

Literature

Readability Scores

Grade 9

Unit 1

“A Sound of Thunder” by Ray Bradbury

Difficulty Level: Average

Readability: Lexile 720, Fry 6, Dale-Chall 6.1

“The Most Dangerous Game” by Richard Connell

Difficulty Level: Average

Readability: Lexile 740, Fry 5, Dale-Chall 6.3

“Daughter of Invention” by Julia Alvarez

Difficulty Level: Average

Readability: Lexile 980, Fry 8, Dale-Chall 6.3

“The Gift of the Magi” by O. Henry

Difficulty Level: Challenging

Readability: Lexile 950, Fry 7, Dale-Chall 6.4

“The Rights to the Streets of Memphis” by Richard Wright

Difficulty Level: Average

Readability: Lexile 930, Fry 8, Dale-Chall 5.3

“Seabiscuit: An American Legend” by Laura Hillenbrand

Difficulty Level: Average

Readability: Lexile 850, Fry: College, Dale-Chall 7.0

“Horse of the Century” magazine article by Laura Hillenbrand

Difficulty Level: Average

Readability: Lexile 990, Fry: College, Dale-Chall 9.5

“Horse of the Century” *Races on the Radio*

Difficulty Level: Average

Readability: Lexile 660, Fry 3, Dale-Chall 5.6

“The Raven” by Edgar Allan Poe

Difficulty Level: Average

Readability: Lexile 960, Fry: College, Dale-Chall 9.5

“Incident in a Rose Garden” by Donald Justice

Difficulty Level: Average

Readability: Lexile 660, Fry 3, Dale-Chall 5.6

“Sorry, Right Number” by Stephen King
Difficulty Level: Average
Readability: Lexile 720

Grade 9
Unit 2

“Pancakes” by Joan Bauer
Difficulty Level: Easy
Readability: Lexile 930, Fry 11, Dale-Chall 6.2

“The Necklace” by Guy de Maupassant
Difficulty Level: Average
Readability: Lexile 920, Fry 11, Dale-Chall 6.5

“Hamadi” by Naomi Shihab Nye
Difficulty Level: Easy
Readability: Lexile 830, Fry 7, Dale-Chall 6.3

from *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings* by Maya Angelou
Difficulty Level: Average
Readability: Lexile 910, Fry 7, Dale-Chall 6.0

“Blind to Failure” by Karl Taro Greenfeld
Difficulty Level: Average
Readability: Lexile 1200, Fry: College, Dale-Chall 7.4

“A Different Level of Competition”
Difficulty Level: Average
Readability: Lexile 1040, Fry 12, Dale-Chall 7.6

“A Voice” by Pat Mora/ “My Father’s Song” by Simon J. Ortiz
Difficulty Level: Easy

from *Rosa Parks* by Douglas Brinkley
Difficulty Level: Average
Readability: Lexile 1320, Fry: College, Dale-Chall 7.2

“Rosa” by Rita Dove
Difficulty Level: Average

Grade 9
Unit 3

“A Christmas Memory” by Truman Capote
Difficulty Level: Average
Readability: Lexile 890, Fry 7, Dale-Chall 6.6

“Through the Tunnel” by Doris Lessing
Difficulty Level: Average
Readability: Lexile 860, Fry 4, Dale-Chall 5.5

“The Cask of Amontillado” by Edgar Allan Poe
Difficulty Level: Average
Readability: Lexile 830, Fry 11, Dale-Chall 7.5

from *A Walk in the Woods* by Bill Bryson
Difficulty Level: Average
Readability: Lexile 1140, Fry: College, Dale-Chall 6.6

“Wilderness Letter”
Difficulty Level: Average
Readability: Lexile 1270, Fry: College

“The Sharks” by Denise Levertov/ “The Peace of Wild Things” by Wendell Berry
Difficulty Level: Average

Grade 9
Unit 4

“Marigolds” by Eugenia Collier
Difficulty Level: Average
Readability: Lexile 1140, Fry 9, Dale-Chall 6.8

“Sowing Change”
Difficulty Level: Average
Readability: Lexile 1230, Fry: College, Dale-Chall 8.1

“The Scarlet Ibis” by James Hurst
Difficulty Level: Average
Readability: Lexile 1060, Fry 8, Dale-Chall 6.0

“Math and After Math” by Lensey Namioka
Difficulty Level: Average
Readability: Lexile 970, Fry 10, Dale-Chall 6.4

“The Future in My Arms” by Edwidge Danticat
Difficulty Level: Average
Readability: Lexile 1420, Fry 11, Dale-Chall 6.6

“Poem on Returning to Dwell in the Country” by T’ao Ch’ien/ “My Heart Leaps Up” by William Wordsworth/ “The Sun” by Mary Oliver
Difficulty Level: Challenging

“Two Kinds” by Amy Tan
Difficulty Level: Average
Readability: Lexile 880, Fry 7, Dale-Chall 6.1

“Rice and Rose Bowl Blues” by Diane Mei Lin Mark
Difficulty Level: Average

Grade 9
Unit 5

“Island Morning” by Jamaica Kincaid
Difficulty Level: Average
Readability: Lexile 1230, Fry 10, Dale-Chall 6.2

“Georgia O’Keeffe” by Joan Didion
Difficulty Level: Challenging
Readability: Lexile 1160, Fry 10, Dale-Chall 6.9

“Who Killed the Iceman?”
Difficulty Level: Easy
Readability: Lexile 1070, Fry: College, Dale-Chall 8.4

“Skeletal Sculptures”
Difficulty Level: Easy
Readability: Lexile 1070, Fry College, Dale-Chall 7.6

“The Lost Boys” by Sara Corbett
Difficulty Level: Average
Readability: Lexile 1060, Fry: College, Dale-Chall 7.0

“The Open Window” by Saki
Difficulty Level: Challenging
Readability: Lexile 1070, Fry 10, Dale-Chall 7.0

“The House on Mango Street” by Sandra Cisneros
Difficulty Level: Average
Readability: Lexile 890, Fry 6, Dale-Chall 5.1

Grade 9
Unit 6

“I Have a Dream” by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.
Difficulty Level: Average
Readability: Lexile 1120, Fry 10, Dale-Chall 7.3

Testimony Before the Senate
Difficulty Level: Average
Readability: Lexile 1100, Fry: College, Dale-Chall 7.5

“The Privacy Debate: One Size Doesn’t Fit All” by Arthur M. Ahalt
Difficulty Level: Average
Readability: Lexile 1390, Fry: College, Dale-Chall 8.2

“How Private is Your Private Life?” by Andrea Rock
Difficulty Level: Average
Readability: Lexile 1260, Fry: College, Dale-Chall 9.3

“Primal Screen” by Ellen Goodman
Difficulty Level: Average
Readability: Lexile 990, Fry 9, Dale-Chall 6.5

“The Pedestrian” by Ray Bradbury
Difficulty Level: Average
Readability: Lexile 1100, Fry 12, Dale-Chall 5.9

Grade 9
Unit 7

“My Papa’s Waltz” by Theodore Roethke/ “I Ask My Mother to Sing” by Li-Young Lee/
“Grape Sherbet” by Rita Dove
Difficulty Level: Average

“Spring is like a perhaps hand” by E.E. Cummings/ “Elegy for the Giant Tortoises” by
Margaret Atwood/ “Today” by Billy Collins
Difficulty Level: Average

“400-Meter Free Style” by Maxine Kumin/ “Bodybuilders’ Contest” by Wislawa
Szymborska
Difficulty Level: Average

“The Night Poetry Rocked the House”

Difficulty Level: Average

Readability: Lexile 1130, Fry 7, Dale-Chall 7.6

“For Poets” by Al Young/ “Ode to My Socks” by Pablo Neruda/ “egg horror poem” by Laurel Winter

Difficulty Level: Average

“O What Is That Sound” by W.H. Auden

Difficulty Level: Challenging

“The Seven Ages of Man” by William Shakespeare/ “The Road Not Taken” by Robert Frost

Difficulty Level: Challenging

Grade 9

Unit 8

“Where Have You Gone, Charming Billy?” by Tim O’Brien

Difficulty Level: Average

Readability: Lexile 930

“The Princess and the Tin Box” by James Thurber

Difficulty Level: Average

Readability: Lexile 1260

“Going to Japan” by Barbara Kingsolver

Difficulty Level: Average

Readability: Lexile 940, Fry 10, Dale-Chall 7.1

“A Few Words” by Mary Oliver

Difficulty Level: Challenging

Readability: Lexile 950, Fry 6, Dale-Chall 6.4

“A Narrow Fellow in the Grass”/ “‘Hope’ is the thing with feathers—” both by Emily Dickenson

Difficulty Level: Challenging

“Luxury”/ “Kidnap Poem” both by Nikki Giovanni

Difficulty Level: Average

“The Sneeze” by Neil Simon, from *The Good Doctor* based on a story by Anton Chekhov

Difficulty Level: Average

Grade 9
Unit 9

from *Angela's Ashes* by Frank McCourt
Difficulty Level: Average
Readability: Lexile 1140

“Revisiting Sacred Ground” by N. Scott Momaday
Difficulty Level: Challenging
Readability: Lexile 930, Fry 10, Dale-Chall 6.6

“Blues Ain’t No Mockingbird” by Toni Cade Bambara
Difficulty Level: Challenging
Readability: Lexile 960, Fry 7, Dale-Chall 6.7

“American History” by Judith Ortiz Cofer
Difficulty Level: Average
Readability: Lexile 1010

“Four Days in November” magazine article
Difficulty Level: Average
Readability: Lexile 930, Fry 10, Dale-Chall 6.6

“The Tropics in New York” by Claude McKay/ “Theme for English B” by Langston Hughes
Difficulty Level: Average

“Haiku” by Matsuo Bashō/ “Haiku” by Richard Wright/ “Honku” by Aaron Naparstek
Difficulty Level: Average

Grade 9
Unit 10

The Tragedy of Romeo & Juliet: Act I by William Shakespeare
Difficulty Level: Challenging

The Tragedy of Romeo & Juliet: Act II by William Shakespeare
Difficulty Level: Challenging

The Tragedy of Romeo & Juliet: Act III by William Shakespeare
Difficulty Level: Challenging

The Tragedy of Romeo & Juliet: Act IV by William Shakespeare
Difficulty Level: Challenging

The Tragedy of Romeo & Juliet: Act V by William Shakespeare
Difficulty Level: Challenging

“Great Movies: Romeo and Juliet”
Difficulty Level: Average
Readability: Lexile 1282, Fry: College, Dale-Chall 8.8

“Pyramus and Thisbe” by Ovid
Difficulty Level: Average

Grade 9
Unit 11

from *The Odyssey*, Part One: “The Wanderings of Odysseus”
Difficulty Level: Challenging

from *The Odyssey*, Part Two: “The Homecoming”
Difficulty Level: Challenging