

HOLT McDUGAL

# 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

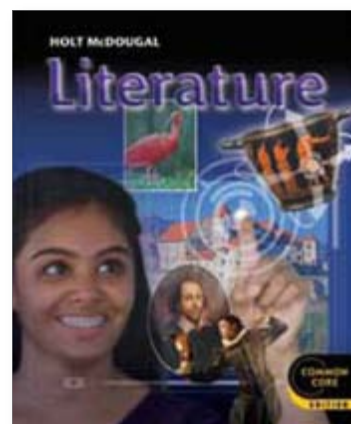
Difficulty Level: Average

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

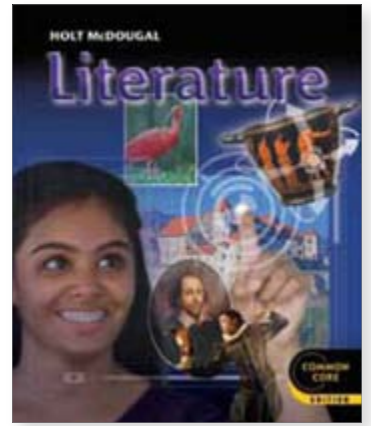


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“The Raven” by Edgar Allan Poe  
Difficulty Level: Average  
Readability: Lexile 960, Fry: College, Dale-Chall 9.5

“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



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## **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

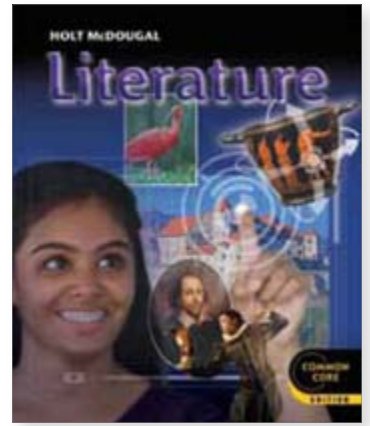
“The Sharks” by Denise Levertov/ “The Peace of Wild Things” by Wendell Berry  
Difficulty Level: Average

## **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



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“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**

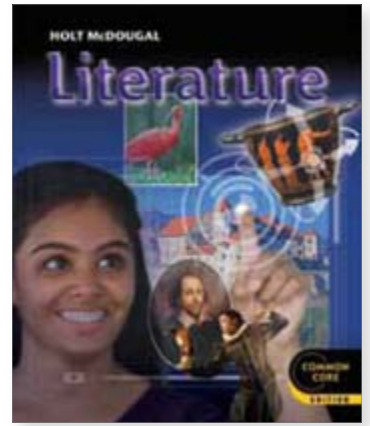
### **UNIT 5**

“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



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“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

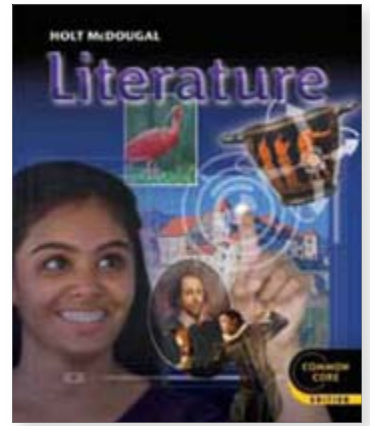
Testimony Before the Senate  
Difficulty Level: Average  
Readability: Lexile 1100, Fry: College, Dale-Chall 7.5

“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



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## 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

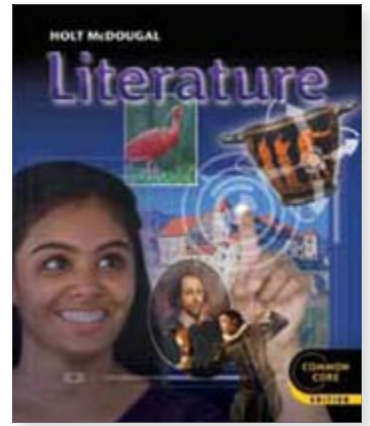
“The Seven Ages of Man” by William Shakespeare/ “The Road Not Taken” by Robert Frost  
Difficulty Level: Challenging

## 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



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“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

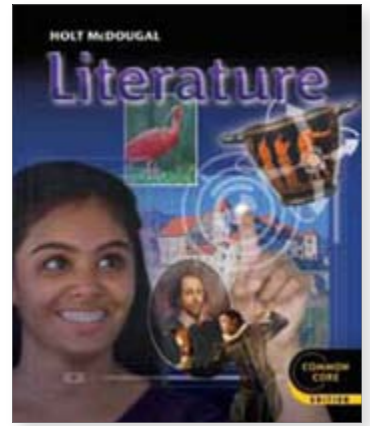
“Blues Ain’t No Mockingbird” by Toni Cade Bambara  
Difficulty Level: Challenging  
Readability: Lexile 960, Fry 7, Dale-Chall 6.7

“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



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## 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

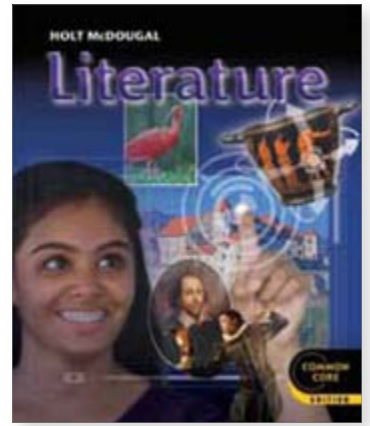
“Pyramus and Thisbe” by Ovid

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



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