

## The Write Foundation Paragraph Writing Reading List Recommend for Ages 12–16

It matters what you read.

1. The best readers are the best writers.
2. What you read is a major factor determining who you will become.
3. Quality literature encourages reading, because it is hard to put a good book down.
4. Reading is not just for fun. Reading plays a major role in brain development.

### Reading Guidelines:

- **Read** books to students. The more students are read to, the higher their level of reading and comprehension climbs. Read books out loud to them that they would not find easy to read on their own, but also read easier books out loud for sheer enjoyment.
- **Listen** to audio books. When you are going places in the car or just relaxing at home, listening to a good book captivates and entertains.
- **Encourage** students to select books to read independently that are on their easy-to-read level and that interest them.
- **Avoid book reports. Discuss** what is read. Instead of book reports, talk to them about what they are reading. As they enjoy books, they will want to talk about them.

**Book List Organization and Point System:** To encourage students to read quality literature. The point groups are determined by length.

- Books are mostly listed in alphabetical order by title.
- If several books are by one author or a series by various authors, then these are included in the alphabetical order by the author's last name or a series title.
- Books are not listed in a required reading order.
- Give extra credit. For every 20 points read, 1 point could be added to the final semester grade. The teacher decides if the books must be read independently to count for extra credit. Limit to 5 points extra credit per semester.

### Easy-to-Read? Abridged? Translated? Need teacher guidance and approval.

- **Avoid “easy-to-read” versions** of any books, such as those by Great Illustrated Classics.
- **Abridged** means a book has been condensed or shortened.
- A few of the classics were originally written in another language. Some **translations** are much better than others.

Where to find these books?

1. Many of these books will likely be found at a public library.
2. An easy way to find out more about these books is through Amazon or Thriftbooks descriptions and reviews.
3. A number of these books are available on Kindle.
4. Used and online bookstores offer new and used copies of many books at reasonable prices.
5. Amazon and Thriftbooks each carry most of these books.

The goal is to encourage the reading of quality books that all will enjoy. Investigating these books that range from modern to classical to unrenowned works of art will hopefully be an enjoyable adventure.

## The Write Foundation Paragraph Writing Reading List

### 15 Point Books

And the Word Came with Power – Joanne Shetler	A Long Way from Chicago Series – Richard Peck A Long Way from Chicago A Season of Gifts Other books in this series count.
Archimedes and the Door of Science – Jeanne Bendick	
Benjamin West and his Cat Gimalkin – Marguerite Henry	Men of Faith Series – Various Authors John Newton: The British Slave Trader George Muller: Man of Faith and Miracles Samuel Morris: The African Boy God Sent Other books in this series count.
Born in the Year of Courage – Emily Crofford	
Bound for Oregon – Jean Van Leeuwen	Number the Stars – Lois Lowry
Bud and Me – Alta Abernathy	Gene Stratton <u>Porter</u> Freckles Laddie
Call it Courage – Armstrong Sperry	The Red Badge of Courage – Stephen Crane
The Cay – Theodore Taylor	<u>The Scarlet Pimpernel</u> – Baroness Orczy The Scarlet Pimpernel The Elusive Pimpernel The League of the Scarlet Pimpernel Sir Percy Leads the Band Other books in this series count.
A Christmas Carol – Charles Dickens	
Come on Seabiscuit – Ralph Moody	Shades of Gray – Carolyn Reeder
The Door in the Wall – Marguerite De Angeli	Sign of the Beaver – Elizabeth G. Speare
Daughters of the Faith Series – Wendy Lawton The Tinker's Daughter: Mary Bunyan The Captive Princess: Pocahontas Courage to Run: Harriet Tubman Other books in this series count.	Star of Light – Patricia St. John The Tanglewood's Secret The Secret at Pheasant Cottage Rainbow Garden Treasures of the Snow Where the River Begins Three Go Searching
Faith Like Potatoes – Angus Buchan	
A Gathering of Days – Joan W. Blos	Robert Louis <u>Stevenson</u> The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde
God's Adventurer: Hudson Taylor – Phyllis Thompson (missionary)	
Greek Mythology – Rosemary Sutcliff Black Ships Before Troy: Iliad The Wanderings of Odysseus: Odyssey	John Hudson <u>Tiner</u> Exploring Planet Earth Exploring the History of Medicine Exploring the World of Biology Exploring the World of Chemistry
The Heart Reader of Franklin High – Terri Blackstock	
Humbug Mountain – Sid Fleischman	Jules <u>Verne</u> Master of the World Journey to the Center of the Earth
In Search of Honor – Donna Lynn Hess	
The Journeyman – Elizabeth Yates	
Jungle Books (not Disney) – Rudyard Kipling Just So Stories – Rudyard Kipling	
C. S. <u>Lewis</u> – The Space Trilogy Out of the Silent Planet Perelandra That Hideous Strength	

**20 Point Books**

<p>American History– Peter Marshall The Light and the Glory for Young Readers From Sea to Shining Sea for Young Readers Sounding Forth the Trumpet for Young Readers</p>	<p>Just David – Eleanor H. Porter</p>
<p>Amos Fortune Free Man – Elizabeth Yates</p>	<p>Kildee House – Rutherford George Montgomery</p>
<p>Andersen's Fairy Tales – H. C. Andersen</p>	<p>Leonardo Da Vinci – Emily Hahn</p>
<p>Anne of Green Gables Series – L. M. Montgomery Anne of Green Gables Anne of the Island Anne of Avonlea Other books in this series count.</p>	<p>The Magna Charta – James Daugherty</p>
<p>The Borrowers – Mary Norton</p>	<p>Marco Polo: his travels and adventures – George Makepeace Towle</p>
<p>The Broken Blade – William Durbin</p>	<p>My Side of the Mountain – Jean C. George Other books in this series count.</p>
<p>Building on the Rock Series – Joel R. Beeke &amp; Diana Kleyn How God Stopped the Pirates Other books in this series count.</p>	<p>Old Yeller – Fred Gipson</p>
<p>Catherine Called Birdie – Karen Cushman</p>	<p>Orphan Train Adventures – Joan Lowery Nixon A Family Apart Caught in the Act In the Face of Danger Other books in this series count.</p>
<p>Chariots of Fire – W. J. Weatherby</p>	<p>Otto of the Silver Hand – Howard Pyle</p>
<p>Christian Heroes, Then and Now Series – Janet and Goeff Benge (missionary) Gladys Altwood: The Adventure of a Lifetime David Livingston: Africa's Trailblazer Other books in this series count.</p>	<p>Pilgrim's Progress – John Bunyan</p>
<p>The Cross and the Switchblade – David Wilkerson</p>	<p>The Pink Motel – Carol Ryrie Brink</p>
<p>The Escape – A. Vander Jagt</p>	<p>Pollyanna – Eleanor H. Porter</p>
<p>Far out the Long Canal – Meindert Dejong</p>	<p>Rascal – Sterling North</p>
<p>Follow My Leader – James B. Garfield</p>	<p>Rani Adventure Series – Ron Snell It's a Jungle Out There! Life is a Jungle Jungle Calls</p>
<p>Freedom Train (Harriet Tubman) – Dorothy Sterling</p>	<p>Dorothy <u>Sayer's</u> Lord Peter Wimsey Mysteries Clouds of Witnesses Unnatural Death Other Sayer mysteries about this length count.</p>
<p>God King: A Story in the Days of King Hezekiah – Joanne Williamson</p>	<p>The Secret Garden – Frances H. Burnett</p>
<p>The Good Master – Kate Seredy</p>	<p>Snow Treasure – Marie McSwigan</p>
<p>The Great and Terrible Quest – Margaret Lovett</p>	<p>Stink Alley – Jamie Gilson</p>
<p>The Hawk That Dare Not Hunt Day – Scott O'Dell</p>	<p>The Younguns Series – Thomas L. Tedrow The Younguns of Mansfield Frankie and the Secret The Circus Escape The Legend of the Missouri Mud Monster</p>
<p>Helen Keller's Teacher – Margaret Davidson</p>	<p>Up from Slavery – Booker T. Washington</p>
<p>Homesick – Jean Fritz</p>	<p>Wind in the Willows – Kenneth Graham</p>
<p>Horse Stories – Marguerite Henry Misty of Chincoteague King of the Wind White Stallion of Lipizza Other books in this series count.</p>	<p>Harold Bell <u>Wright</u> Shepherd of the Hills The Calling of Dan Matthews</p>

**25 Point Books**

Across Five Aprils – Irene Hunt
Air Raid, Pearl Harbor – Theodore Taylor
Black Horses for the King – Anne McCaffrey
The Bronze Bow – Elizabeth G. Speare
Bruscho – Bruce Olsen
By the Great Horn Spoon – Sid Fleischman
Carry on Mr. Bowditch – Jean Lee Latham
Calico Bush – Rachel Field
The Chestery Oak – Kate Seredy
Chronicles of Narnia Series – C. S. Lewis The Magicians Nephew The Lion the Witch and the Wardrobe Other books in this series count.
Crown and Covenant – Douglas Bond Duncan's War King's Arrow Rebel's Keep
Ingri and Edgar Parin <u>d'Aulaire</u> Book of Greek Myths Book of Norwegian Folk Tales
Dear America Series – Historical Fiction Various Authors Across the Wide-Open Prairie I Thought My Soul Would Rise and Fly Any other books in this series count.
<u>Frontiersmen</u> (Heroes of History) – Janet Benge Daniel Boone Davy Crockett Other books in this series count.
The Golden Goblet – Eloise Jarvis McGraw
Roger Lancelyn <u>Green</u> Myths The Tale of Troy Myths of the Norsemen Tales of Ancient Egypt
Heidi – Johanna Spyri
<u>Henry</u> Reed Series – Keith Robertson Henry Reed, Inc. Other books in this series count.
Hope Rising: Stories from the Ranch of Rescued Dreams – Kim Meeder
The Hound of the Baskervilles – Arthur Conan Doyle
Holes – Louis Sachar
Hittite Warrior – Joanne Williamson

James <u>Herriot</u> If Only They Could Talk Vet in a Spin
I Am David – Anne Holm
Island of the Blue Dolphins – Scott O'Dell
Jip: His Story – Katherine Paterson
Julie of the Wolves – Jean Craighead George
Kidnapped – Robert Louis Stevenson
Kon-Tiki – Thor Heyerdahl
Lassie, Come Home – Eric Knight
A Lantern in Her Hand – Beth Streeter Aldrich
Love Comes Softly Series – Janette Oke Love Comes Softly Love's Enduring Promise Other books in this series count.
A Little Princess – Frances Hodgson Burnett
Miracles on Maple Hill – Virginia Sorenson
Mother Carey's Chickens – Kate Douglas Wiggin
Peter Pan – James M. Barrie
The Phantom of the Opera – Gaston Leroux
Girl of the Limberlost – Gene Stratton <u>Porter</u>
The Prince and the Pauper – Mark Twain
<u>The Roman Britain Trilogy</u> – Rosemary Sutcliff Eagle of the Ninth The Silver Branch The Lantern Bearers
The Singing Tree – Kate Seredy
Same Kind of Different as Me – Ron Hall
Sarah Bishop – Scott O'Dell
Shadows on the Sea – Joan Hiatt Harlow
Jesse <u>Stuart</u> Stories Daughter of the Legend
The Silver Pencil – Alice Dagliesh
Tales from Shakespeare – Charles Lamb
They Loved to Laugh – Kathryn Worth
Theras and His Town – Caroline Dale Snedeker
Treasure Island – Robert Louis Stevenson
The Trumpeter of Krakow – Eric P. Kelley
20,000 Leagues Under the Sea – Jules <u>Verne</u>
Warrior of the Son – Samuel Schiller

**30 Point Books**

Adam of the Road – Elizabeth Janet Gray
Adventures of Tom Sawyer – Mark Twain
Amazing Grace: William Wilberforce and the Heroic Campaign to End Slavery – Eric Metaxas
Jane <u>Austen</u> Persuasion
Big Red – Jim Kjelgaard
Caddie Woodlawn – Carol Ryrie Brink
Calico Captive – Elizabeth G. Speare
Crown and Covenant – Douglas Bond Duncan's War 288 King's Arrow Rebel's Keep
Detectives in Togas – Henry Winterfeld The Mystery of the Roman Ransom (sequel)
The Diary of a Young Girl – Anne Frank
Dutch Tales – Meindert Dejong Dirk's Dog Bello The Wheel on the School
Father Brown – G.K. Chesterton The Best of Father Brown Father Brown: The Essential Tales
<u>The Galway Chronicles</u> – Brock and Bodie Thoene Only the River Runs Free Of Men and Of Angels Ashes of Remembrance All Rivers to the Sea
God's Smuggler – Brother Andrew
Gone Away Lake – Elizabeth Enright
The Hiding Place – Corrie Ten Boom
The Hobbit – J.R.R. Tolkien
If I Perish – Esther Ahn Kim
Lad: A Dog – Albert Payson Terhune

Little House Series – Laura Ingalls Wilder Little House in the Big Woods Little House on the Prairie Farmer Boy Other books in this series count.
Little Britches Series – Ralph Moody Little Britches: Father and I Were Ranchers Man of the Family The Home Ranch Other books in this series count.
Mara, Daughter of the Nile – Eloise Jarvis McGraw
Catherine <u>Marshall</u> A Man Called Peter: The Story of Peter Marshall
Through the Gates of Splendor – Elizabeth Elliot
The Phantom Toll Booth – Norton Juster
The Ramsay Scallop – Frances Temple
Robinson Crusoe – Daniel DeFoe
Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry – M. D. Taylor
Dorothy L. <u>Sayers</u> (Lord Peter Wimsey Mysteries 260-320 pgs.) Murder Must Advertise Strong Poison Other Sayers books this length can count.
The Shining Company – Rosemary Sutcliff
Snow in the River – Carol Ryrie Brink
The Story of the Trapp Family Singers – Maria Augusta Trapp (Sound of Music)
Stowaway – Karen Hesse
Jessie <u>Stuart</u> The Thread That Runs So True Hie to the Hunters
Summer of the Monkeys – Wilson Rawls
Swift Rivers – Cornelia Meigs
Jules <u>Verne</u> Around the World in Eighty Days
A Walk Across America – Peter Jenkins
Where the Red Fern Grows – Wilson Rawls
Harold Bell <u>Wright</u> Least of These My Brothers That Printer of Udell's

**35 Point Books**

Alas, Babylon – Pat Frank	Johnny Tremain – Esther Forbes
Anna and the King of Siam – Margaret Landon	The Last Sin Eater – Francine Rivers
Jane <u>Austen</u> Emma Sense and Sensibility Northanger Abbey Persuasion	Gilbert <u>Morris</u> – House of Winslow Series The Honorable Imposter Bk.1 Liberty Bell Series Sound the Trumpet Bk.1 Lone Star Legacy Deep in the Heart Bk.1 Other books in these and other series count.
Born Again – Charles Colson	Gene Stratton <u>Porter</u> Keeper of the Bees
The Bounty Trilogy – James Norman Hall Mutiny on the Bounty Men Against the Sea Pitcairn's Island	Rifles for Watie – Harold Keith
Agatha <u>Christie</u> Murder on the Orient Express	Run Baby Run – Nicky Cruz
Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court – Mark Twain	St. Simons Trilogy – Eugenia Price (State of Georgia Historical Fiction) Lighthouse New Moon Rising Beloved Invader Other books by this author count.
The Cost of Discipleship – Dietrich Bonhoeffer	Sea of Glory – Ken Wales & David Poling
Drew Farthering Mysteries – Julianna Deering Death by the Book Rules of Murder Dressed for Death Murder at the Mikado	Irving <u>Stone</u> The President's Lady: Rachel and Andrew Jackson Love is Eternal: Mary Todd and Abraham Lincoln
End of the Spear – Steve Saint	Swiss Family Robinson – Johann D. Wyss
Endurance: Shackleton's Incredible Voyage – Alfred Lansing	To Kill a Mocking Bird – Harper Lee
The Gift of Music: Great Composers and Their Influence – Jane Stuart Smith & Betty Carlson	<u>The Zion Legacy</u> – Brock & Bodie Thoene Jerusalem Vigil Thunder from Jerusalem Jerusalem's Heart The Jerusalem Scroll Stones of Jerusalem Jerusalem's Hope Other books in this series count.
Hans Andersen's Fairy Tales Second Series	
Hard Times – Charles Dickens	
How to Win Friends and Influence People – Dale Carnegie	
Indian Captive – Lois Lenski	
In the Presence of My Enemies – G. Burnham	

**40 Point Books**

Ben Hur – Lew Wallace
Charles <u>Dickens</u> A Tale of Two Cities
Alexandre <u>Dumas</u> The Count of Monte Cristo
Roger Lancelyn <u>Green</u> King Author and His Knights of the Round Table
James <u>Herriot</u> All Creatures Great and Small All Things Bright and Beautiful All Things Wise and Wonderful The Lord God Made Them All Every Living Thing 352
Julie – Catherine Marshall
North and South – Elizabeth Gaskell
Frank E. <u>Peretti</u> This Present Darkness Piercing the Darkness Prophet
Dorothy L. <u>Sayers</u> (Lord Peter Wimsey Mysteries 400-600 pgs.) Busman's Honeymoon The Five Red Herrings Other books this length can count.
The Scarlett Thread – Francine Rivers

<u>The Shiloh Legacy</u> – Bodie Thoene In My Father's House A Thousand Shall Fall Say to This Mountain
Robert <u>Whitlow</u> Mountain Top Jimmy Chosen People Other books by this author count.
<u>The Zion Chronicles</u> – Brock & Bodie Thoene The Gates of Zion A Daughter of Zion The Return to Zion The Key to Zion A Light in Zion
<u>The Zion Covenant</u> – Brock & Bodie Thoene Vienna Prelude Prague Counterpoint Munich Signature Jerusalem Interlude Danzig Passage Other books in this series count.

**45 Point Books**

Jane <u>Austen</u> Pride and Prejudice
Bonhoeffer: Pastor, Martyr, Prophet, Spy – Eric Metaxas
Christy – Catherine Marshall
<u>Civil War Trilogy</u> – Jeff M. Shaara Gods and Generals The Killer Angels The Last Full Measure
Charles <u>Dickens</u> Great Expectations Oliver Twist Our Mutual Friend The Pickwick Papers
Alexandre <u>Dumas</u> The Man in the Iron Mask The Three Musketeers Other books in this series count.
James <u>Herriot</u> Favorite Dog Stories
Jane Eyre – Charlotte Bronte

The Lord of the Rings – J.R.R. <u>Tolkien</u> The Fellowship of the Ring The Two Towers The Return of the King
Mark of the Lion Series – Francine Rivers A Voice in the Wind An Echo in the Darkness As Sure as the Dawn
<u>Greek Mythology</u> (Translated by Robert Fagles) The Aeneid – Virgil The Iliad – Homer (50 points) The Odyssey – Homer
A Lineage of Grace: Five Stories of Unlikely Women Who Changed Eternity – Francine Rivers
The Robe – Lloyd C. Douglas
Irving <u>Stone</u> Men to Match My Mountains Those Who Love: John and Abigail Adams
Jules <u>Verne</u> The Mysterious Island