

2021-2022 READING LIST
LITERARY CRITICISM

Please note that the contest will be using the *annually-updated* lists of Pulitzer Prize (Fiction, Poetry, and Drama) recipients and the annually-updated list of Nobel Prize for Literature recipients.

—links below—

**HANDBOOK
TO
LITERATURE**

Authority for Part I
of the contest,
Literary History,
and Literary Terms:

*A Handbook to
Literature*,
12th edition
William Harmon, ed.
ISBN 0205024017
ISBN 9780205024018

THIS IS **NOT** A NEW EDITION.

Available from
TEP, Inc.
800-443-2078
<https://tepbooks.com:4443>
List price: \$73.65
plus shipping

and from

PrenticeHall, Inc.
800-848-9500
www.mypearsonstore.com
List price: \$86.65
free ground shipping.

FICTION

F. Scott Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby*
<https://tepbooks.com:4443>
\$4.54 plus 8% shipping (\$10.00 minimum)
Simon & Schuster ISBN 9781982146702

Any unabridged edition of this selection is appropriate for the competition.

POETRY

Elizabeth Barret Browning's *Sonnets from the Portuguese and Other Poems*
<https://tepbooks.com:4443>
\$3.99 plus 8% shipping (\$10.00 minimum)
Mint Editions ISBN 9781513267760

Sonnet I "[I thought once how Theocritus had sung]"	* "The Best Thing in the World"
Sonnet III "[Unlike are we, unlike, O princely Heart]"	* "The Lady's Yes"
Sonnet XI "[And therefore to love can be desert]"	* "A Man's Requirements"
Sonnet XV "[Accuse me not, beseech thee, that I wear]"	* "A Musical Instrument"
Sonnet XIX "[The soul's Rialto hath its merchandise]"	* "Patience Taught by Nature"
Sonnet XXIV "[Let the world's sharpness . . .]"	* "To George Sand: A Desire"
Sonnet XLIII "[How do I love thee? Let me count the ways. . .]"	
Sonnet XLIV "[Belovëd, thou hast brought me many flowers]"	

*See associated pdf.

Any unabridged edition of these selections is appropriate for the competition.

DRAMA

William Shakespeare's *The Tragedy of Macbeth*
<https://tepbooks.com:4443>
\$6.49 plus 8% shipping (\$10.00 minimum)
Folger Trade ISBN 9781451694727

Any unabridged version of the play is appropriate for the competition.

www.pulitzer.org/prize-winners-by-category/219

www.pulitzer.org/prize-winners-by-category/224

www.pulitzer.org/prize-winners-by-category/218

www.nobelprize.org/prizes/lists/all-nobel-prizes-in-literature/?sess=fff344a2de36ad15513392a114f5cdb7

PULITZER AND NOBEL RECIPIENTS THROUGH 2021

University Interscholastic League
Literary Criticism
2021-2022 Reading List Addendum
Elizabeth Barrett Browning: Six Poems

The Best Thing in the World

What's the best thing in the world?
June-rose, by May-dew impearled;
Sweet south-wind, that means no rain;
Truth, not cruel to a friend;
Pleasure, not in haste to end; 5
Beauty, not self-decked and curled
Till its pride is over-plain;
Love, when, so, you're loved again.
What's the best thing in the world?
—Something out of it, I think. 10

A Lady's Yes

"Yes!" I answered you last night;
"No!" this morning, Sir, I say!
Colours, seen by candle-light,
Will not look the same by day. 4

When the tabors played their best,
Lamps above, and laughs below—
Love me sounded like a jest,
Fit for *Yes* or fit for *No!* 8

Call me false, or call me free—
Vow, whatever light may shine,
No man on your face shall see
Any grief for change on mine. 12

Yet the sin is on us both—
Time to dance is not to woo—
Wooer light makes fickle troth—
Scorn of *me* recoils on *you!* 16

Learn to win a lady's faith
Nobly, as the thing is high;
Bravely, as for life and death—
With a loyal gravity. 20

Lead her from the festive boards,
Point her to the starry skies,
Guard her, by your truthful words,
Pure from courtship's flatteries. 24

By your truth she shall be true—
Ever true, as wives of yore—
And her *Yes*, once said to you,
Shall be *Yes* for evermore. 28

A Man's Requirement

Love me Sweet, with all thou art,
Feeling, thinking, seeing;
Love me in the lightest part,
Love me in full being. 4

Love me with thine open youth
In its frank surrender;
With the vowing of thy mouth
With its silence tender. 8

Love me with thine azure eyes,
Made for earnest granting;
Taking colour from the skies,
Can Heaven's truth be wanting? 12

Love me with their lids, that fall
Snow-like at first meeting;
Love me with thine heart, that all
Neighbours then see beating. 16

Love me with thine hand stretched out
Freely—open-minded:
Love me with thy loitering foot,—
Hearing one behind it. 20

Love me with thy voice, that turns
Sudden faint above me;
Love me with thy blush that burns
When I murmur *Love me!* 24

Love me with thy thinking soul,
Break it to love-sighing;
Love me with thy thoughts that roll
On through living—dying. 28

Love me when in thy gorgeous airs,
When the world has crowned thee;
Love me, kneeling at thy prayers,
With the angels round thee. 32

Love me pure, as musers do,
Up the woodlands shady:
Love me gaily, fast and true
As a winsome lady. 36

Through all hopes that keep us brave,
Farther off or nigher,
Love me for the house and grave,
And for something higher. 40

Thus, if thou wilt prove me, Dear,
Woman's love no fable.
I will love *thee*—half a year—
As a man is able. 44

A Musical Instrument

What was he doing, the great god Pan,
Down in the reeds by the river?
Spreading ruin and scattering ban, 3
Splashing and paddling with hoofs of a goat,
And breaking the golden lilies afloat
With the dragon-fly on the river. 6

He tore out a reed, the great god Pan,
From the deep cool bed of the river:
The limpid water turbidly ran, 9
And the broken lilies a-dying lay,
And the dragon-fly had fled away,
Ere he brought it out of the river. 12

High on the shore sate the great god Pan,
While turbidly flowed the river;
And hacked and hewed as a great god can, 15
With his hard bleak steel at the patient reed,
Till there was not a sign of a leaf indeed
To prove it fresh from the river. 18

He cut it short, did the great god Pan,
(How tall it stood in the river!)
Then drew the pith, like the heart of a man, 21
Steadily from the outside ring,
And notched the poor dry empty thing
In holes, as he sate by the river. 24

"This is the way," laughed the great god Pan,
(Laughed while he sate by the river,)
"The only way, since gods began 27
To make sweet music, they could succeed."
Then, dropping his mouth to a hole in the reed,
He blew in power by the river. 30

Sweet, sweet, sweet, O Pan!
Piercing sweet by the river!
Blinding sweet, O great god Pan! 33
The sun on the hill forgot to die,
And the lilies revived, and the dragon-fly
Came back to dream on the river. 36

Yet half a beast is the great god Pan,
To laugh as he sits by the river,
Making a poet out of a man: 39
The true gods sigh for the cost and pain,—
For the reed which grows nevermore again
As a reed with the reeds in the river. 42

Patience Taught by Nature

"O Dreary life!" we cry, "O dreary life!"
And still the generations of the birds
Sing through our sighing, and the flocks and herds
Serenely live while we are keeping strife 4
With Heaven's true purpose in us, as a knife
Against which we may struggle. Ocean girds
Unslackened the dry land: savannah-swards
Unweary sweep: hills watch, unworn; and rife 8
Meek leaves drop yearly from the forest-trees,
To show, above, the unwasted stars that pass
In their old glory. O thou God of old!
Grant me some smaller grace than comes to *these*;— 12
But so much patience, as a blade of grass
Grows by contented through the heat and cold.

To George Sand: A Desire

Thou large-brained woman and large-hearted man,
Self-called George Sand! whose soul, amid the lions
Of thy tumultuous senses, moans defiance
And answers roar for roar, as spirits can: 4
I would some mild miraculous thunder ran
Above the applauded circus, in appliance
Of thine own nobler nature's strength and science,
Drawing two pinions, white as wings of swan, 8
From thy strong shoulders, to amaze the place
With holier light! that thou to woman's claim
And man's, mightst join beside the angel's grace
Of a pure genius sanctified from blame 12
Till child and maiden pressed to thine embrace
To kiss upon thy lips a stainless fame.