



Everyone has different types of books they like to read. We compiled a massive list from recommendations from our staff as well as other lists published by other libraries around the country. You do not need to pick from this list; however, we do encourage you to try some books that are different than what you usually read!

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**Goodreads.com** has compiled a list on their website. You can access that list and reviews here:

[https://www.goodreads.com/list/show/27664.Top\\_100\\_Books\\_to\\_Read\\_Before\\_College](https://www.goodreads.com/list/show/27664.Top_100_Books_to_Read_Before_College)

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Middletown Library has compiled this list of suggested books to read before college. Middletown Township Public Library 55 New Monmouth Rd Middletown, NJ 07748 732-671-3700 ~ <http://www.mtpl.org> ~ @MTPLteens

- 1. The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy by Douglas Adams
- 2. The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian by Sherman Alexie
- 3. In the Time of the Butterflies by Julia Alvarez
- 4. Speak by Laurie Halse Anderson
- 5. I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings by Maya Angelou
- 6. The Handmaid's Tale by Margaret Atwood
- 7. Pride and Prejudice by Jane Austen
- 8. Six of Crows by Leigh Bardugo
- 9. Fahrenheit 451 by Ray Bradbury
- 10. Jane Eyre by Charlotte Bronte
- 11. Wuthering Heights by Emily Bronte
- 12. A Clockwork Orange by Anthony Burgess
- 13. Ender's Game by Orson Scott Card
- 14. And Then There Were None by Agatha Christie
- 15. 2001 a Space Odyssey by Arthur C. Clarke
- 16. Ready Player One by Ernest Cline
- 17. The Hunger Games by Suzanne Collins
- 18. Jurassic Park by Michael Crichton
- 19. The Maze Runner by James Dashner
- 20. All The Light We Cannot See by Anthony Doerr
- 21. The Hound of the Baskervilles by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle
- 22. House of Scorpions by Nancy Farmer
- 23. The Great Gatsby by F. Scott Fitzgerald
- 24. Outliers by Malcom Gladwell
- 25. The Princess Bride by William Goldman
- 26. The Fault in Our Stars by John Green
- 27. A Time to Kill by John Grisham
- 28. The Curious Incident of the Dog in the NightTime by Mark Haddon
- 29. The Nightingale by Kristin Hannah
- 30. A Raisin in the Sun by Lorraine Hansberry
- 31. The Scarlet Letter by Nathaniel Hawthorne
- 32. Unbroken by Laura Hillenbrand
- 33. The Outsiders by S.E. Hinton
- 34. The Kite Runner by Khaled Hosseini
- 35. Illuminae by Amie Kaufman and Jay Kristoff
- 36. Flowers for Algernon by Daniel Keyes
- 37. On Writing: A Memoir of the Craft by Stephen King

- 38. The Shining by Stephen King
- 39. Girl in Translation by Jean Kwok
- 40. Into the Wild by Jon Krakauer
- 41. The Namesake by Jhumpa Lahiri
- 42. The Devil in the White City by Erik Larson
- 43. The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo by Stieg Larsson
- 44. To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee
- 45. A Wrinkle in Time by Margaret L'Engle
- 46. Freakonomics by Steven Levitt
- 47. The Chronicles of Narnia by C.S. Lewis
- 48. Moneyball by Michael Lewis
- 49. The Giver by Lois Lowry
- 50. The Life of Pi by Yann Martel
- 51. Game of Thrones by George R.R. Martin
- 100 books before college Reading Suggestions List Continued
- 52. Anne of Green Gables by L.M. Montgomery
- 53. Paradise Lost by John Milton
- 54. V for Vendetta by Alan Moore
- 55. Watchmen by Alan Moore
- 56. The Night Circus by Erin Morgenstern
- 57. Monster by Walter Dean Myers
- 58. I'll Give you the Sun by Jandy Nelson
- 59. A Monster Calls by Patrick Ness
- 60. Sabriel by Garth Nix
- 61. Uprooted by Naomi Novik
- 62. Animal Farm by George Orwell
- 63. 1984 by George Orwell
- 64. Along Came a Spider by James Patterson
- 65. Great Tales and Poems of Edgar Allan Poe by Edgar Allan Poe
- 66. The Omnivore's Dilemma by Michael Pollan
- 67. The Colour of Magic by Terry Pratchett
- 68. My Sister's Keeper by Jodi Picoult
- 69. The Hot Zone by Richard Preston
- 70. Three Little Words by Ashley Rhodes-Courter
- 71. The Lightning Thief by Rick Riordan
- 72. The Name of the Wind by Patrick Rothfuss
- 73. Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone by JK Rowling
- 74. Eleanor and Park by Rainbow Rowell
- 75. Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe by Benjamin Alire Saenz
- 76. The Little Prince by Antoine de Saint-Exupery
- 77. The Lovely Bones by Alice Sebold
- 78. Between Shades of Gray by Ruta Sepetys
- 79. Frankenstein by Mary Shelley
- 80. The Wave by Todd Strasser
- 81. Stargirl by Jerry Spinelli
- 82. Scythe by Neal Shusterman
- 83. Unwind by Neal Shusterman
- 84. Any Shakespeare play
- 85. The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks by Rebecca Skloot
- 86. A Tree Grows in Brooklyn by Betty Smith
- 87. The Help by Kathryn Stockett
- 88. Uncle Tom's Cabin by Harriet Beecher Stowe
- 89. Strange the Dreamer by Laini Taylor
- 90. Blood in the Water: The Attica Prison Uprising and its Legacy by Heather Ann Thompson
- 91. The Fellowship of the Ring by J.R.R. Tolkien
- 92. The Glass Castle by Jeannette Walls
- 93. The Martian by Andy Weir
- 94. Night by Elie Wiesel
- 95. The Once and Future King by T.H. White
- 96. The Importance of Being Ernest by Oscar Wilde
- 97. To Say Nothing of the Dog by Connie Willis
- 98. The Sun is Also a Star by Nicola Yoon
- 99. I Am Malala by Malala Yousafzai
- 100. The Book Thief by Marcus Zusack

# College Board's 101 Books for the College-Bound Reader

<https://www.listchallenges.com/college-boards-101-books-for-the-college-bound>

Source: [http://www.uhlibrary.net/pdf/college\\_board\\_recommended\\_books.pdf](http://www.uhlibrary.net/pdf/college_board_recommended_books.pdf)

1. Beowulf
2. Things Fall Apart
3. A Death in the Family
4. Pride and Prejudice (Jane Austen)
5. Go Tell It on the Mountain, by James Baldwin
6. Waiting for Godot
7. The Adventures of Augie March
8. Jane Eyre
9. Wuthering Heights
10. The Stranger (Albert Camus)
11. Death Comes for the Archbishop
12. The Canterbury Tales
13. The Cherry Orchard
14. The Awakening
15. Heart of Darkness
16. The Last of the Mohicans
17. The Red Badge of Courage
18. Inferno (Dante)
19. Don Quixote
20. Robinson Crusoe (Daniel Defoe)
21. A Tale of Two Cities (Charles Dickens)
22. Crime and Punishment
23. The Narrative Life of Frederick Douglass
24. An American Tragedy, by Theodore Dreiser
25. The Three Musketeers - Alexandre Dumas
26. The Mill on the Floss
27. Invisible Man
28. Selected Essays by Ralph Waldo Emerson
29. As I Lay Dying (William Faulkner)
30. The Sound and the Fury
31. Tom Jones
32. The Great Gatsby (F. Scott Fitzgerald)
33. Madame Bovary
34. The Good Soldier (Ford Madox Ford)
35. Faust
36. Lord of the Flies (William Golding)
37. Tess of the D'Urbervilles
38. The Scarlet Letter (Nathaniel Hawthorne)
39. Catch-22 (Joseph Heller)
40. A Farewell to Arms
41. The Iliad (Homer)
42. The Odyssey
43. The Hunchback of Notre Dame
44. Their Eyes Were Watching God
45. Brave New World (Aldous Huxley)
46. A Doll's House
47. The Portrait of a Lady
48. The Turn of the Screw (Henry James)
49. A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man
50. The Metamorphosis
51. The Woman Warrior
52. To Kill a Mockingbird (Harper Lee)
53. Babbitt
54. The Call of the Wild (Jack London)
55. The Magic Mountain
56. One Hundred Years of Solitude
57. Bartleby, the Scrivener
58. Moby Dick (Herman Melville)
59. The Crucible
60. Beloved (Toni Morrison)
61. A Good Man Is Hard to Find (Flannery O'Connor)
62. Long Day's Journey Into Night
63. Animal Farm
64. Doctor Zhivago (Boris Pasternak)
65. The Bell Jar (Sylvia Plath)
66. Tales of Edgar Allan Poe
67. Swann's Way
68. The Crying of Lot 49
69. All Quiet on the Western Front
70. Cyrano De Bergerac
71. Call It Sleep (Henry Roth)
72. The Catcher in the Rye (J.D. Salinger)
73. Hamlet
74. MacBeth (William Shakespeare)
75. A Midsummer Night's Dream
76. Romeo and Juliet
77. Pygmalion (George Bernard Shaw)
78. Frankenstein
79. Ceremony (Leslie Marmon Silko)
80. One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovitch
81. Antigone (Sophocles)
82. Oedipus Rex (Sophocles)
83. The Grapes of Wrath (John Steinbeck)
84. Treasure Island
85. Uncle Tom's Cabin (Harriet Beecher Stowe)
86. Gulliver's Travels (Jonathan Swift)
87. Vanity Fair
88. Walden (Henry David Thoreau)
89. War and Peace
90. Fathers and Sons
91. The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn (Mark Twain)
92. Candide
93. Slaughterhouse-Five (Kurt Vonnegut)
94. The Color Purple (Alice Walker)
95. The House of Mirth
96. The Collected Stories
97. Leaves of Grass
98. The Picture of Dorian Gray
99. The Glass Menagerie
100. To the Lighthouse
101. Native Son (Richard Wright)

And finally, a list from BusinessInsider.com

<https://www.businessinsider.com/100-books-everyone-should-read-amazon-goodreads-2015-3>

- "To Kill a Mockingbird" by Harper Lee
- "Pride and Prejudice" by Jane Austen
- "The Diary of Anne Frank" by Anne Frank
- "1984" by George Orwell
- Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone by J.K. Rowling
- "The Lord of the Rings" (1-3) by J.R.R. Tolkien
- "The Great Gatsby" by F. Scott Fitzgerald
- "Charlotte's Web" by E.B. White
- "The Hobbit" by J.R.R. Tolkien
- "Little Women" by Louisa May Alcott
- "Fahrenheit 451" by Ray Bradbury
- "Jane Eyre" by Charlotte Bronte
- "Animal Farm" by George Orwell
- "Gone with the Wind" by Margaret Mitchell
- "The Catcher in the Rye" by J.D. Salinger
- "The Book Thief" by Markus Zusak
- "The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn" by Mark Twain
- "The Hunger Games" by Suzanne Collins
- "The Help" by Kathryn Stockett
- "The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe" by C.S. Lewis
- "The Grapes of Wrath" by John Steinbeck
- "The Lord of the Flies" by William Golding
- "The Kite Runner" by Khaled Hosseini
- "Night" by Elie Wiesel
- "Hamlet" by William Shakespeare
- "A Wrinkle in Time" by Madeleine L'Engle
- "Of Mice and Men" by John Steinbeck
- "A Tale of Two Cities" by Charles Dickens
- "Romeo and Juliet" by William Shakespeare
- "The Hitchhikers Guide to the Galaxy" by Douglas Adams
- "The Secret Garden" by Frances Hodgson Burnett
- "A Christmas Carol" by Charles Dickens
- "The Little Prince" by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry
- "Brave New World" by Aldous Huxley
- "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows" by J.K. Rowling
- "The Giver" by Lois Lowry
- "The Handmaid's Tale" by Margaret Atwood
- "Where the Sidewalk Ends" by Shel Silverstein
- "Wuthering Heights" Emily Bronte
- "The Fault in Our Stars" by John Green
- "Anne of Green Gables" by L.M. Montgomery
- "The Adventures of Tom Sawyer" by Mark Twain
- "Macbeth" by William Shakespeare
- "The Girl with a Dragon Tattoo" by Stieg Larrson
- "Frankenstein" by Mary Shelley
- "The Holy Bible: King James Version"
- "The Color Purple" by Alice Walker
- "The Count of Monte Cristo" by Alexandre Dumas
- "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn" by Betty Smith
- "East of Eden" by John Steinbeck

- "Alice in Wonderland" by Lewis Carroll
- "In Cold Blood" by Truman Capote
- "Catch-22" by Joseph Heller
- "The Stand" by Stephen King
- "Outlander" by Diana Gabaldon
- "Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban" by J.K. Rowling
- "Enders Game" by Orson Scott Card
- "Anna Karenina" by Leo Tolstoy
- "Watership Down" by Richard Adams
- "Memoirs of a Geisha" by Arthur Golden
- "Rebecca" by Daphne du Maurier
- "A Game of Thrones" by George R.R. Martin
- "Great Expectations" by Charles Dickens
- "The Old Man and the Sea" by Ernest Hemingway
- "The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes" (#3) by Arthur Conan Doyle
- "Les Misérables" by Victor Hugo
- "Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince" by J.K. Rowling
- "Life of Pi" by Yann Martel
- "The Scarlet Letter" by Nathaniel Hawthorne
- "Celebrating Silence: Excerpts from Five Years of Weekly Knowledge" by Sri Sri Ravi Shankar
- "The Chronicles of Narnia" by C.S. Lewis
- "The Pillars of the Earth" by Ken Follett
- "Catching Fire" by Suzanne Collins
- "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory" by Roald Dahl
- "Dracula" by Bram Stoker
- "The Princess Bride" by William Goldman
- "Water for Elephants" by Sara Gruen
- "The Raven" by Edgar Allan Poe
- "The Secret Life of Bees" by Sue Monk Kidd
- "The Poisonwood Bible: A Novel" by Barbara Kingsolver
- "One Hundred Years of Solitude" by Gabriel García Márquez
- "The Time Traveler's Wife" by Audrey Niffenegger
- "The Odyssey" by Homer
- "The Good Earth (House of Earth #1)" by Pearl S. Buck
- "Mockingjay (Hunger Games #3)" by Suzanne Collins
- "And Then There Were None" by Agatha Christie
- "The Thorn Birds" by Colleen McCullough
- "A Prayer for Owen Meany" by John Irving
- "The Glass Castle" by Jeannette Walls
- "The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks" by Rebecca Skloot
- "Crime and Punishment" by Fyodor Dostoyevsky
- "The Road" by Cormac McCarthy
- "The Things They Carried" by Tim O'Brien
- "Siddhartha" by Hermann Hesse
- "Beloved" by Toni Morrison
- "Slaughterhouse-Five" by Kurt Vonnegut
- "Cutting For Stone" by Abraham Verghese
- "The Phantom Tollbooth" by Norton Juster
- "The Brothers Karamazov" by Fyodor Dostoyevsky
- "The Story of My Life" by Helen Keller