

Language Arts 12 Book List

While we recommend that you select a book from the provided list, you are welcome to choose a different book as long as it is pre-approved by your instructor. Please make sure to discuss your choice with me first to ensure it aligns with the objectives of the course. Happy reading!

Novel Choices for Independent Reading

1. **1984** – George Orwell
A chilling dystopian novel exploring totalitarianism and surveillance. *(328 pages)*
2. **The Kite Runner** – Khaled Hosseini
A moving story of friendship, betrayal, and redemption set in Afghanistan. *(371 pages)*
3. **Fahrenheit 451** – Ray Bradbury
A haunting portrayal of a future where books are outlawed and free thought is suppressed. *(194 pages)*
4. **The Hate U Give** – Angie Thomas
A powerful exploration of race, identity, and activism through the eyes of a teenage girl. *(444 pages)*
5. **Brave New World** – Aldous Huxley
A provocative novel about a technologically advanced but emotionally barren society. *(311 pages)*
6. **The Book Thief** – Markus Zusak
A young girl finds solace in stealing books during Nazi Germany. *(552 pages)*
7. **To Kill a Mockingbird** – Harper Lee
A classic story about justice, racism, and childhood innocence in the Deep South. *(324 pages)*
8. **Lord of the Flies** – William Golding
A chilling examination of human nature as boys stranded on an island descend into savagery. *(224 pages)*
9. **The Catcher in the Rye** – J.D. Salinger
A rebellious teenager's journey through grief and alienation. *(277 pages)*
10. **Life of Pi** – Yann Martel
A young boy survives a shipwreck while stranded with a tiger on a lifeboat. *(319 pages)*
11. **Persepolis** – Marjane Satrapi
A graphic memoir depicting the author's childhood during the Iranian Revolution. *(341 pages)*

12. **A Thousand Splendid Suns** – Khaled Hosseini
A heartbreaking story of two Afghan women bound together by fate and hardship. (384 pages)
13. **The Road** – Cormac McCarthy
A stark, beautiful novel about a father and son's survival in a post-apocalyptic world. (287 pages)
14. **The Things They Carried** – Tim O'Brien
A blend of fiction and memoir about soldiers' experiences during the Vietnam War. (246 pages)
15. **Their Eyes Were Watching God** – Zora Neale Hurston
A woman's quest for love and independence in the early 20th-century South. (219 pages)
16. **The Color Purple** – Alice Walker
An inspiring story of resilience and sisterhood in the face of abuse and racism. (288 pages)
17. **The Alchemist** – Paulo Coelho
A mystical fable about following one's dreams and listening to one's heart. (208 pages)
18. **Frankenstein** – Mary Shelley
A Gothic classic about ambition, creation, and the consequences of playing God. (280 pages)
19. **Pride and Prejudice** – Jane Austen
A witty exploration of love, class, and social expectations in Regency England. (279 pages)
20. **Jane Eyre** – Charlotte Brontë
A resilient orphan girl's journey to independence and love. (532 pages)
21. **Dracula** – Bram Stoker
The original vampire novel blending horror, love, and fear of the unknown. (418 pages)
22. **Wuthering Heights** – Emily Brontë
A dark, intense story of passion, revenge, and tragedy on the English moors. (416 pages)
23. **The Great Gatsby** – F. Scott Fitzgerald
A glittering critique of the American Dream during the Roaring Twenties. (180 pages)
24. **Speak** – Laurie Halse Anderson
A teenage girl finds her voice after experiencing trauma. (198 pages)
25. **We Were Liars** – E. Lockhart
A suspenseful story about a privileged family, secrets, and lies. (242 pages)

26. **The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time** – Mark Haddon
A boy with autism investigates a neighborhood mystery and uncovers family secrets. *(240 pages)*
27. **Long Way Down** – Jason Reynolds
A powerful novel-in-verse about revenge, loss, and cycles of violence. *(320 pages)*
28. **The Bell Jar** – Sylvia Plath
A semi-autobiographical novel about mental health and identity in the 1950s. *(244 pages)*
29. **I Am the Messenger** – Markus Zusak
An ordinary young man becomes an accidental hero tasked with delivering mysterious messages. *(357 pages)*
30. **All the Light We Cannot See** – Anthony Doerr
A beautifully woven story of a blind French girl and a German boy during WWII. *(531 pages)*
31. **Between Shades of Gray** – Ruta Sepetys
A gripping novel about a Lithuanian girl's survival during Stalin's regime. *(338 pages)*
32. **The Outsiders** – S.E. Hinton
A coming-of-age story about class conflict and loyalty among teenage gangs. *(192 pages)*
33. **Looking for Alaska** – John Green
A poignant story about love, loss, and coming of age at a boarding school. *(221 pages)*
34. **Song of Solomon** – Toni Morrison
A richly layered story exploring African-American identity and heritage. *(337 pages)*
35. **Eleanor & Park** – Rainbow Rowell
A sweet, heartbreaking love story between two misfit teens in the 1980s. *(328 pages)*
36. **The Poisonwood Bible** – Barbara Kingsolver
A missionary family's cultural clash in the Congo is told through multiple narrators. *(546 pages)*
37. **The Secret Life of Bees** – Sue Monk Kidd
A young girl escapes her troubled life and finds refuge among strong women beekeepers. *(336 pages)*
38. **Ceremony** – Leslie Marmon Silko
A Native American WWII veteran struggles to heal from trauma and reclaim identity. *(262 pages)*
39. **Americanah** – Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie
A Nigerian woman's journey of immigration, race, and self-discovery. *(477 pages)*

- 40. Homegoing** – Yaa Gyasi
A sweeping novel tracing the descendants of two half-sisters from Ghana across generations. *(305 pages)*
- 41. Anxious People** – Fredrik Backman
A humorous yet touching novel about a failed robbery that reveals hidden human connections. *(352 pages)*
- 42. The Night Circus** – Erin Morgenstern
A beautifully atmospheric fantasy about a magical competition between two young illusionists. *(387 pages)*
- 43. Where the Crawdads Sing** – Delia Owens
A gripping mystery entwined with a lyrical coming-of-age story set in the marshlands. *(384 pages)*
- 44. Beartown** – Fredrik Backman
A hockey town's darkest secrets come to light after a violent act. *(432 pages)*
- 45. The Nickel Boys** – Colson Whitehead
A devastating novel based on a real reform school that abused Black boys in Jim Crow-era Florida. *(224 pages)*
- 46. The Nightingale** – Kristin Hannah
Two sisters fight to survive and resist the Nazi occupation of France during WWII. *(448 pages)*
- 47. The Inheritance of Loss** – Kiran Desai
A beautifully crafted novel exploring identity, colonialism, and migration. *(384 pages)*
- 48. The 5th Wave** – Rick Yancey
A sci-fi thriller about an alien invasion and a girl's quest to survive. *(457 pages)*
- 49. Mexican Gothic** – Silvia Moreno-Garcia
A gothic horror set in a crumbling mansion in 1950s Mexico with chilling secrets. *(301 pages)*
- 50. Scythe** – Neal Shusterman
In a future where death has been conquered, two teens must learn the dark art of "gleaning." *(435 pages)*
- 51. Children of Blood and Bone** – Tomi Adeyemi
A sweeping fantasy inspired by West African mythology about a girl fighting to restore magic. *(531 pages)*
- 52. A Deadly Education** – Naomi Novik
A fierce and witty fantasy set in a deadly magical school where survival is everything. *(336 pages)*

- 53. Gideon the Ninth** – Tamsyn Muir
A unique sci-fi/fantasy mashup featuring necromancers, ancient magic, and deadly trials. (448 pages)
- 54. Legendborn** – Tracy Deonn
A contemporary fantasy retelling of Arthurian legend with secret societies and magic. (512 pages)
- 55. Aurora Rising** – Amie Kaufman & Jay Kristoff
A misfit squad of cadets uncovers a galaxy-shaking conspiracy in this space adventure. (473 pages)
- 56. An Absolutely Remarkable Thing** – Hank Green
A fast-paced sci-fi story exploring fame, social media, and first contact with aliens. (343 pages)
- 57. This Savage Song** – Victoria Schwab
In a city overrun by monsters, two teens on opposite sides struggle with what it means to be human. (464 pages)
- 58. The Martian** – Andy Weir
After being stranded on Mars, astronaut Mark Watney must use his wit and scientific knowledge to survive. (369 pages)
- 59. Artemis** – Andy Weir
A heist story set on the Moon, where a clever and resourceful woman plans to take on the lunar colony's corrupt corporate systems. (305 pages)
- 60. Six of Crows** – Leigh Bardugo
A fantasy novel about a group of outcasts who team up to pull off an impossible heist, set in a richly built world of magic and intrigue. (462 pages)
- 61. The Ballad of Songbirds and Snakes** – Suzanne Collins
A prequel to *The Hunger Games*, following the early life of Coriolanus Snow and his role in the 10th Hunger Games. (528 pages)
- 62. The Perks of Being a Wallflower** – Stephen Chbosky
A coming-of-age story told through the letters of Charlie, a shy and introverted teen, exploring love, loss, and self-discovery. (213 pages)