, this erudite book tells the fascinating, often violent story of kings, generals, and the peoples they ruled.</p>	
History	Bede		Ecclesiastical History of the English People	<p>With God's help, I, Bede ... have assembled these facts about the history of the Church in Britain ... from the traditions of our forebears, and from my own personal knowledge'</p> <p>Written in AD 731, Bede's Ecclesiastical History of the English People is the first account of Anglo-Saxon England ever written, and remains our single most valuable source for this period. It begins with Julius Caesar's invasion in the first century BC and goes on to tell of the kings and bishops, monks and nuns who helped to develop government and convert the people to Christianity during these crucial formative years. Relating the deeds of great men and women but also describing landscape, customs and ordinary lives, this is a rich, vivid portrait of an emerging church and nation by the 'Father of English History'.</p>	1430

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Science Fiction	Bradbury	Ray	Farhenheit 451	Guy Montag is a fireman. His job is to destroy the most illegal of commodities, the printed book, along with the houses in which they are hidden. Montag never questions the destruction and ruin his actions produce, returning each day to his bland life and wife, Mildred, who spends all day with her television "family." But when he meets an eccentric young neighbor, Clarisse, who introduces him to a past where people didn't live in fear and to a present where one sees the world through the ideas in books instead of the mindless chatter of television, Montag begins to question everything he has ever known.	890
Literature	Bronte	Emily	Wuthering Heights	Emily Brontë's only novel endures as a work of tremendous and far-reaching influence. The Penguin Classics edition is the definitive version of the text, edited with an introduction by Pauline Nestor. Lockwood, the new tenant of Thrushcross Grange, situated on the bleak Yorkshire moors, is forced to seek shelter one night at Wuthering Heights, the home of his landlord. There he discovers the history of the tempestuous events that took place years before. What unfolds is the tale of the intense love between the gypsy foundling Heathcliff and Catherine Earnshaw. Catherine, forced to choose between passionate, tortured Heathcliff and gentle, well-bred Edgar Linton, surrendered to the expectations of her class. As Heathcliff's bitterness and vengeance at his betrayal is visited upon the next generation, their innocent heirs must struggle to escape the legacy of the past.	960
Literature	Bronte	Charlotte	Jane Eyre	A novel of intense power and intrigue, <i>Jane Eyre</i> has dazzled generations of readers with its depiction of a woman's quest for freedom. Having grown up an orphan in the home of her cruel aunt and at a harsh charity school, Jane Eyre becomes an independent and spirited survivor-qualities that serve her well as governess at Thornfield Hall. But when she finds love with her sardonic employer, Rochester, the discovery of his terrible secret forces her to make a choice. Should she stay with him whatever the consequences or follow her convictions, even if it means leaving her beloved?	890
Political Philosophy	Burke	Edmund	Reflections on the Revolution in France	This new and up-to-date edition of a book that has been central to political philosophy, history, and revolutionary thought for two hundred years offers readers a dire warning of the consequences that follow the mismanagement of change. Written for a generation presented with challenges of terrible proportions--the Industrial, American, and French Revolutions, to name the most obvious--Burke's <i>Reflections of the Revolution in France</i> displays an acute awareness of how high political stakes can be, as well as a keen ability to set contemporary problems within a wider context of political theory.	1390
History	Caesar	Julius	The Conquest of Gaul	Between 58 and 50 BC Caesar conquered most of the area now covered by France, Belgium and Switzerland, and twice invaded Britain. This is the record of his campaigns. Caesar's narrative offers insights into his military strategy & paints a fascinating picture of his encounters with the inhabitant of Gaul and Britain, as well as offering lively portraits of a number of key characters such as the rebel leaders and Gallic chieftains. This can also be read as a piece of political propaganda, as Caesar sets down his version of events for the Roman public, knowing that he faces civil war on his return to Rome.	

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History	Cahill	Thomas	How the Irish Saved Civilization	<p>Every year millions of Americans celebrate St. Patrick's Day, but they may not be aware of how great an influence St. Patrick was on the subsequent history of civilization. Not only did he bring Christianity to Ireland, he instilled a sense of literacy and learning that would create the conditions that allowed Ireland to become "the isle of saints and scholars"—and thus preserve Western culture while Europe was being overrun by barbarians.</p> <p>In this entertaining and compelling narrative, Thomas Cahill tells the story of how Europe evolved from the classical age of Rome to the medieval era. Without Ireland, the transition could not have taken place. Not only did Irish monks and scribes maintain the very record of Western civilization -- copying manuscripts of Greek and Latin writers, both pagan and Christian, while libraries and learning on the continent were forever lost—they brought their uniquely Irish world-view to the task.</p> <p>As Cahill delightfully illustrates, so much of the liveliness we associate with medieval culture has its roots in Ireland. When the seeds of culture were replanted on the European continent, it was from Ireland that they were germinated.</p> <p>In the tradition of Barbara Tuchman's <i>A Distant Mirror</i>, <i>How The Irish Saved Civilization</i> reconstructs an era that few know about but which is central to understanding our past and our cultural heritage. But it conveys its knowledge with a winking wit that aptly captures the sensibility of the unsung Irish who relaunched civilization.</p>	
History	Cahill	Thomas	The Gifts of the Jews	<p><i>The Gifts of the Jews</i> reveals the critical change that made western civilization possible. Within the matrix of ancient religions and philosophies, life was seen as part of an endless cycle of birth and death; time was like a wheel, spinning ceaselessly. Yet somehow, the ancient Jews began to see time differently. For them, time had a beginning and an end; it was a narrative, whose triumphant conclusion would come in the future. From this insight came a new conception of men and women as individuals with unique destinies--a conception that would inform the Declaration of Independence--and our hopeful belief in progress and the sense that tomorrow can be better than today. As Thomas Cahill narrates this momentous shift, he also explains the real significance of such Biblical figures as Abraham and Sarah, Moses and the Pharaoh, Joshua, Isaiah, and Jeremiah.</p> <p>Full of compelling stories, insights and humor, <i>The Gifts of the Jews</i> is an irresistible exploration of history as fascinating and fun as <i>How the Irish Saved Civilization</i>.</p>	
History	Cahill	Thomas	Sailing the Wine Dark Sea	<p>In the city-states of Athens and Sparta and throughout the Greek islands, honors could be won in making love and war, and lives were rife with contradictions. By developing the alphabet, the Greeks empowered the reader, demystified experience, and opened the way for civil discussion and experimentation—yet they kept slaves. The glorious verses of the Iliad recount a conflict in which rage and outrage spur men to action and suggest that their “bellicose society of gleaming metals and rattling weapons” is not so very distant from more recent campaigns of “shock and awe.” And, centuries before Zorba, Greece was a land where music, dance, and freely flowing wine were essential to the high life. Granting equal time to the sacred and the profane, Cahill rivets our attention to the legacies of an ancient and enduring worldview.</p>	

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History	Cahill	Thomas	Mysteries of the Middle Ages	After the long period of decline known as the Dark Ages, medieval Europe experienced a rebirth of scholarship, art, literature, philosophy, and science and began to develop a vision of Western society that remains at the heart of Western civilization today, from the entry of women into professions that had long been closed to them to the early investigations into alchemy that would form the basis of experimental science. On visits to the great cities of Europe—monumental Rome; the intellectually explosive Paris of Peter Abelard and Thomas Aquinas; the hotbed of scientific study that was Oxford; and the incomparable Florence of Dante and Giotto—acclaimed historian Thomas Cahill brilliantly captures the spirit of experimentation, the colorful pageantry, and the passionate pursuit of knowledge that built the foundations for the modern world.	
History	Cahill	Thomas	Heretics and Heroes	This was an age in which whole continents and peoples were discovered. It was an era of sublime artistic and scientific adventure, but also of newly powerful princes and armies—and of unprecedented courage, as thousands refused to bow their heads to the religious pieties of the past. In these exquisitely written and lavishly illustrated pages, Cahill illuminates, as no one else can, the great gift-givers who shaped our history—those who left us a world more varied and complex, more awesome and delightful, more beautiful and strong than the one they had found.	
Literature	Camus	Albert	The Stranger	Albert Camus' <i>The Stranger</i> is one of the most widely read novels in the world, with millions of copies sold. It stands as perhaps the greatest existentialist tale ever conceived, and is certainly one of the most important and influential books ever produced. Now, for the first time, this revered masterpiece is available as an unabridged audio production. When a young Algerian named Meursault kills a man, his subsequent imprisonment and trial are puzzling and absurd. The apparently amoral Meursault, who puts little stock in ideas like love and God, seems to be on trial less for his murderous actions, and more for what the authorities believe is his deficient character.	880
Literature	Chaucer	Geoffrey	Canterbury Tales	In <i>The Canterbury Tales</i> Chaucer created one of the great touchstones of English literature, a masterly collection of chivalric romances, moral allegories and low farce. A story-telling competition between a group of pilgrims from all walks of life is the occasion for a series of tales that range from the Knight's account of courtly love and the ebullient Wife of Bath's Arthurian legend, to the ribald anecdotes of the Miller and the Cook. Rich and diverse, <i>The Canterbury Tales</i> offer us an unrivalled glimpse into the life and mind of medieval England.	1290
Literature	Chopin	Kate	The Awakening	<i>The Awakening</i> , originally titled <i>A Solitary Soul</i> , is a novel by Kate Chopin, first published in 1899. Set in New Orleans and on the Louisiana Gulf coast at the end of the 19th century, the plot centers on Edna Pontellier and her struggle to reconcile her increasingly unorthodox views on femininity and motherhood with the prevailing social attitudes of the turn-of-the-century American South. It is one of the earliest American novels that focuses on women's issues without condescension. It is also widely seen as a landmark work of early feminism, generating a mixed reaction from contemporary readers and critics. The novel's blend of realistic narrative, incisive social commentary, and psychological complexity makes <i>The Awakening</i> a precursor of American modernist literature; it prefigures the works of American novelists such as William Faulkner and Ernest Hemingway and echoes the works of contemporaries such as Edith Wharton and Henry James. It can also be considered among the first Southern works in a tradition that would culminate with the modern masterpieces of Faulkner, Flannery O'Connor, Eudora Welty, Katherine Anne Porter, and Tennessee Williams.	1030

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Political Philosophy	Cicero		On Duties	<i>On Duties</i> deserves more attention than it gets, and it rewards the attention it receives, because it deals with the question of the well-lived life in a clear, thoughtful, accessible, and compelling manner. Cicero believed <i>On Duties</i> to be his magnum opus, and much of history has agreed with him on this. Of <i>On Duties</i> , the French philosopher Voltaire wrote: "No one will ever write anything more wise, more true, or more useful." And Martin Luther, in his Table Talk says this of Cicero: "Let those who wish to see a true philosophy read Cicero. Cicero was a wise and industrious man, and he suffered much and accomplished much." <i>On Duties</i> was the second book to be printed by Gutenberg's press. Parts of it served as inspiration for Dante Alighieri's <i>Divine Comedy</i> . St. Ambrose was so enamored with the work that he wrote his <i>On the Duties of the Clergy</i> with Cicero's <i>On Duties</i> as the model, and refers to it throughout his own book. The three books that make up <i>On Duties</i> are full of historical examples which are worth their weight in gold. They, like Homeric similes, are marvelous windows into an age that is not described in any ancient texts since the audience of the texts are written to people who shared the age and therefore needed no descriptions. But they also give us Cicero's own culturally conservative interpretations of the events of his time, and this is very valuable indeed.	1320
Fiction	Clancy	Tom	The Hunt For Red October	<p>Somewhere under the freezing Atlantic, a Soviet sub commander has just made a fateful decision. The Red October is heading west. The Americans want her. The Russians want her back. The chase for the highly advanced nuclear submarine is on—and there's only one man who can find her...</p> <p>Brilliant CIA analyst Jack Ryan has little interest in fieldwork, but when covert photographs of Red October land on his desk, Ryan soon finds himself in the middle of a high-stakes game of hide-and-seek played by two world powers—a game that could end in all-out war.</p>	870
Fiction	Clavell	James	Shogun	<p>After Englishman John Blackthorne is lost at sea, he awakens in a place few Europeans know of and even fewer have seen--Nippon. Thrust into the closed society that is seventeenth-century Japan, a land where the line between life and death is razor-thin, Blackthorne must negotiate not only a foreign people, with unknown customs and language, but also his own definitions of morality, truth, and freedom. As internal political strife and a clash of cultures lead to seemingly inevitable conflict, Blackthorne's loyalty and strength of character are tested by both passion and loss, and he is torn between two worlds that will each be forever changed.</p> <p>Powerful and engrossing, capturing both the rich pageantry and stark realities of life in feudal Japan, <i>Shogun</i> is a critically acclaimed powerhouse of a book. Heart-stopping, edge-of-your-seat action melds seamlessly with intricate historical detail and raw human emotion.</p>	880
Historical Fiction	Cline	Edward	Sparrowhawk (Book 1 of 5 in Series)	The American Revolution did not just happen. It was the culmination of two centuries of Enlightenment ideas that entered men's minds and were refined and honed until they expressed themselves in an unprecedented rejection of tyranny in the name of individual rights and political freedom from the whims of arrogant monarchs and conniving, power-lusting politicians. <i>Sparrowhawk: Book One, Jack Frake</i> encapsulates that process in the story of a Cornwall peasant boy who rejects the tyranny of the British Crown and joins a unique smuggling gang whose members are also in revolt against the arbitrary powers of the government. By the end of his story, young Jack Frake is sent to Virginia as an indentured felon, and by the end of the Sparrowhawk series, thirty years later, in 1775, he will lead his own militia to the heights of Bunker Hill.	900

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History	Cochran & Harpending		10,000 Year Explosion	<p>Resistance to malaria. Blue eyes. Lactose tolerance. What do all of these traits have in common? Every one of them has emerged in the last 10,000 years.</p> <p>Scientists have long believed that the "great leap forward" that occurred some 40,000 to 50,000 years ago in Europe marked end of significant biological evolution in humans. In this stunningly original account of our evolutionary history, top scholars Gregory Cochran and Henry Harpending reject this conventional wisdom and reveal that the human species has undergone a storm of genetic change much more recently. Human evolution in fact accelerated after civilization arose, they contend, and these ongoing changes have played a pivotal role in human history. They argue that biology explains the expansion of the Indo-Europeans, the European conquest of the Americas, and European Jews' rise to intellectual prominence. In each of these cases, the key was recent genetic change: adult milk tolerance in the early Indo-Europeans that allowed for a new way of life, increased disease resistance among the Europeans settling America, and new versions of neurological genes among European Jews.</p> <p>Ranging across subjects as diverse as human domestication, Neanderthal hybridization, and IQ tests, Cochran and Harpending's analysis demonstrates convincingly that human genetics have changed and can continue to change much more rapidly than scientists have previously believed. A provocative and fascinating new look at human evolution that turns conventional wisdom on its head, <i>The 10,000 Year Explosion</i> reveals the ongoing interplay between culture and biology in the making of the human race.</p>	
Fiction	Collins	Suzanne	The Hunger Games Trilogy	<p>In the ruins of a place once known as North America lies the nation of Panem, a shining Capitol surrounded by twelve outlying districts. Long ago the districts waged war on the Capitol and were defeated. As part of the surrender terms, each district agreed to send one boy and one girl to appear in an annual televised event called, "The Hunger Games," a fight to the death on live TV. Sixteen-year-old Katniss Everdeen, who lives alone with her mother and younger sister, regards it as a death sentence when she is forced to represent her district in the Games. The terrain, rules, and level of audience participation may change but one thing is constant: kill or be killed.</p>	810
Literature	Conrad	Joseph	Heart of Darkness	<p><i>Heart of Darkness</i>, the 1899 masterpiece by Polish-British novelist Joseph Conrad about a voyage up the Congo River into the Heart of Africa.</p> <p>The story is narrated by Charles Marlow, recalling his obsessive quest to locate the ivory trader Kurtz, who has become ensconced deep in the jungle managing a remote outpost. As he ventures further and further down the Congo, Marlow finds himself and his surroundings become increasingly untethered.</p>	950

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Adventure	Cooper	James Fenimore	The Last of the Mohicans	It is 1757. Across north-eastern America the armies of Britain and France struggle for ascendancy. Their conflict, however, overlays older struggles between nations of native Americans for possession of the same lands and between the native peoples and white colonisers. Through these layers of conflict Cooper threads a thrilling narrative, in which Cora and Alice Munro, daughters of a British commander on the front line of the colonial war, attempt to join their father. Thwarted by Magua, the sinister 'Indian runner', they find help in the person of Hawk-eye, the white woodsman, and his companions, the Mohican Chingachgook and Uncas, his son, the last of his tribe. Cooper's novel is full of vivid incident- pursuits through wild terrain, skirmishes, treachery and brutality- but reflects also on the interaction between the colonists and the native peoples. Through the character of Hawkeye, Cooper raises lasting questions about the practises of the American frontier and the eclipse of the indigenous cultures.	1350
Adventure	Cooper	James Fenimore	The Two Admirals	Author of the first scholarly history of the United States Navy, James Fenimore Cooper had long hoped to commemorate the American Navy by representing its fleet in action. Since no such fleet existed in 1841, he reverted to the Jacobite War of 1745 when the great British and French fleets contested in the English Channel and the colonial and British fleets were one. Ever the experimenter in fiction, Cooper achieved a metaphysical dimension by assigning personal attributes to the ships in combat, and he also implicitly recalled his long friendship with Commodore William Branford Shubrick (much later, Rear Admiral Shubrick) in the story of the friendship between his two admirals—Oates and Bluewater—of the British Navy. The result is an intriguingly realistic romance.	1300
Adventure	Cooper	James Fenimore	Pilot: A Tale of the Sea	<i>The Pilot: A Tale of the Sea</i> is a historical novel by James Fenimore Cooper. Its subject is the life of a naval pilot during the American Revolution. The hero of the book is John Paul Jones, who appears as always brooding upon a dark past and a darker fate. Yet he is not so morbid but that he can occasionally rouse himself to terrific activities in his raids along the English coast. Another character is Long Tom Coffin, of Nantucket, comparable to Harvey Birch and Natty Bumppo from Cooper's other novels.	1300

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Literature	Crane	Stephen	The Red Badge of Courage	<p>"At times he regarded the wounded soldiers in an envious way. He conceived persons with torn bodies to be peculiarly happy. He wished that he, too, had a wound, a red badge of courage." -- The Red Badge of Courage</p> <p><i>The Red Badge of Courage</i> is a war novel by American author Stephen Crane (1871–1900). Taking place during the American Civil War, the story is about a young private of the Union Army, Henry Fleming, who flees from the field of battle. Overcome with shame, he longs for a wound, a "red badge of courage," to counteract his cowardice. When his regiment once again faces the enemy, Henry acts as standard-bearer, who carries an American flag.</p> <p>Although Crane was born after the war, and had not at the time experienced battle first-hand, the novel is known for its realism and naturalism. He began writing what would become his second novel in 1894, using various contemporary and written accounts (such as those published previously by Century Magazine) as inspiration. It is believed that he based the fictional battle on that of Chancellorsville; he may also have interviewed veterans of the 124th New York Volunteer Infantry Regiment, commonly known as the "Orange Blossoms."</p> <p>The novel is known for its distinctive style, which includes realistic battle sequences as well as the repeated use of color imagery, and ironic tone. Separating itself from a traditional war narrative, Crane's story reflects the inner experience of its protagonist (a soldier fleeing from combat) rather than the external world around him.</p>	900
Adventure	Dana	Richard Henry	Two Years Before the Mast	<p><i>Two Years Before the Mast</i> is a memoir by the American author Richard Henry Dana Jr., published in 1840, having been written after a two-year sea voyage from Boston to California on a merchant ship starting in 1834. Dana left Harvard to enlist as a common sailor on a voyage around Cape Horn on the brig Pilgrim. He returned to Massachusetts two years later. He kept a diary throughout the voyage, and, after returning, he wrote this classic. The term "before the mast" refers to the quarters of the common sailors, in the fore-castle, in the front of the ship. This 'complete' version contains maps of his voyages, an introduction, notes written 24 and 76 years after the voyage, and diagrams of sailing ships.</p>	1290
Political Philosophy	de Tocqueville	Alexis	Democracy in America	<p>A contemporary study of the early American nation and its evolving democracy, from a French aristocrat and sociologist</p> <p>In 1831 Alexis de Tocqueville, a young French aristocrat and ambitious civil servant, set out from post-revolutionary France on a journey across America that would take him 9 months and cover 7,000 miles. The result was <i>Democracy in America</i>, a subtle and prescient analysis of the life and institutions of 19th-century America. Tocqueville looked to the flourishing democratic system in America as a possible model for post-revolutionary France, believing that the egalitarian ideals it enshrined reflected the spirit of the age and even divine will. His study of the strengths and weaknesses of an evolving democratic society has been quoted by every American president since Eisenhower, and remains a key point of reference for any discussion of the American nation or the democratic system.</p> <p>This new edition is the only one that contains all Tocqueville's writings on America, including the rarely-translated <i>Two Weeks in the Wilderness</i>, an account of Tocqueville's travels in Michigan among the Iroquois, and <i>Excursion to Lake Oneida</i>.</p>	1310

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Literature	Dickens	Charles	Great Expectations	Pip is a poor orphan, a boy with “no expectations” being raised by his unkind sister and her husband in a small home on the marshes of Kent. But when Pip meets the bizarre Miss Havisham and her beautiful ward, Estella, he starts to yearn for a life as a gentleman. However, Pip will discover that wealth and honesty do not go hand in hand, and that kindness can be found in the most surprising places. A love story, a mystery, and a sharp critique of upper-class English society, <i>Great Expectations</i> remains one of Dickens’s best-regarded works.	1150
Literature	Dickens	Charles	David Copperfield	<i>David Copperfield</i> is the story of a young man’s adventures on his journey from an unhappy and impoverished childhood to the discovery of his vocation as a successful novelist. Among the gloriously vivid cast of characters he encounters are his tyrannical stepfather, Mr Murdstone; his brilliant, but ultimately unworthy school-friend James Steerforth; his formidable aunt, Betsey Trotwood; the eternally humble, yet treacherous Uriah Heep; frivolous, enchanting Dora Spenlow; and the magnificently impecunious Wilkins Micawber, one of literature’s great comic creations. In <i>David Copperfield</i> - the novel he described as his 'favourite child' - Dickens drew revealingly on his own experiences to create one of the most exuberant and enduringly popular works, filled with tragedy and comedy in equal measure. This edition uses the text of the first volume publication of 1850, and includes updated suggestions for further reading, original illustrations by 'Phiz', a revised chronology and expanded notes. In his new introduction, Jeremy Tambling discusses the novel's autobiographical elements, and its central themes of memory and identity.	1070
Literature	Dickens	Charles	Oliver Twist	The story of Oliver Twist - orphaned, and set upon by evil and adversity from his first breath - shocked readers when it was published. After running away from the workhouse and pompous beadle Mr Bumble, Oliver finds himself lured into a den of thieves peopled by vivid and memorable characters - the Artful Dodger, vicious burglar Bill Sikes, his dog Bull's Eye, and prostitute Nancy, all watched over by cunning master-thief Fagin. Combining elements of Gothic Romance, the Newgate Novel and popular melodrama, Dickens created an entirely new kind of fiction, scathing in its indictment of a cruel society, and pervaded by an unforgettable sense of threat and mystery.	1060
Literature	Dickens	Charles	A Tale of Two Cities	<i>A Tale of Two Cities</i> is both Charles Dickens's best-known historical novel and one of the best-selling books of all time. Set before and during the French Revolution, it documents the plight of the three main characters, Charles Darnay, Lucie Manette, and Sydney Carton. Set against a backdrop of upheaval and uncertainty, it sparkles and shimmers with the complexity of the human condition. As a novel, it does not shirk from answering the big questions, such as how would people behave and what would they believe when their world is turned upside down? It also explores in detail how the theoretical notion of right and wrong can change dramatically when the revolution takes to the street and blood is spilled. Its influence on popular culture is huge. Its opening sentence, “It was the best of times, it was the worst of times...” is familiar to those who have not even read the novel. It’s a penetrating study on how revolution always has consequences and how freedom can all too easily slip into fanaticism. At first glance, <i>A Tale of Two Cities</i> can be seen as a depressing and disconcerting study of humanity and the world we have built. Yet a more thorough read will reveal it is alive with love, sacrifice, and the hope for a brighter future.	720

Books To Build Great Americans - Young Adults

Genre	Author		Title	Description	Lexile Level
Literature	Dostoevsky	Fyodor	The Brothers Karamazov	<p>The award-winning translation of Fyodor Dostoevsky's classic novel of psychological realism.</p> <p><i>The Brothers Karamazov</i> is a murder mystery, a courtroom drama, and an exploration of erotic rivalry in a series of triangular love affairs involving the "wicked and sentimental" Fyodor Pavlovich Karamazov and his three sons—the impulsive and sensual Dmitri; the coldly rational Ivan; and the healthy, red-cheeked young novice Alyosha. Through the gripping events of their story, Dostoevsky portrays the whole of Russian life, its social and spiritual striving, in what was both the golden age and a tragic turning point in Russian culture.</p>	1150
Literature	Dostoevsky	Fyodor	Crime and Punishment	<p>Raskolnikov, a destitute and desperate former student, wanders through the slums of St Petersburg and commits a random murder without remorse or regret. He imagines himself to be a great man, a Napoleon: acting for a higher purpose beyond conventional moral law. But as he embarks on a dangerous game of cat and mouse with a suspicious police investigator, Raskolnikov is pursued by the growing voice of his conscience and finds the noose of his own guilt tightening around his neck. Only Sonya, a downtrodden prostitute, can offer the chance of redemption.</p>	990
Autobiography	Douglass	Frederick	Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass	<p><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.</p>	1140
Political Philosophy	Douglass and Lincoln	Stephen A. and Abraham	The Lincoln Douglas Debates	<p>While the debates between Abraham Lincoln and Stephen A. Douglas are undoubtedly the most celebrated in American history, they may also be the most consequential as well. For the issues so fiercely debated in 1858 were about various interrelated aspects of one momentous, nation-threatening issue: slavery. The contest between Lincoln and Douglas became a testing ground for the viability of conflicting ideals in a nation deeply divided. One of the most colorful and engaging episodes in American history, this series of debates is of enduring interest as an illuminating instance of the ever-recurring dilemma of self-government: what happens when the guiding principle of democracy, "popular sovereignty," confronts a principled stand against a "moral, social, and political evil"? The tragic answer in this case came three years later: civil war.</p> <p>Important as they are, the Lincoln-Douglas debates have long since ceased to be self-explanatory. This edition is the first to provide a text founded on all known records, rather than following one or another of the partisan and sometimes widely-varying newspaper accounts. Meticulously edited and annotated, it provides numerous aids to help the modern reader understand the debates, including extensive introductory material, commentary, and a glossary. The fullest and most dependable edition of the Lincoln-Douglas debates ever prepared, this edition brings readers as close as possible to the original words of these two remarkable men.</p>	1370

Books To Build Great Americans - Young Adults

Genre	Author		Title	Description	Lexile Level
History	Dryden	John	Plutarch's Lives	Plutarch, later named, on his becoming a Roman citizen, Lucius Mestrius Plutarchus, c. 46 – 120 AD, was a Greek historian, biographer, essayist, and Middle Platonist known primarily for his <i>Parallel Lives</i> and <i>Moralia</i> . Plutarch lived most of his life at Chaeronea, and his duties as the senior of the two priests of Apollo at the Oracle of Delphi (where he was responsible for interpreting the auguries of the Pythia) apparently occupied little of his time. He led an active social and civic life while producing an extensive body of writing, much of which survived. By his writings and lectures Plutarch became a celebrity in the Roman Empire. At his country estate, guests from all over the empire congregated for serious conversation, presided over by Plutarch in his marble chair. Many of these dialogues were recorded and published, and the 78 essays and other works which have survived are now known collectively as the <i>Moralia</i> . Plutarch's best-known work is the <i>Parallel Lives</i> , a series of biographies of famous Greeks and Romans, arranged in pairs to illuminate their common moral virtues and vices. The surviving <i>Lives</i> contain 23 pairs, each with one Greek Life and one Roman Life, as well as four unpaired single <i>Lives</i> . Some of the <i>Lives</i> , such as those of Heracles, Philip II of Macedon and Scipio Africanus, no longer exist; many of the remaining <i>Lives</i> are truncated, contain obvious lacunae or have been tampered with by later writers. Extant <i>Lives</i> include those on Aristides, Pericles, Pompey, Julius Caesar, Cicero, Cato the Younger, Mark Antony, and Marcus Junius Brutus, all of which are included here.	1690
Nonfiction	DuBois	W.E.B.	The Souls of Black Folk	<p>"The problem of the twentieth century is the problem of the color line," writes Du Bois, in one of the most prophetic works in all of American literature. First published in 1903, this collection of 15 essays dared to describe the racism that prevailed at that time in America—and to demand an end to it. Du Bois' writing draws on his early experiences, from teaching in the hills of Tennessee, to the death of his infant son, to his historic break with the conciliatory position of Booker T. Washington.</p> <p>Du Bois received a doctorate from Harvard in 1895 and became a professor of economics and history at Atlanta University. His dynamic leadership in the cause of social reform on behalf of his fellow blacks anticipated and inspired much of the black activism of the 1960s.</p> <p><i>The Souls of Black Folk</i> is a classic in the literature of civil rights.</p>	
Fiction	Dumas	Alexandre	Count of Monte Cristo	Thrown in prison for a crime he has not committed, Edmond Dantes is confined to the grim fortress of If. There he learns of a great hoard of treasure hidden on the Isle of Monte Cristo and he becomes determined not only to escape, but also to unearth the treasure and use it to plot the destruction of the three men responsible for his incarceration. Dumas' epic tale of suffering and retribution, inspired by a real-life case of wrongful imprisonment, was a huge popular success when it was first serialized in the 1840s.	1080
Fiction	Dumas	Alexandre	The Three Musketeers	One of the most celebrated and popular historical romances ever written. <i>The Three Musketeers</i> tell the story of the early adventures of the young Gascon gentleman d'Artagnan and his three friends from the regiment of the King's Musketeers: Athos, Porthos, and Aramis. Under the watchful eye of their patron M. de Treville, the four defend the honour of the regiment against the guards of the Cardinal Richelieu and the honor of the queen against the machinations of the Cardinal himself as the power struggles of 17th-century France are vividly played out in the background. But their most dangerous encounter is with the Cardinal's spy: Milady, one of literature's most memorable female villains.	1080

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Genre	Author		Title	Description	Lexile Level
History	Einhard		Two Lives of Charlemagne	<p>Two revealingly different accounts of the life of the most important figure of the Roman Empire</p> <p>Charlemagne, known as the father of Europe, was one of the most powerful and dynamic of all medieval rulers. The biographies brought together here provide a rich and varied portrait of the king from two perspectives: that of Einhard, a close friend and adviser, and of Notker, a monastic scholar and musician writing fifty years after Charlemagne's death.</p>	
Literature	Ellison	Ralph	Invisible Man	<p>In this deeply compelling novel and epic milestone of American literature, a nameless narrator tells his story from the basement lair of the <i>Invisible Man</i> he imagines himself to be.</p> <p>He describes growing up in a Black community in the South, attending a Negro college from which he is expelled, moving to New York and becoming the chief spokesman of the Harlem branch of "the Brotherhood," before retreating amid violence and confusion.</p> <p>Originally published in 1952 as the first novel by a then unknown author, it remained on the bestseller list for sixteen weeks and established Ralph Ellison as one of the key writers of the century. The book is a passionate and witty tour de force of style, strongly influenced by T.S. Eliot's <i>The Waste Land</i>, James Joyce, and Dostoevsky.</p>	870
Literature	Erasmus	Desiderius	Praise of Folly	<p>Erasmus of Rotterdam (c. 1466-1536) is one of the greatest figures of the Renaissance humanist movement, which abandoned medieval pieties in favour of a rich new vision of the individual's potential. <i>Praise of Folly</i>, written to amuse his friend Sir Thomas More, is Erasmus's best-known work. Its dazzling mixture of fantasy and satire is narrated by a personification of Folly, dressed as a jester, who celebrates youth, pleasure, drunkenness and sexual desire, and goes on to lambast human pretensions, foibles and frailties, to mock theologians and monks and to praise the 'folly' of simple Christian piety. Erasmus's wit, wordplay and wisdom made the book an instant success, but it also attracted what may have been sales-boosting criticism. The Letter to Maarten van Dorp, which is a defence of his ideas and methods, is also included.</p>	
Literature	Faulkner	William	Light in August	<p>First published in 1932, <i>Light in August</i> is a novel that contrasts stark tragedy with optimistic perseverance in the face of mortality, written by William Faulkner, a Nobel Prize-winning American author. One of the most influential writers of the 20th century, Faulkner's reputation is based on his novels, novellas, and short stories. He was also a published poet and an occasional screenwriter.</p> <p>The novel is set in the American South during prohibition and features an ensemble cast of Faulkner's most memorable characters: honest and brave Lena Grove, in search of the father of her unborn child; Reverend Gail Hightower, a lonely outcast haunted by visions of Confederate glory; and Joe Christmas, a desperate, enigmatic drifter consumed by his mixed ancestry. These characters tussle with alienation, racism, and heartbreak across a nonlinear narrative. Classified as a Southern gothic and modernist novel, it is considered a seminal work in 20th-century American literature.</p>	870

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Genre	Author		Title	Description	Lexile Level
History	Fischer	David Hackett	Albion's Seed: Four British Folkways in America	<p>This fascinating book is the first volume in a projected cultural history of the United States, from the earliest English settlements to our own time. It is a history of American folkways as they have changed through time, and it argues a thesis about the importance for the United States of having been British in its cultural origins.</p> <p>While most people in the United States today have no British ancestors, they have assimilated regional cultures which were created by British colonists, even while preserving ethnic identities at the same time. In this sense, nearly all Americans are "Albion's Seed," no matter what their ethnicity may be. The concluding section of this remarkable book explores the ways that regional cultures have continued to dominate national politics from 1789 to 1988, and still help to shape attitudes toward education, government, gender, and violence, on which differences between American regions are greater than between European nations.</p>	1230
History	Fisher	Hal	A History of Europe	<p>Here is a masterpiece of historical narrative that stretches from the Ice Age to the Atomic Age, as it tells the story of Europe, East and West. Norman Davies captures it all--the rise and fall of Rome, the sweeping invasions of Alaric and Atilla, the Norman Conquests, the Papal struggles for power, the Renaissance and the Reformation, the French Revolution and the Napoleonic Wars. Europe's rise to become the powerhouse of the world, and its eclipse in our own century, following two devastating World Wars. This is the first major history of Europe to give equal weight to both East and West, and it shines light on fascinating minority communities, from heretics and lepers to Gypsies, Jews, and Muslims. It also takes an innovative approach, combining traditional narrative with unique features that help bring history alive: 299 time capsules scattered through the narrative capture telling aspects of an era. 12 - snapshots offer a panoramic look at all of Europe at a particular moment in history. Full coverage of Eastern Europe—100 maps and diagrams, 72 black-and-white plates. All told, Davies's Europe represents one of the most important and illuminating histories to be published in recent years.</p>	
Literature	Fitzgerald	F. Scott	The Great Gatsby	<p><i>The Great Gatsby</i> is considered F. Scott Fitzgerald's magnum opus, exploring themes of decadence, idealism, social stigmas, patriarchal norms, and the deleterious effects of unencumbered wealth in capitalistic society, set against the backdrop of the Jazz Age and the Roaring Twenties. At its heart, it's a cautionary tale, a revealing look into the darker side to the American Dream.</p>	1010
Diary	Frank	Anne	Diary of a Young Girl	<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
Literature	Gaines	Ernest	A Lesson Before Dying	<p>A deep and compassionate novel about a young man who returns to 1940s Cajun country to visit a Black youth on death row for a crime he didn't commit. Together they come to understand the heroism of resisting.</p>	750

Books To Build Great Americans - Young Adults

Genre	Author		Title	Description	Lexile Level
Political Philosophy	General Carl	Von Clausewitz	On War	<i>On War</i> is the most significant attempt in Western history to understand war, both in its internal dynamics and as an instrument of policy. Since the work's first appearance in 1832, it has been read throughout the world, and has stimulated generations of soldiers, statesmen, and intellectuals. Clausewitz had many aphorisms, of which the most famous is, "War is not merely a political act, but also a political instrument, a continuation of political relations, a carrying out of the same by other means," a working definition of war which has won wide acceptance.	
Political Philosophy	Gordon and Trenchard	John and Thomas	Cato's Letters	Almost a generation before Washington, Henry, and Jefferson were even born, two Englishmen, concealing their identities with the honored ancient name of Cato, wrote newspaper articles condemning tyranny and advancing principles of liberty that immensely influenced American colonists. The Englishmen were John Trenchard and Thomas Gordon.	
Drama	Greene	David	Greek Tragedies, Volume 1	<p>Sixty years ago, the University of Chicago Press undertook a momentous project: a new translation of the Greek tragedies that would be the ultimate resource for teachers, students, and readers. They succeeded. Under the expert management of eminent classicists David Grene and Richmond Lattimore, those translations combined accuracy, poetic immediacy, and clarity of presentation to render the surviving masterpieces of Aeschylus, Sophocles, and Euripides in an English so lively and compelling that they remain the standard translations. Today, Chicago is taking pains to ensure that our Greek tragedies remain the leading English-language versions throughout the twenty-first century.</p> <p>In this highly anticipated third edition, Mark Griffith and Glenn W. Most have carefully updated the translations to bring them even closer to the ancient Greek while retaining the vibrancy for which our English versions are famous. This edition also includes brand-new translations of Euripides' <i>Medea</i>, <i>The Children of Heracles</i>, <i>Andromache</i>, and Iphigenia among the Taurians, fragments of lost plays by Aeschylus, and the surviving portion of Sophocles's satyr-drama <i>The Trackers</i>. New introductions for each play offer essential information about its first production, plot, and reception in antiquity and beyond. In addition, each volume includes an introduction to the life and work of its tragedian, as well as notes addressing textual uncertainties and a glossary of names and places mentioned in the plays.</p>	1130
Drama	Greene	David	Greek Tragedies, Volume 2	<p>In this highly anticipated third edition, Mark Griffith and Glenn W. Most have carefully updated the translations to bring them even closer to the ancient Greek while retaining the vibrancy for which our English versions are famous. This edition also includes brand-new translations of Euripides' <i>Medea</i>, <i>The Children of Heracles</i>, <i>Andromache</i>, and Iphigenia among the Taurians, fragments of lost plays by Aeschylus, and the surviving portion of Sophocles's satyr-drama <i>The Trackers</i>. New introductions for each play offer essential information about its first production, plot, and reception in antiquity and beyond. In addition, each volume includes an introduction to the life and work of its tragedian, as well as notes addressing textual uncertainties and a glossary of names and places mentioned in the plays.</p> <p>In addition to the new content, the volumes have been reorganized both within and between volumes to reflect the most up-to-date scholarship on the order in which the plays were originally written. The result is a set of handsome paperbacks destined to introduce new generations of readers to these foundational works of Western drama, art, and life.</p>	1130

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Genre	Author		Title	Description	Lexile Level
Drama	Greene	David	Greek Tragedies, Volume 3	<p>The Grene and Lattimore edition of the Greek tragedies has been among the most widely acclaimed and successful publications of the University of Chicago Press. On the occasion of the Centennial of the University of Chicago and its Press, we take pleasure in reissuing this complete work in a handsome four-volume slipcased edition as well as in redesigned versions of the familiar paperbacks.</p> <p>For the Centennial Edition two of the original translations have been replaced. In the original publication David Grene translated only one of the three Theban plays, Oedipus the King. Now he has added his own translations of the remaining two, Oedipus at Colonus and Antigone, thus bringing a new unity of tone and style to this group. Grene has also revised his earlier translation of Prometheus Bound and rendered some of the former prose sections in verse.</p>	1130
Mythology	Grimm	Jacob	Germanic Mythology	<p>This four-volume set is the most exhaustive compendium of German and Norse mythology and a milestone in the study of comparative mythology and religion. Indispensable for students and scholars of folklore, cultural history, and literature, this work remains the definitive basis for further research into the field.</p>	
Poetry	Guest	Edgar A	Collected Works	<p>A comprehensive collection of poems by the popular American poet Edgar A. Guest, known for his optimistic and motivational verse. This edition includes over 700 poems covering a wide range of topics including family, love, and patriotism. Fans of classic American poetry will enjoy this timeless collection from one of the most beloved poets of the early 20th century.</p>	900
Historical Fiction	Hall	James Norman	Falcons of France	<p>This antiquarian volume contains <i>Falcons of France</i>; a novel about flying, World War I, and contemporary moralities. It was written by two American veterans of the 'Escadrille Lafayette', and contains thrilling tales of aerial battle and life during the war. This is a text that will appeal to anyone with an interest in aviation, and will especially appeal to those interested in aviation in World War I.</p>	930
History	Hart	Michael	Understanding Human History	<p><i>Understanding Human History</i> is a history of humanity, beginning about 100,000 years ago and going through the 20th century. It includes discussions of developments in every major area of the world. Unlike other books on world history, it explicitly discusses racial differences in intelligence, and explains how, why, and when they arose. The book also discusses the many consequences that those differences have had on human events, starting in prehistoric times and continuing to the present. The book includes an abundance of data and tables, together with sixteen maps, three tables, an extensive bibliography, and a thorough index.</p>	
Literature	Hawthorne	Nathaniel	The Scarlet Letter	<p>Nathaniel Hawthorne's masterpiece, an iconic fable of guilt and redemption set in Puritan Massachusetts, has long been considered one of the greatest American novels.</p> <p>The story of Hester Prynne—found out in adultery, pilloried by her Puritan community, and abandoned, in different ways, by both her partner in sin and her vengeance-seeking husband—possesses a reality heightened by Hawthorne's sympathy and his unmixed devotion to his supposedly fallen but fundamentally innocent heroine. <i>The Scarlet Letter</i> rightly deserves its stature as the first great novel written by an American, a work of moral force and narrative power that announced a literature equal to any in the world.</p>	1420

Books To Build Great Americans - Young Adults

Genre	Author		Title	Description	Lexile Level
Economics	Hazlitt	Henry	Economics in One Lesson	<p>Considered among the leading economic thinkers of the “Austrian School,” which includes Carl Menger, Ludwig von Mises, Friedrich (F.A.) Hayek, and others, Henry Hazlitt wrote <i>Economics in One Lesson</i> in 1946. Concise and instructive, it is also deceptively prescient and far-reaching in its efforts to disassemble economic fallacies that are so prevalent they have almost become a new orthodoxy.</p> <p>Economic commentators across the political spectrum have credited Hazlitt with foreseeing the collapse of the global economy which occurred more than fifty years after the initial publication of <i>Economics in One Lesson</i>. Hazlitt’s focus on non-governmental solutions, strong—and strongly reasoned—anti-deficit position, and general emphasis on free markets, economic liberty of individuals, and the dangers of government intervention make <i>Economics in One Lesson</i> every bit as relevant and valuable today as it has been since publication.</p>	
Literature	Heaney, translator	Seamus	Beowulf	<p>Composed toward the end of the first millennium, <i>Beowulf</i> is the elegiac narrative of the adventures of Beowulf, a Scandinavian hero who saves the Danes from the seemingly invincible monster Grendel and, later, from Grendel's mother. He then returns to his own country and dies in old age in a vivid fight against a dragon. The poem is about encountering the monstrous, defeating it, and then having to live on in the exhausted aftermath. In the contours of this story, at once remote and uncannily familiar at the beginning of the twenty-first century, Nobel laureate Seamus Heaney finds a resonance that summons power to the poetry from deep beneath its surface. Drawn to what he has called the “four-squareness of the utterance” in <i>Beowulf</i> and its immense emotional credibility, Heaney gives these epic qualities new and convincing reality for the contemporary reader.</p>	1090
History	Heather	Peter	The Fall of the Roman Empire	<p>The death of the Roman Empire is one of the perennial mysteries of world history. Now, in this groundbreaking book, Peter Heather proposes a stunning new solution: Centuries of imperialism turned the neighbors Rome called barbarians into an enemy capable of dismantling an Empire that had dominated their lives for so long. A leading authority on the late Roman Empire and on the barbarians, Heather relates the extraordinary story of how Europe's barbarians, transformed by centuries of contact with Rome on every possible level, eventually pulled the empire apart. He shows first how the Huns overturned the existing strategic balance of power on Rome's European frontiers, to force the Goths and others to seek refuge inside the Empire. This prompted two generations of struggle, during which new barbarian coalitions, formed in response to Roman hostility, brought the Roman west to its knees. The Goths first destroyed a Roman army at the battle of Hadrianople in 378, and went on to sack Rome in 410. The Vandals spread devastation in Gaul and Spain, before conquering North Africa, the breadbasket of the Western Empire, in 439. We then meet Attila the Hun, whose reign of terror swept from Constantinople to Paris, but whose death in 453 ironically precipitated a final desperate phase of Roman collapse, culminating in the Vandals' defeat of the massive Byzantine Armada: the west's last chance for survival.</p> <p>Peter Heather convincingly argues that the Roman Empire was not on the brink of social or moral collapse. What brought it to an end were the barbarians.</p>	

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Genre	Author		Title	Description	Lexile Level
Fiction	Heller	Joseph	Catch-22	<p>Fifty years after its original publication, <i>Catch-22</i> remains a cornerstone of American literature and one of the funniest—and most celebrated—books of all time. In recent years it has been named to “best novels” lists by Time, Newsweek, the Modern Library, and the London Observer.</p> <p>Set in Italy during World War II, this is the story of the incomparable, malingering bombardier, Yossarian, a hero who is furious because thousands of people he has never met are trying to kill him. But his real problem is not the enemy—it is his own army, which keeps increasing the number of missions the men must fly to complete their service. Yet if Yossarian makes any attempt to excuse himself from the perilous missions he’s assigned, he’ll be in violation of Catch-22, a hilariously sinister bureaucratic rule: a man is considered insane if he willingly continues to fly dangerous combat missions, but if he makes a formal request to be removed from duty, he is proven sane and therefore ineligible to be relieved.</p>	1140
Literature	Hemingway	Ernest	The Sun Also Rises	<p>Join Jake Barnes and his expatriate friends as they embark on a mesmerizing journey through the post-World War I landscape of Paris, Pamplona, and beyond. In Ernest Hemingway’s timeless masterpiece, <i>The Sun Also Rises</i>, you’ll be transported to an era of the lost generation, where love and friendship are tested against the backdrop of the Roaring Twenties. With exquisite prose and raw emotional depth, Hemingway paints a vivid portrait of a generation struggling to find meaning and purpose in a world forever changed by war. A tale of love, longing, and the unquenchable thirst for life, this novel is a must-read for anyone seeking the essence of the human spirit. Immerse yourself in this classic that continues to captivate readers and leaves an indelible mark on literature.</p>	680
Science Fiction	Herbert	Frank	Dune	<p>Frank Herbert’s classic masterpiece—a triumph of the imagination and one of the bestselling science fiction novels of all time.</p> <p>Set on the desert planet Arrakis, <i>Dune</i> is the story of Paul Atreides—who would become known as Muad’Dib—and of a great family’s ambition to bring to fruition humankind’s most ancient and unattainable dream.</p> <p>A stunning blend of adventure and mysticism, environmentalism and politics, <i>Dune</i> won the first Nebula Award, shared the Hugo Award, and formed the basis of what is undoubtedly the grandest epic in science fiction.</p>	800
History	Herman	Arthur	The Scottish Enlightenment: The Scots Invention of the Modern World	<p>This work presents the history of how Scotland produced the institutions, beliefs and human character that have made the West into the most powerful culture in the world. Within one hundred years, the nation that began the 18th century dominated by the harsh and repressive Scottish Kirk had evolved into Europe’s most literate society, producing an idea of modernity that has shaped much of civilisation as we know it. Arthur Herman argues that Scotland’s turbulent history, from William Wallace to the Presbyterian Lords of the Covenant, laid the foundations for “the Scottish miracle”. He follows the lives and work of thinkers such as Adam Smith and David Hume, writers such as Burns and Boswell, as well as architects, technicians and inventors, and traces their legacy into the 20th century.</p>	

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Genre	Author		Title	Description	Lexile Level
Nonfiction	Hersey	John	Hiroshima	<p><i>Hiroshima</i> is the story of six human beings who lived through the greatest single manmade disaster in history. John Hersey tells what these six -- a clerk, a widowed seamstress, a physician, a Methodist minister, a young surgeon, and a German Catholic priest -- were doing at 8:15 a.m. on August 6, 1945, when Hiroshima was destroyed by the first atomic bomb ever dropped on a city. Then he follows the course of their lives hour by hour, day by day.</p> <p><i>The New Yorker</i> of August 31, 1946, devoted all its space to this story. The immediate repercussions were vast: newspapers here and abroad reprinted it; during evening half-hours it was read over the network of the American Broadcasting Company; leading editorials were devoted to it in uncounted newspapers.</p> <p>Almost four decades after the original publication of this celebrated book John Hersey went back to Hiroshima in search of the people whose stories he had told. His account of what he discovered about them -- the variety of ways in which they responded to the past and went on with their lives -- is now the eloquent and moving final chapter of <i>Hiroshima</i>.</p>	1190
Poetry	Hesiod		Theogony	<p>This new, fully-annotated translation by a leading expert on Hesiodic poems combines accuracy with readability and includes an introduction and explanatory notes on these two works by one of the oldest known Greek poets. The <i>Theogony</i> contains a systematic genealogy and account of the struggles of the gods, and the <i>Works and Days</i> offers a compendium of moral and practical advice for a life of honest husbandry.</p>	1280
Nonfiction	Hickam	Homer	October Sky	<p>It was 1957, the year Sputnik raced across the Appalachian sky, and the small town of Coalwood, West Virginia, was slowly dying. Faced with an uncertain future, Homer Hickam nurtured a to send rockets into outer space. The introspective son of the mine's superintendent and a mother determined to get him out of Coalwood forever, Homer fell in with a group of misfits who learned not only how to turn scraps of metal into sophisticated rockets but how to sustain their hope in a town that swallowed its men alive. As the boys began to light up the tarry skies with their flaming projectiles and dreams of glory, Coalwood, and the Hickams, would never be the same.</p>	900
Political Philosophy	Hobbes	Thomas	Leviathan	<p>"During the time men live without a common Power to keep them all in awe, they are in that condition which is called Warre"</p> <p>Written during the turmoil of the English Civil War, <i>Leviathan</i> is an ambitious and highly original work of political philosophy. Claiming that man's essential nature is competitive and selfish, Hobbes formulates the case for a powerful sovereign—or "Leviathan"—to enforce peace and the law, substituting security for the anarchic freedom he believed human beings would otherwise experience. This worldview shocked many of Hobbes's contemporaries, and his work was publicly burnt for sedition and blasphemy when it was first published. But in his rejection of Aristotle's view of man as a naturally social being, and in his painstaking analysis of the ways in which society can and should function, Hobbes opened up a whole new world of political science.</p>	1470

Books To Build Great Americans - Young Adults

Genre	Author		Title	Description	Lexile Level
Literature	Homer, Wilson (Trans.)		The Odyssey	<p>Composed at the rosy-fingered dawn of world literature almost three millennia ago, <i>The Odyssey</i> is a poem about violence and the aftermath of war; about wealth, poverty and power; about marriage and family; about travelers, hospitality, and the yearning for home.</p> <p>This fresh, authoritative translation captures the beauty of this ancient poem as well as the drama of its narrative. Its characters are unforgettable, none more so than the “complicated” hero himself, a man of many disguises, many tricks, and many moods, who emerges in this version as a more fully rounded human being than ever before.</p> <p>Written in iambic pentameter verse and a vivid, contemporary idiom, Emily Wilson’s <i>Odyssey</i> sings with a voice that echoes Homer’s music; matching the number of lines in the Greek original, the poem sails along at Homer’s swift, smooth pace.</p> <p>A fascinating, informative introduction explores the Bronze Age milieu that produced the epic, the poem’s major themes, the controversies about its origins, and the unparalleled scope of its impact and influence. Maps drawn especially for this volume, a pronunciation glossary, and extensive notes and summaries of each book make this is an <i>Odyssey</i> that will be treasured by a new generation of readers.</p>	1050
Literature	Homer, Wilson (Trans.)		The Iliad	<p><i>The Iliad</i> roars with the clamor of arms, the bellowing boasts of victors, the fury and grief of loss, and the anguished cries of dying men. It sings, too, of the sublime magnitude of the world—the fierce beauty of nature and the gods’ grand schemes beyond the ken of mortals. In Wilson’s hands, this thrilling, magical, and often horrifying tale now gallops at a pace befitting its legendary battle scenes, in crisp but resonant language that evokes the poem’s deep pathos and reveals palpably real, even “complicated,” characters—both human and divine.</p> <p>The culmination of a decade of intense engagement with antiquity’s most surpassingly beautiful and emotionally complex poetry, Wilson’s <i>Iliad</i> now gives us a complete Homer for our generation.</p>	1040

Books To Build Great Americans - Young Adults

Genre	Author		Title	Description	Lexile Level
Political Philosophy	Hume	David L.	Essays: Moral, Political, Literary	<p>David Hume was a Scottish historian, philosopher, economist, diplomat and essayist known today especially for his radical philosophical empiricism and scepticism.</p> <p>In light of Hume's central role in the Scottish Enlightenment, and in the history of Western philosophy, Bryan Magee judged him as a philosopher "widely regarded as the greatest who has ever written in the English language." While Hume failed in his attempts to start a university career, he took part in various diplomatic and military missions of the time. He wrote <i>The History of England</i> which became a bestseller, and it became the standard history of England in its day.</p> <p>His empirical approach places him with John Locke, George Berkeley, and a handful of others at the time as a British Empiricist.</p> <p>Beginning with his <i>A Treatise of Human Nature</i> (1739), Hume strove to create a total naturalistic "science of man" that examined the psychological basis of human nature. In opposition to the rationalists who preceded him, most notably René Descartes, he concluded that desire rather than reason governed human behaviour. He also argued against the existence of innate ideas, concluding that humans have knowledge only of things they directly experience. He argued that inductive reasoning and therefore causality cannot be justified rationally. Our assumptions in favour of these result from custom and constant conjunction rather than logic. He concluded that humans have no actual conception of the self, only of a bundle of sensations associated with the self.</p> <p>Hume's compatibilist theory of free will proved extremely influential on subsequent moral philosophy. He was also a sentimentalist who held that ethics are based on feelings rather than abstract moral principles, and expounded the is–ought problem.</p>	1330
Fiction	Huxley	Aldous	Brave New World	<p>Aldous Huxley's profoundly important classic of world literature, <i>Brave New World</i> is a searching vision of an unequal, technologically-advanced future where humans are genetically bred, socially indoctrinated, and pharmaceutically anesthetized to passively uphold an authoritarian ruling order—all at the cost of our freedom, full humanity, and perhaps also our souls. "A genius [who] who spent his life decrying the onward march of the Machine" (<i>The New Yorker</i>), Huxley was a man of incomparable talents: equally an artist, a spiritual seeker, and one of history's keenest observers of human nature and civilization. <i>Brave New World</i>, his masterpiece, has enthralled and terrified millions of readers, and retains its urgent relevance to this day as both a warning to be heeded as we head into tomorrow and as thought-provoking, satisfying work of literature. Written in the shadow of the rise of fascism during the 1930s, <i>Brave New World</i> likewise speaks to a 21st-century world dominated by mass-entertainment, technology, medicine and pharmaceuticals, the arts of persuasion, and the hidden influence of elites.</p>	870
Drama	Ibsen	Henrik	An Enemy of the People	<p><i>An Enemy of the People</i> is a classic play by Henrik Ibsen, first published in 1882. It tells the story of Dr. Stockmann, a medical specialist who discovers that his town's water supply is contaminated. When he speaks out, he finds himself in conflict with the townspeople and his own family. This riveting drama examines the conflict between personal morality and public interests, with themes of justice, integrity, and freedom of speech. <i>An Enemy of the People</i> is a timeless classic, and a must-see for anyone who loves theatre.</p>	

Books To Build Great Americans - Young Adults

Genre	Author		Title	Description	Lexile Level
Collection	Irving	Washington	The Sketchbook of Geoffrey Crayon, Gent	In <i>The Sketch-Book</i> (1820-21), Irving explores the uneasy relationship of an American writer to English literary traditions. In two sketches, he experiments with tales transplanted from Europe, thereby creating the first classic American short stories, "Rip Van Winkle", and "The Legend of Sleepy Hollow". Based on Irving's final revision of his most popular work, this new edition includes comprehensive explanatory notes of <i>The Sketch-Book's</i> sources for the modern reader.	1380
Literature	Juvenal		The Satires	Commonly considered the greatest of Roman satirical poets, Juvenal is the author of sixteen satires of Roman society, notable for their pessimism and ironic humor. In this new translation of the <i>Satires</i> , Professor Rudd combines textual accuracy with colorful poetry, vividly conveying Juvenal's gift for evoking a wealth of imagery with a few economical phrases.	1160
Memoir	Keller	Helen	Helen Keller: The Story of My Life	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
Adventure	Kipling	Rudyard	Captains Courageous	<i>Captains Courageous</i> , by Rudyard Kipling, is the story of a 15-year-old boy named Harvey Cheyne Jr., the spoiled son of a wealthy railroad tycoon. He is on an ocean liner bound for Europe when he falls overboard and is rescued by a group of cod fishermen off the coast of Newfoundland. Harvey tries to get the fishermen to take him back to port, but they refuse to do it. He also tells them that he is wealthy and his father will pay for the trip back, but the fishermen don't believe him. When Harvey accuses the captain, Disko Troop, of taking his money, the captain is angry and punches him, but then makes Harvey join the crew and work as a fisherman for the remainder of their trip. Under the tutelage of a rough and tough crew of fisherman, and with the assistance of Dan, the captain's son, Harvey doffs his "spoiled little rich boy" attitude and learns some manners and the value of hard work. He learns to be a good fisherman and to respect the crew. He also appreciates that they value him for his dedication and contribution to the crew and not for his money. When the fishing schooner returns to port, Harvey wires his parents, and they retrieve their son in Gloucester, Massachusetts, where the schooner arrived in port. Harvey's parents reward the fisherman who saved her son from the water, they offer Dan a job as the officer of a railroad fleet, and they send their son to Stanford where he will learn what he needs to know to take over his father's railroad fleet.	1020

Books To Build Great Americans - Young Adults

Genre	Author		Title	Description	Lexile Level
Western	L'Amour	Louis	The Lonesome Gods	<p>"I am Johannes Verne, and I am not afraid."</p> <p>This was the boy's mantra as he plodded through the desert alone, left to die by his vengeful grandfather. Johannes Verne was soon to be rescued by outlaws, but no one could save him from the lasting memory of his grandfather's eyes, full of impenetrable hatred. Raised in part by Indians, then befriended by a mysterious woman, Johannes grew up to become a rugged adventurer and an educated man. But even now, strengthened by the love of a golden-haired girl and well on his way to making a fortune in bustling early-day Los Angeles, the past may rise up to threaten his future once more. And this time only the ancient gods of the desert can save him.</p>	1000
Historical Fiction	L'Amour	Louis	Sackett's Land (Book 1 of 17 in Series)	<p>After discovering six gold Roman coins buried in the mud of the Devil's Dyke, Barnabas Sackett enthusiastically invests in goods that he will offer for trade in America. But Sackett has a powerful enemy: Rupert Genester, nephew of an earl, wants him dead. A battlefield promise made to Sackett's father threatens Genester's inheritance. So on the eve of his departure for America, Sackett is attacked and thrown into the hold of a pirate ship. Genester's orders are for him to disappear into the waters of the Atlantic. But after managing to escape, Sackett makes his way to the Carolina coast. He sees in the raw, abundant land the promise of a bright future. But before that dream can be realized, he must first return to England and discover the secret of his father's legacy.</p>	940
History	Langguth	AJ	Patriots	<p>With meticulous research and page-turning suspense, <i>Patriots</i> brings to life the American Revolution—the battles, the treacheries, and the dynamic personalities of the men who forged our freedom.</p> <p>George Washington, John Adams, Samuel Adams, Ben Franklin, Thomas Jefferson, Patrick Henry—these heroes were men of intellect, passion, and ambition. From the secret meetings of the Sons of Liberty to the final victory at Yorktown and the new Congress, <i>Patriots</i> vividly re-creates one of history's great eras.</p>	
Nonfiction	Leckie	Robert	Helmet for My Pillow	<p>Here is one of the most riveting first-person accounts to ever come out of the Second World War. Robert Leckie was 21 when he enlisted in the US Marine Corps in January 1942.</p> <p>In <i>Helmet for My Pillow</i> we follow his journey, from boot camp on Parris Island, South Carolina, all the way to the raging battles in the Pacific, where some of the war's fiercest fighting took place. Recounting his service with the 1st Marine Division and the brutal action on Guadalcanal, New Britain and Peleliu, Leckie spares no detail of the horrors and sacrifice of war, painting an unsentimental portrait of how real warriors are made, fight, and all too often die in the defence of their country. Unparalleled in its immediacy and accuracy, <i>Helmet for My Pillow</i> is a gripping account from an ordinary soldier fighting in extraordinary conditions.</p>	
Fiction	Lewis	C.S.	The Screwtape Letters	<p>C.S. Lewis's <i>The Screwtape Letters</i> has entertained and enlightened readers the world over with its sly and ironic portrayal of human life and foibles from the unique vantage point of Screwtape, a highly placed assistant to "Our Father Below." At once wildly comic, deadly serious, and strikingly original, C.S. Lewis gives us the correspondence of the worldly-wise devil to his nephew Wormwood, a novice demon in charge of securing the damnation of an ordinary young man. <i>The Screwtape Letters</i> is the most engaging account of temptation—and triumph over it—ever written.</p>	1170

Books To Build Great Americans - Young Adults

Genre	Author		Title	Description	Lexile Level
History	Livy		Early History of Rome	With stylistic brilliance and historical imagination, the first five books of Livy's monumental history of Rome record events from the foundation of Rome through the history of the seven kings, the establishment of the Republic and its internal struggles, up to Rome's recovery after the fierce Gallic invasion of the fourth century B.C. Livy vividly depicts the great characters, legends, and tales, including the story of Romulus and Remus. Reprinting Robert Ogilvie's lucid 1971 introduction, this highly regarded edition now boasts a new preface, examining the text in light of recent Livy scholarship, informative maps, bibliography, and an index.	1390
Political Philosophy	Locke	John	An Essay Concerning Human Understanding	<i>An Essay Concerning Human Understanding</i> is a work by John Locke concerning the foundation of human knowledge and understanding. It first appeared in 1689 with the printed title <i>An Essay Concerning Human Understanding</i> . He describes the mind at birth as a blank slate filled later through experience.	1590
Philosophy	Lucretius		On the Nature of Things	<p>Little is known about Titus Lucretius Carus, except that he lived in the early first century B.C. What does survive is a masterful poetic work that stands as the greatest exposition of Epicurean philosophy. Writing in the waning days of the Roman Republic--as Rome's politics grew individualistic and treacherous, its high-life wanton, its piety introspective and morbid--Lucretius sets forth a rational and materialistic view of the world which offers a retreat into a quiet community of wisdom and friendship.</p> <p>Until now, there has been no adequate English verse translation of <i>De Rarum Natura</i>. Anthony Esolen fills that gap with a version that reproduces--with remarkable faithfulness--the meaning, pace, and tone and even the poetic meter (accentual pentameter) of the original Latin.</p> <p>A careful observer of nature, Lucretius writes with an innocent curiosity into how things are put together--from the oceans, lands, and stars to a mound of poppy seeds, from the "applause" of a rooster's wings to the human mind and soul. Yet he is no romantic. Nature is what it is--fascinating, purposeless, beautiful, deadly. Once we understand this, we free ourselves of superstitious fears, becoming as human and as godlike as we can be. The poem, then, is about the universe and how human beings ought to live in it. Epicurean physics and morality converge.</p> <p>Anthony Esolen's masterful translation will introduce a new generation of readers to a thinker whose powers of observation and depth of insight remain fresh to the present day.</p>	1370
Political Philosophy	Machiavelli	Nicolo	The Prince	<p>The ends justifies the means.</p> <p><i>The Prince</i> is a 16th-century political treatise written by Italian diplomat and political theorist Niccolò Machiavelli as an instruction guide for new princes and royals. The general theme of <i>The Prince</i> is of accepting that the aims of princes – such as glory and survival – can justify the use of immoral means to achieve those ends.</p>	1350

Books To Build Great Americans - Young Adults

Genre	Author		Title	Description	Lexile Level
Classic Fiction	Marlowe	Christopher	Dr. Faustus	<p>One of the most durable myths in Western culture, the story of Faust tells of a learned German doctor who sells his soul to the devil in exchange for knowledge and power. Early enactments of Faust's damnation were often the raffish fare of clowns and low comedians. But the young Elizabethan playwright Christopher Marlowe (1564–1593) recognized in the story of Faust's temptation and fall the elements of tragedy. In his epic treatment of the Faust legend, Marlowe retains much of the rich phantasmagoria of its origins. There are florid visions of an enraged Lucifer, dueling angels, the Seven Deadly Sins, Faustus tormenting the Pope, and his summoning of the spirit of Alexander the Great. But the playwright created equally powerful scenes that invest the work with tragic dignity, among them the doomed man's calling upon Christ to save him and his ultimate rejection of salvation for the embrace of Helen of Troy.</p> <p>With immense poetic skill, and psychological insight that foreshadowed the later work of Shakespeare and the Jacobean playwrights, Marlowe created in <i>Dr. Faustus</i> one of the first true tragedies in English. Vividly dramatic, rich in poetic grandeur, this classic play remains a robust and lively exemplar of the glories of Elizabethan drama.</p>	
Fiction	McCarthy	Cormac	All the Pretty Horses	<p><i>All the Pretty Horses</i> is the tale of John Grady Cole, who at sixteen finds himself at the end of a long line of Texas ranchers, cut off from the only life he has ever imagined for himself. With two companions, he sets off for Mexico on a sometimes idyllic, sometimes comic journey to a place where dreams are paid for in blood.</p>	940
Philosophy	McKeon	Richard	The Basic Works of Aristotle	<p>Preserved by Arabic mathematicians and canonized by Christian scholars, Aristotle's works have shaped Western thought, science, and religion for nearly two thousand years. Richard McKeon's <i>The Basic Works of Aristotle</i>—constituted out of the definitive Oxford translation and in print as a Random House hardcover for sixty years—has long been considered the best available one-volume Aristotle. Appearing in paperback at long last, this edition includes selections from the <i>Organon</i>, <i>On the Heavens</i>, <i>The Short Physical Treatises</i>, <i>Rhetoric</i>, among others, and <i>On the Soul</i>, <i>On Generation and Corruption</i>, <i>Physics</i>, <i>Metaphysics</i>, <i>Nicomachean Ethics</i>, <i>Politics</i>, and <i>Poetics</i> in their entirety.</p>	
Western	McMurtry	Larry	The Lonesome Gods	<p>The classic Western, now newly repackaged as part of Bantam's Louis L'Amour's Lost Treasures program—with never-before-seen material from Louis and his son, Beau L'Amour.</p> <p>"I am Johannes Verne, and I am not afraid."</p> <p>This was the boy's mantra as he plodded through the desert alone, left to die by his vengeful grandfather. Johannes Verne was soon to be rescued by outlaws, but no one could save him from the lasting memory of his grandfather's eyes, full of impenetrable hatred. Raised in part by Indians, then befriended by a mysterious woman, Johannes grew up to become a rugged adventurer and an educated man. But even now, strengthened by the love of a golden-haired girl and well on his way to making a fortune in bustling early-day Los Angeles, the past may rise up to threaten his future once more. And this time only the ancient gods of the desert can save him.</p>	

Books To Build Great Americans - Young Adults

Genre	Author		Title	Description	Lexile Level
Classic Fiction	Melville	Herman	Moby Dick	In this outstanding work, Ishmael, the narrator, recounts the epic story of the insane quest that he becomes a part of as he boards the whaleship Pequod. It is the story of Captain Ahab, the vengeful whaler and his pursuit of Moby Dick, the elusive white whale, who on a previous voyage destroyed his boat and left Ahab a crippled and obsessive monomaniac. The insanity and the blind need for vengeance evoke fear and doubt in his crew members as Ahab threatens to lead the ship and all its members to an adventurous, yet increasingly, precarious culmination. Will Ahab recognize his own madness before the high seas of vengeance?	1230
Drama	Miller	Arthur	Death of a Salesman	The Pulitzer Prize-winning tragedy of a salesman's deferred American dream Ever since it was first performed in 1949, <i>Death of a Salesman</i> has been recognized as a milestone of the American theater. In the person of Willy Loman, the aging, failing salesman who makes his living riding on a smile and a shoeshine, Arthur Miller redefined the tragic hero as a man whose dreams are at once insupportably vast and dangerously insubstantial. He has given us a figure whose name has become a symbol for a kind of majestic grandiosity—and a play that compresses epic extremes of humor and anguish, promise and loss, between the four walls of an American living room.	1320
Western	Moody	Ralph	The Dry Divide	Ralph Moody, just turned twenty, had only a dime in his pocket when he was put off a freight in western Nebraska. It was the Fourth of July in 1919. Three months later he owned eight teams of horses and rigs to go with them. Everyone who worked with him shared in the prosperity—the widow whose wheat crop was saved and the group of misfits who formed a first-rate harvesting crew. But sometimes fickle Mother Nature and frail human nature made sure that nothing was easy. The tension between opposing forces never lets up in this book. Without preaching, <i>The Dry Divide</i> warmly illustrates the old-time virtues of hard work ingenuity, and respect for others.	1240
Western	Moody	Ralph	Horse of a Different Color	In the early 1920s, cowboy and dry-range farmer Ralph Moody finds himself with mountainous debts through the collapse of the livestock market and the dealings of a crooked partner. Ralph never surrenders, but finds a way to turn tragedy into opportunity.	1210
Western	Moody	Ralph	Shaking the Nickel Bush	Skinny and suffering from diabetes, Ralph Moody is ordered by a Boston doctor to seek a more healthful climate. Going west again is a delightful prospect. His childhood adventures on a Colorado ranch were described in <i>Little Britches</i> and <i>Man of the Family</i> , also Bison Books. Now nineteen years old, he strikes out into new territory hustling odd jobs, facing the problem of getting fresh milk and leafy green vegetables. He scrapes around to survive, risking his neck as a stunt rider for a movie company. With an improvident buddy named Lonnie, he camps out in an Arizona canyon and "shakes the nickel bush" by sculpting plaster of paris busts of lawyers and bankers. This is 1918, and the young men travel through the Southwest not on horses but in a Ford aptly named Shiftless. New readers and old will enjoy this entry in the continuing saga of Ralph Moody.	1200

Books To Build Great Americans - Young Adults

Genre	Author		Title	Description	Lexile Level
Classic Fiction	Moore	Thomas	Utopia	In his most famous and controversial book, <i>Utopia</i> , Thomas More imagines a perfect island nation where thousands live in peace and harmony, men and women are both educated, and all property is communal. Through dialogue and correspondence between the protagonist Raphael Hythloday and his friends and contemporaries, More explores the theories behind war, political disagreements, social quarrels, and wealth distribution and imagines the day-to-day lives of those citizens enjoying freedom from fear, oppression, violence, and suffering. Originally written in Latin, this vision of an ideal world is also a scathing satire of Europe in the sixteenth century and has been hugely influential since publication, shaping utopian fiction even today.	1420
Literature	Orwell	George	Animal Farm	<p>"All animals are equal, but some animals are more equal than others."</p> <p>A farm is taken over by its overworked, mistreated animals. With flaming idealism and stirring slogans, they set out to create a paradise of progress, justice, and equality. Thus the stage is set for one of the most telling satiric fables ever penned—a razor-edged fairy tale for grown-ups that records the evolution from revolution against tyranny to a totalitarianism just as terrible.</p> <p>When <i>Animal Farm</i> was first published, Stalinist Russia was seen as its target. Today it is devastatingly clear that wherever and whenever freedom is attacked, under whatever banner, the cutting clarity and savage comedy of George Orwell's masterpiece have a meaning and message still ferociously fresh.</p>	1170
Science Fiction	Orwell	George	1984	<p>"The Party told you to reject the evidence of your eyes and ears. It was their final, most essential command."</p> <p>Winston Smith toes the Party line, rewriting history to satisfy the demands of the Ministry of Truth. With each lie he writes, Winston grows to hate the Party that seeks power for its own sake and persecutes those who dare to commit thoughtcrimes. But as he starts to think for himself, Winston can't escape the fact that Big Brother is always watching...</p> <p>A startling and haunting novel, <i>1984</i> creates an imaginary world that is completely convincing from start to finish. No one can deny the novel's hold on the imaginations of whole generations, or the power of its admonitions—a power that seems to grow, not lessen, with the passage of time.</p>	1090
	Paine	Thomas	Common Sense	<p><i>Common Sense</i> is a 47-page pamphlet written by Thomas Paine in 1775–1776 advocating independence from Great Britain to people in the Thirteen Colonies. Writing in clear and persuasive prose, Paine marshaled moral and political arguments to encourage common people in the Colonies to fight for egalitarian government. It was published anonymously on January 10, 1776, at the beginning of the American Revolution and became an immediate sensation. It was sold and distributed widely and read aloud at taverns and meeting places. In proportion to the population of the colonies at that time (2.5 million), it had the largest sale and circulation of any book published in American history. As of 2006, it remains the all-time best-selling American title.</p> <p><i>Common Sense</i> made public a persuasive and impassioned case for independence, which had not yet been given serious intellectual consideration. Paine connected independence with common dissenting Protestant beliefs as a means to present a distinctly American political identity and structured <i>Common Sense</i> as if it were a sermon. Historian Gordon S. Wood described <i>Common Sense</i> as "the most incendiary and popular pamphlet of the entire revolutionary era."</p>	1260

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Genre	Author		Title	Description	Lexile Level
Philosophy	Pascal	Blaise	The Penseés	Blaise Pascal, the precociously brilliant contemporary of Descartes, was a gifted mathematician and physicist, but it is his unfinished apologia for the Christian religion upon which his reputation now rests. <i>The Penseés</i> is a collection of philosophical fragments, notes and essays in which Pascal explores the contradictions of human nature in psychological, social, metaphysical and - above all - theological terms. Mankind emerges from Pascal's analysis as a wretched and desolate creature within an impersonal universe, but who can be transformed through faith in God's grace.	
Literature	Petronius		"Dinner with Trimalchio" from <i>Satyricon</i>	"I blush to say what happened next." A satirical portrait of a drunken, orgiastic Roman banquet, hosted by the grossly ostentatious Trimalchio.	1450
Philosophy	Plato		Collected Dialogues	All the writings of Plato generally considered to be authentic are here presented in the only complete one-volume Plato available in English. The editors set out to choose the contents of this collected edition from the work of the best British and American translators of the last 100 years, ranging from Jowett (1871) to scholars of the present day. The volume contains prefatory notes to each dialogue, by Edith Hamilton; an introductory essay on Plato's philosophy and writings, by Huntington Cairns; and a comprehensive index which seeks, by means of cross references, to assist the reader with the philosophical vocabulary of the different translators.	1240
Western	Portis	Charles	True Grit	<i>True Grit</i> tells the story of Mattie Ross, who is just fourteen years of age when a coward going by the name of Tom Chaney shoots her father down in Fort Smith, Arkansas, and robs him of his life, his horse, and \$150 in cash. Mattie leaves home to avenge her father's blood. With the one-eyed Rooster Cogburn, the meanest available U.S. Marshal, by her side, Mattie pursues the homicide into Indian Territory. First brought to the big screen in the classic 1969 western starring John Wayne and remade brilliantly in 2010 by the Coen brothers and starring Jeff Bridges, <i>True Grit</i> is eccentric, cool, straight, and unflinching, like Mattie herself. From a writer of true status, this is an American classic through and through.	800
Fantasy	Pullman	Philip	His Dark Materials Trilogy	<i>The Golden Compass</i> , <i>The Subtle Knife</i> , and <i>The Amber Spyglass</i> are available together in one volume perfect for any fan or newcomer to this modern fantasy classic series. These thrilling adventures tell the story of Lyra and Will—two ordinary children on a perilous journey through shimmering haunted otherworlds. They will meet witches and armored bears, fallen angels and soul-eating specters. And in the end, the fate of both the living—and the dead—will rely on them. Phillip Pullman's spellbinding <i>His Dark Materials</i> trilogy has captivated readers for over twenty years and won acclaim at every turn. It will have you questioning everything you know about your world and wondering what really lies just out of reach.	930

Books To Build Great Americans - Young Adults

Genre	Author		Title	Description	Lexile Level
Poetry	Ricks	Christopher	The Oxford Book of English Verse	<p>Here is a treasure house of over seven centuries of English poetry, chosen and introduced by Christopher Ricks, whom Auden described as "exactly the kind of critic every poet dreams of finding." <i>The Oxford Book of English Verse</i>, created in 1900 by Arthur Quiller Couch and selected anew in 1972 by Helen Gardner, has established itself as the foremost anthology of English poetry: ample in span, liberal in the kinds of poetry presented. This completely fresh selection brings in new poems and poets from all ages, and extends the range by another half century, to include many twentieth century figures not featured before among them Philip Larkin and Samuel Beckett, Thom Gunn and Elaine Feinstein right up to Ted Hughes and Seamus Heaney. Here, as before, are lyric (beginning with medieval song), satire, hymn, ode, sonnet, elegy, ballad, but also kinds of poetry not previously admitted: the riches of dramatic verse by Marlowe, Shakespeare, Jonson, Webster; great works of translation that are themselves true English poetry, such as Chapman's Homer (bringing in its happy wake Keats's 'On First Looking into Chapman's Homer'), Dryden's Juvenal, and many others; well loved nursery rhymes, limericks, even clerihews. English poetry from all parts of the British Isles is firmly represented Henryson and MacDiarmid, for example, now join Dunbar and Burns from Scotland; James Henry, Austin Clarke, and J. M. Synge now join Allingham and Yeats from Ireland; R. S. Thomas joins Dylan Thomas from Wales and Edward Taylor and Anne Bradstreet, writing in America before its independence in the 1770s, are given a rightful and rewarding place. Some of the greatest long poems are here in their entirety Wordsworth's 'Tintern Abbey', Coleridge's 'Rime of the Ancient Mariner', and Christina Rossetti's 'Goblin Market' alongside some of the shortest, haikus, squibs, and epigrams. Generous and wide ranging, mixing familiar with fresh delights, this is an anthology to move and delight all who find themselves loving English verse.</p>	1300
Fiction	Robbins	David L.	War of the Rats	<p>For six months in 1942, Stalingrad is the center of a titanic struggle between the Russian and German armies—the bloodiest campaign in mankind's long history of warfare. The outcome is pivotal. If Hitler's forces are not stopped, Russia will fall. And with it, the world....</p> <p>German soldiers call the battle Rattenkrieg, <i>War of the Rats</i>. The combat is horrific, as soldiers die in the smoking cellars and trenches of a ruined city. Through this twisted carnage stalk two men—one Russian, one German—each the top sniper in his respective army. These two marksmen are equally matched in both skill and tenacity. Each man has his own mission: to find his counterpart—and kill him.</p> <p>But an American woman trapped in Russia complicates this extraordinary duel. Joining the Russian sniper's cadre, she soon becomes one of his most talented assassins—and perhaps his greatest weakness. Based on a true story, this is the harrowing tale of two adversaries enmeshed in their own private war—and whose fortunes will help decide the fate of the world.</p>	
Fiction	Rolvaa	O.E.	Giants in the Earth	<p>O. E. Rolvaag's classic novel of a family of Norwegian settlers in the Great Plains—a vivid and intimate portrait of the nineteenth-century immigrant experience and the exploration of America</p> <p>Based in part on Ole Edvart Rølvaag's own recollections as well as those of his wife's family who were immigrant homesteaders, <i>Giants in the Earth</i> is the riveting story of a Norwegian family forging a new life amid the harsh, desolate climate of the Dakota Territory. Rølvaag recounts the hardships they endured on the high prairie—blizzards, locust storms, poverty, hunger, loneliness, homesickness, and culture shock—as well as their simple joys, culminating in a magnificent epic that bridges Norwegian culture and the history of the American dream.</p>	830

Books To Build Great Americans - Young Adults

Genre	Author		Title	Description	Lexile Level
Drama/Poetry	Shakespeare	William	The Complete Works of William Shakespeare	<i>Romeo and Juliet</i> , <i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i> , <i>King Lear</i> , <i>Hamlet</i> , and <i>Macbeth</i> —the works of William Shakespeare still resonate in our imaginations four centuries after they were written. The timeless characters and themes of the Bard's plays fascinate us with their joys, struggles, and triumphs, and now they are available in a special volume for Shakespeare fans everywhere. This Canterbury Classics edition of William Shakespeare's works includes all of his poems and plays in an elegant, leather-bound, keepsake edition. Whether for a Shakespeare devotee or someone just discovering him, this is the perfect place to experience the drama of Shakespeare's words. A scholarly introduction provides additional context and insight into the poems and plays. Specially designed end papers, a ribbon bookmark, and other enhancements complete the package and make this the perfect gift for any lover of literature—a book to read and treasure!	1350
Literature	Shelley	Mary	Frankenstein	For years, Dr. Victor Frankenstein labors to create a new race of intelligent beings. He spends his nights scavenging body parts from graveyards, slaughterhouses, and hospital dissection rooms. By day he experiments in his secret laboratory, perfecting the creature who, he believes, will worship him as a god. But when he succeeds, Frankenstein is horrified by the ugly brutishness of the patchwork being he has brought to life—and abandons his creation. The novel that translated the stormy ethos of the gothic novel into the foundation for modern science fiction, <i>Frankenstein</i> is a terrifying story about how monsters—of all kinds—are made.	1040
Nonfiction	Sledge	E.B.	With the Old Breed at Pelelieu and Okinawa	<p>In <i>The Wall Street Journal</i>, Victor Davis Hanson named <i>With the Old Breed</i> one of the top five books on epic twentieth-century battles. Studs Terkel interviewed the author for his definitive oral history, <i>The Good War</i>. Now E. B. Sledge's acclaimed first-person account of fighting at Pelelieu and Okinawa returns to thrill, edify, and inspire a new generation.</p> <p>An Alabama boy steeped in American history and enamored of such heroes as George Washington and Daniel Boone, Eugene B. Sledge became part of the war's famous 1st Marine Division—3rd Battalion, 5th Marines. Even after intense training, he was shocked to be thrown into the battle of Pelelieu, where "the world was a nightmare of flashes, explosions, and snapping bullets." By the time Sledge hit the hell of Okinawa, he was a combat vet, still filled with fear but no longer with panic.</p> <p>Based on notes Sledge secretly kept in a copy of the New Testament, <i>With the Old Breed</i> captures with utter simplicity and searing honesty the experience of a soldier in the fierce Pacific Theater. Here is what saved, threatened, and changed his life. Here, too, is the story of how he learned to hate and kill—and came to love—his fellow man.</p> <p>"In all the literature on the Second World War, there is not a more honest, realistic or moving memoir than Eugene Sledge's. This is the real deal, the real war: unvarnished, brutal, without a shred of sentimentality or false patriotism, a profound primer on what it actually was like to be in that war. It is a classic that will outlive all the armchair generals' safe accounts of—not the 'good war'—but the worst war ever."—Ken Burns</p>	
Political Philosophy	Smith	Adam	The Theory of Moral Sentiments	Best known for his revolutionary free-market economics treatise <i>The Wealth of Nations</i> , Adam Smith was first and foremost a moral philosopher. In his first book, <i>The Theory of Moral Sentiments</i> , he investigated the flip side of economic self-interest: the interest of the greater good. Smith's classic work advances ideas about conscience, moral judgment, and virtue that have taken on renewed importance in business and politics.	1570

Books To Build Great Americans - Young Adults

Genre	Author		Title	Description	Lexile Level
Economics	Smith	Adam	The Wealth of Nations	<p>It is symbolic that Adam Smith's masterpiece of economic analysis, <i>The Wealth of Nations</i>, was first published in 1776, the same year as the Declaration of Independence.</p> <p>In his book, Smith fervently extolled the simple yet enlightened notion that individuals are fully capable of setting and regulating prices for their own goods and services. He argued passionately in favor of free trade, yet stood up for the little guy. <i>The Wealth of Nations</i> provided the first--and still the most eloquent--integrated description of the workings of a market economy.</p> <p>The result of Smith's efforts is a witty, highly readable work of genius filled with prescient theories that form the basis of a thriving capitalist system. This unabridged edition offers the modern reader a fresh look at a timeless and seminal work that revolutionized the way governments and individuals view the creation and dispersion of wealth--and that continues to influence our economy right up to the present day.</p>	1500
Fiction	Smith	Betty	A Tree Grows in Brooklyn	<p>From the moment she entered the world, Francie Nolan needed to be made of stern stuff, for the often harsh life of Williamsburg demanded fortitude, precocity, and strength of spirit. Often scorned by neighbors for her family's erratic and eccentric behavior--such as her father Johnny's taste for alcohol and Aunt Sissy's habit of marrying serially without the formality of divorce--no one, least of all Francie, could say that the Nolans' life lacked drama. By turns overwhelming, sublime, heartbreaking, and uplifting, the Nolans' daily experiences are tenderly threaded with family connectedness and raw with honesty. Betty Smith has, in the pages of <i>A Tree Grows in Brooklyn</i>, captured the joys of humble Williamsburg life--from "junk day" on Saturdays, when the children of Francie's neighborhood traded their weekly take for pennies, to the special excitement of holidays, bringing cause for celebration and revelry. Betty Smith has artfully caught this sense of exciting life in a novel of childhood, replete with incredibly rich moments of universal experiences--a truly remarkable achievement for any writer.</p>	810
Drama	Sophocles		The Three Theban Plays: Antigone: Oedipus the King: Oedipus at Colonus	<p>The heroic Greek dramas that have moved theatergoers and readers since the fifth century B.C.</p> <p>Towering over the rest of Greek tragedy, the three plays that tell the story of the fated Theban royal family--<i>Antigone</i>, <i>Oedipus the King</i> and <i>Oedipus at Colonus</i>--are among the most enduring and timeless dramas ever written. Robert Fagles's authoritative and acclaimed translation conveys all of Sophocles's lucidity and power: the cut and thrust of his dialogue, his ironic edge, the surge and majesty of his choruses and, above all, the agonies and triumphs of his characters.</p>	1100
Economics	Sowell	Thomas	Basic Economics	<p><i>Basic Economics</i> is a citizen's guide to economics, written for those who want to understand how the economy works but have no interest in jargon or equations. Bestselling economist Thomas Sowell explains the general principles underlying different economic systems: capitalist, socialist, feudal, and so on. In readable language, he shows how to critique economic policies in terms of the incentives they create, rather than the goals they proclaim. With clear explanations of the entire field, from rent control and the rise and fall of businesses to the international balance of payments, this is the first book for anyone who wishes to understand how the economy functions.</p>	1480

Books To Build Great Americans - Young Adults

Genre	Author		Title	Description	Lexile Level
Classic Fiction	Steinbeck	John	The Pearl	<p>"There it lay, the great pearl, perfect as the moon."</p> <p>Like his father and grandfather before him, Kino is a poor diver, gathering pearls from the gulf beds that once brought great wealth to the Kings of Spain and now provide Kino, Juana, and their infant son with meager subsistence. Then, on a day like any other, Kino emerges from the sea with a pearl as large as a sea gull's egg, as "perfect as the moon." With the pearl comes hope, the promise of comfort and of security....</p> <p>A story of classic simplicity, based on a Mexican folk tale, <i>The Pearl</i> explores the secrets of man's nature, the darkest depths of evil, and the luminous possibilities of love.</p>	1000
Literature	Steinbeck	John	East of Eden	<p>In his journal, Nobel Prize winner John Steinbeck called <i>East of Eden</i> "the first book," and indeed it has the primordial power and simplicity of myth. Set in the rich farmland of California's Salinas Valley, this sprawling and often brutal novel follows the intertwined destinies of two families—the Trasks and the Hamiltons—whose generations helplessly reenact the fall of Adam and Eve and the poisonous rivalry of Cain and Abel.</p> <p>The masterpiece of Steinbeck's later years, <i>East of Eden</i> is a work in which Steinbeck created his most mesmerizing characters and explored his most enduring themes: the mystery of identity, the inexplicability of love, and the murderous consequences of love's absence.</p>	700
Literature	Steinbeck	John	Grapes of Wrath	<p>First published in 1939, Steinbeck's Pulitzer Prize-winning epic of the Great Depression chronicles the Dust Bowl migration of the 1930s and tells the story of one Oklahoma farm family, the Joads—driven from their homestead and forced to travel west to the promised land of California. Out of their trials and their repeated collisions against the hard realities of an America divided into Haves and Have-Nots evolves a drama that is intensely human yet majestic in its scale and moral vision, elemental yet plainspoken, tragic but ultimately stirring in its human dignity. A portrait of the conflict between the powerful and the powerless, of one man's fierce reaction to injustice, and of one woman's stoical strength, the novel captures the horrors of the Great Depression and probes into the very nature of equality and justice in America. At once a naturalistic epic, captivity narrative, road novel, and transcendental gospel, Steinbeck's powerful landmark novel is perhaps the most American of American Classics.</p>	680
Classic Fiction	Steinbeck	John	Of Mice and Men	<p>A controversial tale of friendship and tragedy during the Great Depression</p> <p>They are an unlikely pair: George is "small and quick and dark of face"; Lennie, a man of tremendous size, has the mind of a young child. Yet they have formed a "family," clinging together in the face of loneliness and alienation.</p> <p>Laborers in California's dusty vegetable fields, they hustle work when they can, living a hand-to-mouth existence. For George and Lennie have a plan: to own an acre of land and a shack they can call their own. When they land jobs on a ranch in the Salinas Valley, the fulfillment of their dream seems to be within their grasp. But even George cannot guard Lennie from the provocations of a flirtatious woman, nor predict the consequences of Lennie's unswerving obedience to the things George taught him.</p>	640
Memoir	Stevenson	Robert Louis	The Silverado Squatters	<p><i>The Silverado Squatters</i> (1883) is a travel memoir by Robert Louis Stevenson of his two-month honeymoon trip with Fanny Vandegrift (and her son Lloyd Osbourne) to Napa Valley, California, in 1880.</p>	1120

Books To Build Great Americans - Young Adults

Genre	Author		Title	Description	Lexile Level
Literature	Stoker	Bram	Dracula	<p><i>Dracula</i> is an 1897 Gothic horror novel by Irish author Bram Stoker. Famous for introducing the character of the vampire Count Dracula, the novel tells the story of Dracula's attempt to move from Transylvania to England so he may find new blood and spread undead curse, and the battle between Dracula and a small group of men and women led by Professor Abraham Van Helsing.</p> <p><i>Dracula</i> has been assigned to many literary genres including vampire literature, horror fiction, the gothic novel and invasion literature. The novel touches on themes such as the role of women in Victorian culture, sexual conventions, immigration, colonialism, and post-colonialism.</p> <p>Although Stoker did not invent the vampire, he defined its modern form, and the novel has spawned numerous theatrical, film and television interpretations.</p>	990
Fiction	Stratton-Potter	Gene	At the Foot of the Rainbow	<p><i>At the Foot of the Rainbow</i>, Gene Stratton-Porter's 1907 novel, uses fishing as a backdrop to tell the story of Jimmy Malone and Dannie Macnoun, who is in love with Jimmy's wife, Mary.</p>	850
History	Suetonius		Twelve Caesars	<p><i>De vita Caesarum</i> (Latin, literal translation: <i>On the Life of the Caesars</i>) commonly known as <i>The Twelve Caesars</i>, is a set of twelve biographies of Julius Caesar and the first 11 emperors of the Roman Empire written by Gaius Suetonius Tranquillus.</p> <p>The work, written in AD 121 during the reign of the emperor Hadrian, was the most popular work of Suetonius, at that time Hadrian's personal secretary, and is the largest among his surviving writings. It was dedicated to a friend, the Praetorian prefect Gaius Septicius Clarus.</p> <p><i>The Twelve Caesars</i> is considered very significant in antiquity and remains a primary source on Roman history. The book discusses the significant and critical period of the Principate from the end of the Republic to the reign of Domitian; comparisons are often made with Tacitus whose surviving works document a similar period.</p>	
History	Tacitus	Cornelius	Germania	<p>Together with the <i>Poetic Edda</i>, the <i>Sagas</i>, and Jacob Grimm's <i>Teutonic Mythology</i>, Tacitus' <i>Germania</i> is among the primary resources on the Old Customs of the Teutonic Folk, or the Germanic people, as we are commonly referred to today in academic circles.</p>	1360
Hlstory	Tacitus	Cornelius	Annals	<p>Cornelius Tacitus brilliantly chronicles the moral decline and rampant civil unrest in the Roman Empire in a period when the earliest foundations of modern Europe were being laid. The <i>Annals</i> commence in a.d. 14, at the death of Augustus, recounting the reigns of Tiberius, Gaius (Caligula), Claudius, and Nero, and conclude in a.d. 68, the year of Nero's suicide. The <i>Histories</i> document the tumultuous year a.d. 69, when Emperors Galba, Otho, and Vitellius all perished in quick succession, ushering in Vespasian's ten-year reign. According to historian Will Durant, "[We must] rank Tacitus among the greatest. . . . The portraits he draws stand out more clearly, stride the stage more livingly than any others in historical literature."</p>	1350

Books To Build Great Americans - Young Adults

Genre	Author		Title	Description	Lexile Level
Nonfiction	Ten Boom	Corrie	The Hiding Place	<p>Corrie ten Boom was a Dutch watchmaker who became a heroine of the Resistance, a survivor of Hitler's concentration camps, and one of the most remarkable evangelists of the twentieth century. In World War II she and her family risked their lives to help Jews and underground workers escape from the Nazis, and for their work they were tested in the infamous Nazi death camps. Only Corrie among her family survived to tell the story of how faith ultimately triumphs over evil.</p> <p>Here is the riveting account of how Corrie and her family were able to save many of God's chosen people. For 35 years millions have seen that there is no pit so deep that God's love is not deeper still. Now <i>The Hiding Place</i>, repackaged for a new generation of readers, continues to declare that God's love will overcome, heal, and restore.</p>	900
Essays	Thoreau	Henry David	Civil Disobedience	<p>First published in 1854, <i>Walden</i> was written by the renowned transcendentalist Henry David Thoreau about his experience living off the land at Walden Pond for more than two years. Thoreau divides his deliberations and meditations into a variety of sections which include his views on economy and the natural world, the importance of reading and literature, the values of both solitude and companionship, and other personal reflections. In addition to <i>Walden</i>, this edition also includes Thoreau's essay on <i>Civil Disobedience</i>, which discusses his views on the nature of government and its negative effects on society.</p>	1340
History	Thucydides		The Landmark Thucydides	<p>Thucydides called his account of two decades of war between Athens and Sparta "a possession for all time," and indeed it is the first and still the most famous work in the Western historical tradition.</p> <p>Considered essential reading for generals, statesmen, and liberally educated citizens for more than 2,000 years, <i>The Peloponnesian War</i> is a mine of military, moral, political, and philosophical wisdom.</p> <p>However, this classic book has long presented obstacles to the uninitiated reader. Written centuries before the rise of modern historiography, Thucydides' narrative is not continuous or linear. His authoritative chronicle of what he considered the greatest war of all time is rigorous and meticulous, yet omits the many aids to comprehension modern readers take for granted—such as brief biographies of the story's main characters, maps and other visual enhancements, and background on the military, cultural, and political traditions of ancient Greece.</p> <p>Robert Strassler's new edition amends these omissions, and not only provides a new coherence to the narrative overall but effectively reconstructs the lost cultural context that Thucydides shared with his original audience. Based on the venerable Richard Crawley translation, updated and revised for modern readers, <i>The Landmark Thucydides</i> includes a vast array of superbly designed and presented maps, brief informative appendices by outstanding classical scholars on subjects of special relevance to the text, explanatory marginal notes on each page, an index of unprecedented subtlety and depth, and numerous other useful features. Readers will find that with this edition they can dip into the text at any point and be immediately oriented with regard to the geography, season, date, and stage of the conflict.</p>	1460
Political Philosophy	Thucydides		On Justice, Power, and Human Nature	<p>Designed for students with little or no background in ancient Greek language and culture, this collection of extracts from <i>The History of the Peloponnesian War</i> includes those passages that shed most light on Thucydides' political theory—famous as well as important but lesser-known pieces frequently overlooked by nonspecialists. Newly translated into spare, vigorous English, and situated within a connective narrative framework, Woodruff's selections will be of special interest to instructors in political theory and Greek civilization. Includes maps, notes, glossary.</p>	1460

Books To Build Great Americans - Young Adults

Genre	Author		Title	Description	Lexile Level
Fantasy	Tolkien	J.R.R.	The Silmarillion	<p><i>The Silmarillion</i> is the core of J.R.R. Tolkien's imaginative writing, a work whose origins stretch back to a time long before <i>The Hobbit</i>.</p> <p>The story of the creation of the world and of the First Age, this is the ancient drama to which the characters in <i>The Lord of the Rings</i> look back and in whose events some of them, such as Elrond and Galadriel, took part. The three Silmarils were jewels created by Fëanor, most gifted of the Elves. Within them was imprisoned the Light of the Two Trees of Valinor before the Trees themselves were destroyed by Morgoth, the first Dark Lord. Thereafter, the unsullied Light of Valinor lived on only in the Silmarils, but they were seized by Morgoth and set in his crown, which was guarded in the impenetrable fortress of Angband in the north of Middle-earth.</p> <p><i>The Silmarillion</i> is the history of the rebellion of Fëanor and his kindred against the gods, their exile from Valinor and return to Middle-earth, and their war, hopeless despite all their heroism, against the great Enemy.</p>	1150
Fantasy	Tolkien	J.R.R.	The Hobbit	<p>"In a hole in the ground there lived a hobbit." So begins one of the most beloved and delightful tales in the English language—Tolkien's prelude to <i>The Lord of the Rings</i>. Set in the imaginary world of Middle-earth, at once a classic myth and a modern fairy tale, <i>The Hobbit</i> is one of literature's most enduring and well-loved novels.</p> <p>Bilbo Baggins is a hobbit who enjoys a comfortable, unambitious life, rarely traveling any farther than his pantry or cellar. But his contentment is disturbed when the wizard Gandalf and a company of dwarves arrive on his doorstep one day to whisk him away on an adventure. They have launched a plot to raid the treasure hoard guarded by Smaug the Magnificent, a large and very dangerous dragon. Bilbo reluctantly joins their quest, unaware that on his journey to the Lonely Mountain he will encounter both a magic ring and a frightening creature known as Gollum.</p>	1000
Fantasy	Tolkien	J.R.R.	Lord of the Rings	<p>One Ring to rule them all, One Ring to find them, One Ring to bring them all and in the darkness bind them.</p> <p>J.R.R. Tolkien's classic fantasy has accumulated worldwide acclaim as the greatest adventure tale ever written. No other writer has created a world as distinct as Middle-earth, complete with its own geography, history, languages, and legends. And no one has created characters as endearing as Tolkien's large-hearted, hairy-footed hobbits.</p> <p>Tolkien's <i>The Lord of the Rings</i> continues to seize the imaginations of readers of all ages, and this three-volume paperback edition is designed to appeal to all.</p>	920
Literature	Tolstoy	Leo	The Death of Ivan Ilych and Other Stories	<p>In "The Death of Ivan Ilych," Leo Tolstoy delves into the inevitable and universal theme of death, presenting a poignant critique of artificial bourgeois society and the struggles of the human soul. As Ivan Ilych grapples with a terminal illness, he confronts the existential void and re-evaluates the superficial life he has led. Tolstoy's narrative is a meditation on the nature of life and the inescapable truth of mortality. This masterful novella remains a profound reflection on how we confront and give meaning to our own ending. Here are some of Tolstoy's extraordinary short stories, from "The Death of Ivan Ilych" in a masterly new translation to "The Raid," "The Wood-felling," "Three Deaths," "Polikushka," "After the Ball," and "The Forged Coupon," all gripping and eloquent lessons on two of Tolstoy's most persistent themes: life and death. More experimental than his novels, Tolstoy's stories are essential reading for anyone interested in his development as one of the major writers and thinkers of his time.</p>	1010

Books To Build Great Americans - Young Adults

Genre	Author		Title	Description	Lexile Level
Literature	Trollope	Anthony	The Way We Live Now	<p><i>The Way We Live Now</i> by Anthony Trollope. The tough-mindedness of the social satire in and its air of palpable integrity gives this novel a special place in Anthony Trollope's Literary career. Trollope paints a picture as panoramic as his title promises, of the life of 1870s London, the loves of those drawn to and through the city, and the career of Augustus Melmotte. Melmotte is one of the Victorian novel's greatest and strangest creations, and is an achievement undimmed by the passage of time. Trollope's 'Now' might, in the twenty-first century, look like some distant disenchanted 'Then', but this is still the yesterday which we must understand in order to make proper sense of our today.</p>	1080
Nonfiction	Tubman	Harriet	Life and Stories	<p>Harriet Tubman's name is known world-wide and her exploits as a self-liberated Underground Railroad heroine are celebrated in children's literature, film, and history books, yet no major biography of Tubman has appeared since 1943. Jean M. Humez's comprehensive Harriet Tubman is both an important biographical overview based on extensive new research and a complete collection of the stories Tubman told about her life—a virtual autobiography culled by Humez from rare early publications and manuscript sources. This book will become a landmark resource for scholars, historians, and general readers interested in slavery, the Underground Railroad, the Civil War, and African American women.</p> <p>Born in slavery in Maryland in or around 1820, Tubman drew upon deep spiritual resources and covert antislavery networks when she escaped to the north in 1849. Vowing to liberate her entire family, she made repeated trips south during the 1850s and successfully guided dozens of fugitives to freedom. During the Civil War she was recruited to act as spy and scout with the Union Army. After the war she settled in Auburn, New York, where she worked to support an extended family and in her later years founded a home for the indigent aged. Celebrated by her primarily white antislavery associates in a variety of private and public documents from the 1850s through the 1870s, she was rediscovered as a race heroine by woman suffragists and the African American women's club movement in the early twentieth century. Her story was used as a key symbolic resource in education, institutional fundraising, and debates about the meaning of "race" throughout the twentieth century.</p> <p>Humez includes an extended discussion of Tubman's work as a public performer of her own life history during the nearly sixty years she lived in the north. Drawing upon historiographical and literary discussion of the complex hybrid authorship of slave narrative literature, Humez analyzes the interactive dynamic between Tubman and her interviewers. Humez illustrates how Tubman, though unable to write, made major unrecognized contributions to the shaping of her own heroic myth by early biographers like Sarah Bradford. Selections of key documents illustrate how Tubman appeared to her contemporaries, and a comprehensive list of primary sources represents an important resource for scholars.</p>	
History	Tuchman	Barbara	The Guns of August	<p>In this landmark account, renowned historian Barbara W. Tuchman re-creates the first month of World War I: thirty days in the summer of 1914 that determined the course of the conflict, the century, and ultimately our present world. Beginning with the funeral of Edward VII, Tuchman traces each step that led to the inevitable clash. And inevitable it was, with all sides plotting their war for a generation. Dizzily comprehensive and spectacularly portrayed with her famous talent for evoking the characters of the war's key players, Tuchman's magnum opus is a classic for the ages.</p>	1350

Books To Build Great Americans - Young Adults

Genre	Author		Title	Description	Lexile Level
History	Tuchman	Barbara	A Distant Mirror	The fourteenth century reflects two contradictory images: on the one hand, a glittering age of crusades, cathedrals, and chivalry; on the other, a world plunged into chaos and spiritual agony. In this revelatory work, Barbara W. Tuchman examines not only the great rhythms of history but the grain and texture of domestic life: what childhood was like; what marriage meant; how money, taxes, and war dominated the lives of serf, noble, and clergy alike. Granting her subjects their loyalties, treacheries, and guilty passions, Tuchman re-creates the lives of proud cardinals, university scholars, grocers and clerks, saints and mystics, lawyers and mercenaries, and, dominating all, the knight—in all his valor and “furious follies,” a “terrible worm in an iron cocoon.”	1350
	Tzu	Sun	The Art of War	<i>The Art of War</i> is an ancient Chinese military treatise dating from the Late Spring and Autumn Period (roughly 5th century BC). The work, which is attributed to the ancient Chinese military strategist Sun Tzu is composed of 13 chapters. Each one is devoted to a different set of skills related to warfare and how it applies to military strategy and tactics. For almost 1,500 years it was the lead text in an anthology that was formalized as the Seven Military Classics by Emperor Shenzong of Song in 1080. <i>The Art of War</i> remains the most influential strategy text in East Asian warfare and has influenced both Eastern and Western military thinking, business tactics, legal strategy, lifestyles and beyond. The book contained a detailed explanation and analysis of the Chinese military, from weapons and strategy to rank and discipline. Sun also stressed the importance of intelligence operatives and espionage to the war effort. Because Sun has long been considered to be one of history's finest military tacticians and analysts, his teachings and strategies formed the basis of advanced military training for millennia to come.	1350
Literature	Virgil		The Aeneid	A new edition of the classic Latin epic poem -- Virgil's <i>The Aeneid</i> -- based on John Dryden's 17th century verse translation. <i>The Aeneid</i> , written by Virgil between 29 and 19 BC, tells the legendary story of the Trojan hero Aeneas, who after the fall of Troy travelled to Italy to found the nation that would one day become Rome. Set out in twelve books, the first six tell the story of Aeneas's dramatic flight from Troy and his wanderings throughout the Mediterranean, including his memorable encounter with the ill-fated Dido, Queen of Carthage, and his journey into the underworld. The last six books focus on the Trojans' war with the indigenous population in Italy, as Aeneas struggles to find a home for his band of refugees and claim the destiny he has been promised. In Virgil's telling, <i>The Aeneid</i> became the national epic of Augustan Rome, tying Rome to the storied legends of Troy, glorifying traditional Roman values, and legitimizing the Julio-Claudian dynasty as descendants of Aeneas and his mother the goddess Venus. A masterful work of astounding breadth and depth, <i>The Aeneid</i> is widely regarded as Virgil's masterpiece, one of the greatest works of Latin literature, and a foundational work of the Western cultural canon.	1230
Drama	Voltaire	Francois	Candide	<i>Candide</i> is Voltaire's 1759 satirical masterpiece, wreaking havoc on the excesses of 18th century French Enlightenment culture. The story begins with our protagonist Candide, a young man living a sheltered life in an Edenic paradise and being indoctrinated with Leibnizian optimism by his mentor, Professor Pangloss. This idyllic life is abruptly interrupted, however, by a series of painfully disillusioning events that set him off on a wide-ranging journey.	1110
Fiction	Vonnegut	Kurt	Slaughterhouse-Five	<i>Slaughterhouse-Five</i> , an American classic, is one of the world's great antiwar books. Centering on the infamous firebombing of Dresden, Billy Pilgrim's odyssey through time reflects the mythic journey of our own fractured lives as we search for meaning in what we fear most.	850

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Autobiography	Washington	Booker	Up From Slavery	<i>Up from Slavery</i> is the 1901 autobiography of American educator Booker T. Washington (1856–1915). The book describes his personal experience of having to work to rise up from the position of a slave child during the Civil War, to the difficulties and obstacles he overcame to get an education at the new Hampton Institute, to his work establishing vocational schools—most notably the Tuskegee Institute in Alabama—to help black people and other disadvantaged minorities learn useful, marketable skills and work to pull themselves, as a race, up by the bootstraps. He reflects on the generosity of both teachers and philanthropists who helped in educating blacks and Native Americans. He describes his efforts to instill manners, breeding, health and a feeling of dignity to students. His educational philosophy stresses combining academic subjects with learning a trade.	1320
Philosophy	Waterfield	Robin	The First Philosophers: The Presocratics and Sophists	<p>The first philosophers paved the way for the work of Plato and Aristotle - and hence for the whole of Western thought.</p> <p>Aristotle said that philosophy begins with wonder, and the first Western philosophers developed theories of the world which express simultaneously their sense of wonder and their intuition that the world should be comprehensible. But their enterprise was by no means limited to this proto-scientific task. Through, for instance, Heraclitus' enigmatic sayings, the poetry of Parmenides and Empedocles, and Zeno's paradoxes, the Western world was introduced to metaphysics, rationalist theology, ethics, and logic, by thinkers who often seem to be mystics or shamans as much as philosophers or scientists in the modern mould. And out of the Sophists' reflections on human beings and their place in the world arose and interest in language, and in political, moral, and social philosophy.</p> <p>This volume contains a translation of all the most important fragments of the Presocratics and Sophists, and of the most informative testimonia from ancient sources, supplemented by lucid commentary.</p>	
Literature	Wharton	Edith	Age of Innocence	Edith Wharton's Pulitzer Prize-winning novel, <i>The Age of Innocence</i> , is both a poignant story of frustrated love and an extraordinarily vivid, delightfully satirical record of a vanished world. As the scion of one of New York's leading families, Newland Archer has been born into a life of sumptuous privilege and strict duty. But the arrival of the Countess Olenska, a free spirit who breathes clouds of European sophistication, makes him question the path on which his upbringing has set him. As his fascination with her grows, he discovers just how hard it is to escape the bonds of the society that has shaped him.	1170
Poetry	Whitman	Walt	Leaves of Grass	<p>The poems of <i>Leaves of Grass</i> are loosely connected, with each representing Whitman's celebration of his philosophy of life and humanity. This book is notable for its discussion of delight in sensual pleasures during a time when such candid displays were considered immoral. Where much previous poetry, especially English, relied on symbolism, allegory, and meditation on the religious and spiritual, <i>Leaves of Grass</i> exalted the body and the material world.</p> <p>Influenced by Ralph Waldo Emerson and the Transcendentalist movement, itself an offshoot of Romanticism, Whitman's poetry praises nature and the individual human's role in it. However, much like Emerson, Whitman does not diminish the role of the mind or the spirit; rather, he elevates the human form and the human mind, deeming both worthy of poetic praise.</p>	1310

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Drama	Wilde	Oscar	The Complete Works of Oscar Wilde	<p>The complete literary oeuvre of one of the most celebrated authors and controversial figures of fin de siècle Great Britain.</p> <p>Playwright, poet, essayist, flamboyant man-about-town, Oscar Wilde packed an astonishing amount of work, genius, and controversy into two short decades, producing masterworks in every literary genre. This comprehensive one-volume edition of his writings includes his only novel, <i>The Picture of Dorian Gray</i>, considered immoral by many when first published at the end of the nineteenth century. Included also is Wilde's original four-act version of his most popular play, <i>The Importance of Being Earnest</i>, with readings from the revised edition; the essay "The Portrait of Mr. W.H.," in which Wilde expanded his theory concerning the mystery of Shakespeare's sonnets; and "De Profundis," his moving and tragic letter to Lord Alfred Douglas, composed during Wilde's time in prison.</p> <p>With an introduction by Vyvyan Holland, Oscar Wilde's son, here are the author's complete stories, plays, and poems, and a substantial number of his essays and letters, all in their most authoritative texts.</p>	1280
Drama	Williams	Tennessee	The Glass Menagerie	<p>Abandoned by her husband, Amanda Wingfield comforts herself with recollections of her earlier, life in Blue Mountain when she was pursued by 'gentleman callers'. Her son Tom, a poet with a job in a warehouse, longs for adventure and escape from his mother's suffocating embrace, while Laura, her daughter, has her glass menagerie and her memories.</p>	1350
Western	Wister	Owen	The Virginian	<p><i>The Virginian</i> (sometimes titled <i>The Virginian: A Horseman of the Plains</i>) was a pioneering Wild West novel by the American author Owen Wister.</p> <p><i>The Virginian</i>, both the character and the book, are considered to be first of their kind. The character is seen as the first real cowboy character that has set the standard for the cowboy character stereotype. The book is seen as one of the first great western novels about cowboys.</p>	830
Literature	Wright	Richard	Native Son	<p>When it was first published in 1940, <i>Native Son</i> established Richard Wright as a literary star. In the decades since, Wright's masterpiece—hailed by <i>Newsweek</i> as "a novel of tremendous power and beauty"—has become a revered classic that remains as timely and relevant today as when it first appeared.</p> <p>Set in Chicago in the 1930s, <i>Native Son</i> is the story of Bigger Thomas, a young Black man caught in a downward spiral after killing a young white woman in a brief moment of panic. Written with the distinctive rhythm of a modern crime story, this formidable work is both a condemnation of social injustice and an unsparing portrait of the Black experience in America, revealing the tragic effect of poverty, racism, and hopelessness on the human spirit. "I wrote <i>Native Son</i> to show what manner of men and women our 'society of the majority' breeds, and my aim was to depict a character in terms of the living tissue and texture of daily consciousness," Wright explained.</p>	700