

## CUSD Middle School Board Approved Curriculum and Literature

CUSD English teachers may choose from the following board approved novels to augment and supplement the core reading selections offered in the Amplify curriculum. The Lexile text measures are numeric representations of the text's readability. This quantitative formula combined with qualitative measures and Reader/Task considerations create the level of text complexity - or *level of challenge*- students need in order to become proficient readers and writers.

### Overview of Text Complexity

◆ **Text complexity** is defined by:

1. **Quantitative measures** – readability and other scores of text complexity often best measured by computer software.
2. **Qualitative measures** – levels of meaning, structure, language conventionality and clarity, and knowledge demands often best measured by an attentive human reader.
3. **Reader and Task considerations** – background knowledge of reader, motivation, interests, and complexity generated by tasks assigned often best made by educators employing their professional judgment.



Source:

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## Literature List - Grade 6

### Reading Excerpts and Selections in Amplify:

*Boy: Tales of Childhood* - Dahl

*The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* - Twain

*The Speckled Band* - Doyle

*The Red Headed League* - Doyle

*Phineas Gage: A Gruesome But True Story* - Fleischman

*M.C. Higgins, the Great* - Hamilton

Title	Author's Last Name	Lexile
<i>A Wrinkle in Time</i>	L' Engle	740
<i>Boy of the Painted Cave, The</i>	Denzel	800
<i>Bud, Not Buddy</i>	Curtis	950
<i>Cay, The</i>	Taylor	860
<i>Clty</i>	McCauley	1100
<i>Clay Marble, The</i>	Ho	860
<i>D'Aulaire's Book of Greek Myths</i>	D'Aulaire	1070
<i>Dar and the Spear Thrower</i>	Cowley	800
<i>Egypt Game</i>	Snyder	1010
<i>Gathering Blue</i>	Lowry	680
<i>Giver, The</i>	Lowry	760
<i>God King</i>	Williamson	NA
<i>Golden Goblet</i>	McGraw	930
<i>Great Gilly Hopkins, The</i>	Paterson	800
<i>Hatchet</i>	Paulsen	1020
<i>Hobbit, The</i>	Tolkien	1000

<i>I am Malala</i>	Yousafzai	830
<i>Lightning Thief, The</i>	Riordan	740
<i>Lion, The Witch, and the Wardrobe</i>	Lewis	940
<i>Love that Dog</i>	Creech	1010
<i>Maniac Magee</i>	Spinelli	820
<i>Mara, Daughter of the Nile</i>	McGraw	910
<i>Maroo of the Winter Caves</i>	Turnbull	840
<i>One Crazy Summer</i>	Williams-Garcia	750
<i>Pyramid</i>	McCauley	1110
<i>Seasons of Splendor</i>	Jaffrey	NA
<i>Shadow Spinner</i>	Fletcher	710
<i>Walk Two Moons</i>	Creech	770
<i>Watsons Go to Birmingham</i>	Curtis	1000
<i>Westing Game, The</i>	Raskin	750
<i>Where the Mountain Meets the Moon</i>	Lin	810
<i>Wonder</i>	Palacio	790



## Literature List - Grade 7

### Reading Excerpts and Selections in Amplify:

*Red Scarf Girl: A Memoir of the Cultural Revolution* - Jiang

*A Raisin in the Sun* - Hansberry

"The Cask of Amontillado", "The Raven", "The Tell-Tale-Heart" - Poe

*Romeo and Juliet* - Shakespeare

*Summer of the Mariposas* - Garcia-McCall

Title	Author's Last Name	Lexile
<i>A Christmas Carol</i>	Dickens	900
<i>A Christmas Carol (graphic novel)</i>	McCullar	510
<i>A Long Walk to Water</i>	Park	720
<i>Adam of the Road</i>	Gray	1030
<i>Adventures of Tom Sawyer</i>	Twain	950
<i>Aladdin and Other Tales</i>	Dawood	970
<i>Alan and Naomi</i>	Levoy	500
<i>American Born Chinese</i>	Yang	530
<i>Beowulf, A New Telling</i>	Nye	790
<i>Boy, Tales of Childhood</i>	Dahl	1090
<i>Brian's Song</i>	Blinn	NP*
<i>Catherine Called Birdy</i>	Cushman	1170
<i>Color of My Words</i>	Joseph	840
<i>Counting by 7s</i>	Sloan	770
<i>Crispin: The Cross of Lead</i>	Avi	780
<i>Deathwatch</i>	White	990
<i>Door in the Wall</i>	DeAngeli	900

<i>Freak the Mighty</i>	Philbrick	1000
<i>Hoot</i>	Hiaasen	760
<i>Hound of the Baskervilles</i>	Doyle	1090
<i>Julie of the Wolves</i>	George	860
<i>Matilda Bone</i>	Cushman	850
<i>Martian Chronicles</i>	Bradbury	740
<i>Master Puppeteer</i>	Paterson	860
<i>Milkweed</i>	Spinelli	510
<i>Midwife's Apprentice</i>	Cushman	1240
<i>Mockingbird:(Mok'ing-burd)</i>	Erskine	630
<i>My Side of the Mountain</i>	George	810
<i>Of Nightingales That Weep</i>	Paterson	950
<i>Pearl, The</i>	Steinbeck	1010
<i>Riddle of the Compass</i>	Aczel	NA
<i>Souder</i>	Armstrong	900
<i>Tangerine</i>	Soto	680
<i>Thief Lord</i>	Funke	640
<i>Where the Red Fern Grows</i>	Rawls	700

\*NP = Non-Prose text – at least 50% nonstandard prose



## Literature List - Grade 8

### Reading Excerpts and Selections in Amplify:

Declaration of Independence - Jefferson

Gettysburg Address - Lincoln

*Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave* - Douglass

*Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl*- Jacobs

*The Boys' War*- Murphy

*Frankenstein* (graphic novel) - Shelley

Title	Author's Last Name	Lexile
<i>A Long Way Gone</i>	Beah	920
<i>Across Five Aprils</i>	Hunt	1100
<i>And Then There Were None</i>	Christie	570
<i>Bomb: The Race to Build Steal</i>	Sheinkin	920
<i>Boy in the Striped Pajamas</i>	Boyne	1080
<i>Boys Who Challenged Hitler, The</i>	Hoose	970
<i>Brown Girl Dreaming</i>	Woodson	990
<i>Call of the Wild</i>	London	1120
<i>Circuit, The</i>	Jimenez	NP*
<i>Diary of Anne Frank, the play</i>	Goodrich and Hackett	NP*
<i>Dragonwings</i>	Yep	870
<i>Face on the Milk Carton</i>	Cooney	660
<i>Flipped</i>	Van Draanen	720
<i>Glory Field</i>	Myers	800
<i>Hunger Games</i>	Collins	810
<i>Ishi, Last of his Tribe</i>	Kroeber	870
<i>Illustrated Man, The</i>	Bradbury	680
<i>Kira-Kira</i>	Kadohata	740

<i>Legend of Sleepy Hollow</i>	Irving	1460
<i>Let the Circle be Unbroken</i>	Taylor	850
<i>Lions of Little Rock</i>	Levine	630
<i>Little Women</i>	Alcott	950
<i>My Brother Sam is Dead</i>	Collier	770
<i>Night</i>	Wiesel	570
<i>Nothing but the Truth</i>	Avi	NP*
<i>Out of the Dust</i>	Hesse	NP*
<i>Outsiders, The</i>	Hinton	750
<i>Red Pony, The</i>	Steinbeck	810
<i>Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry</i>	Taylor	920
<i>Stargirl</i>	Spinelli	590
<i>Twelfth Night</i>	Shakespeare	780
<i>Twelve Angry Men</i>	Rose	NP*
<i>Weedflower</i>	Kadohata	750
<i>Witch of Blackbird Pond</i>	Speare	850
<i>White Fang</i>	London	970
<i>Uncle Tom's Cabin</i>	Stowe	1050

\*NP = Non-Prose text – at least 50% nonstandard prose