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DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH, UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH
 READING LIST FOR THE MASTERS COMPREHENSIVE AND
 FOR THE PH.D. PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION
 March, 1962

The comprehensive examination for the master's degree (which also serves as the Preliminary Examination for Ph.D. candidates) is designed to test the breadth as well as the depth of the student's familiarity with the major documents and movements of English literature from its beginnings to the present. The following titles are not intended as a comprehensive bibliography of English literature, but rather as a combination of a required reading list and a general guide which will be helpful in the preparation for this examination.

The starred items are works which the student will be expected to have read, for they are significant examples of literature for which it is thought there are no adequate substitutes. The unstarred titles should be considered as suggested readings. Other books by the same authors may be substituted; the student's choices should depend on his previous reading. This freedom of choice, however, must be used with care, as the examiners will expect a range and caliber of reading equivalent to this list. The student who considers A Christmas Carol an adequate substitute for Great Expectations does so at his own risk. The Oxford Book of English Verse is suggested as a reliable guide to the works of those poets for whom selections are indicated.

The list as printed below represents the basic material from which the student is expected to prepare for the examination. Questions regarding the examination should be addressed to the student's advisor.

1. General Background

(The material in this division may be read in translation)

Homer, Iliad and Odyssey
 Aeschylus, Sophocles, Euripides (at least one play from each)
 Aristotle, The Poetics
 Vergil, Aeneid
 Bible, The (1611) Authorized Version
 Dante, The Divine Comedy

2. English Literature to 1550

*Beowulf (any complete modern translation or the original)
 *Tristan (J. Bedier translation, Anchor Books; or in R. S. and L. H. Loomis, Medieval Romances, Modern Library)
 *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight (J. L. Rosenberg translation, Rinehart, or original)
 * Malory, Le Morte Darthur, Books I, II, VI, XVIII-XXI (modern translation or original)
 *Langland, Piers Plowman, B-Text, Pass. I-VII (modern translation or original)

2. English Literature to 1550 (cont'd.)

- *Chaucer, Troilus and Criseyde (modern translation or original)
- *Old English Poetry (C.W. Kennedy, Oxford, Paperback)
- *Old English Prose: Works of Alcuin, Alfred, AElfric, Blickling Homilies, Wulfstan (A.S. Cook and C.B. Tinker, Select Translations from Old English Prose; or in The Cambridge Book of English Prose)
- *Bede, The Ecclesiastical History of the English People, 50 pp. ad. lib., but cover Bks. I-V (Everyman)
- *Ancren Riwle, J. Morton translation, 50 pp. ad. lib.
- *The Anglo-Saxon Chronicle, annals for the years: 735, 755, 787, 851, 865-878, 891-901, 1001-1006, 1013-1037, 1065-1066, 1135, 1137-1154. (Everyman)
- *The Tumbler of Our Lady in E. Mason's translation of Aucassin and Nicolette (Everyman)
- *Gesta Romanorum, No. CLIII (C. Swan translation)
- *J.R. Reinhart, The Medieval Pageant, read: The Friars of Berwick, The Prioress and Her Three Suitors, The Hermit and the Outlaw, The Tournament of Totenham, Bycorne and Chichevache, Fun with a Corpse, The Wedding of Sir Gawain and Dame Ragnell, How Amadas Fought with the Fiend at the Tombe of Ydoine, Wallace and the Maid of Lanark, The Fairy Lady of Eldon Hill, The Barns of Ayr, The Tragic Death of the Young Count of Foix, and How Sir John de Carouges Avenged the Honor of His Wife.
- *Lais of Marie de France, (Translation by E. Mason, Everyman) 50 pp. ad lib.
The Mabinogion, read Kulhwch and Olwen (T. and G. Jones translation, Everyman)
- *Erec et Enide, read Erec (W.W. Comfort translation, Everyman)
- *Ballads (in W.A. Neilson and K.G. Webster, Chief British Poets of the 14th and 15th Centuries)
- *Chaucer, The Canterbury Tales, read: "The Knight's Tale, The Man of Law's Tale, The Nun's Priest's Tale, and The Pardoner's Tale (Theodore Morrison translation in The Portable Chaucer, Viking, or the original)
- *Perceval, *Havelok the Dane, and *Sir Orfeo (in R.S. and L.H. Loomis, Medieval Romances, Modern Library)
- *The Pearl (in J.L. Weston, Romance, Vision, and Satire)
- *Poems of Barbour, James I, Hoccleve, Blind Harry, Dunbar, Henryson, and Douglas (in Neilson and Webster, Chief British Poets)
- *E.P. Hammond, English Verse between Chaucer and Surrey, read: Skelton and 50 other pp. ad lib.
- *J.Q. Adams, The Chief Pre-Shakespearian Dramas, read: Noah, Everyman.

3. English Literature, 1550-1750

- *Sir Philip Sidney, The Defense of Poesy
- *Edmund Spenser, The Faerie Queene, Bks. I,II,III
- *William Shakespeare, I Henry IV, Twelfth Night, Othello, Antony and Cleopatra, The Tempest, Sonnets 1-40
- Christopher Marlowe, Doctor Faustus

3. English Literature, 1550-1750 (cont'd.)

Ben Jonson, Volpone

John Webster, The Duchess of Malfi

*Francis Bacon, The Advancement of Learning, Bk. I

John Donne, The Indifferent, A Valediction: Forbidding Mourning, The Funeral, The Sun Rising, The Ecstasy, Good Friday: 1613, Riding Westward, Hymn to God my God, in my Sickness

*John Milton, *Comus, *Paradise Lost, Bks. I-IV, X, XII

*John Dryden, *Absalom and Achitophel (Part I), *An Essay of Dramatic Poesy

*Jonathan Swift, Gulliver's Travels (Esp. Bks. I and IV)

*Alexander Pope, *An Essay on Criticism, *An Essay on Man, Epistle to Dr. Arbuthnot

Henry Fielding, Joseph Andrews

William Congreve, The Way of the World

4. English Literature, 1750-1950

Thomas Gray, Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard, Ode on a Distant Prospect of Eton College

*Samuel Johnson, *The Preface to Shakespeare, *Rasselas, London

*James Boswell, The Life of Samuel Johnson (Viking Portable Johnson and Boswell) (Any continuous 100 pp. after May 16, 1763)

Oliver Goldsmith, An Enquiry into the Present State of Polite Learning in Europe, The Deserted Village

Richard Sheridan, The Rivals

Robert Burns, The Cotter's Saturday Night, Tam O'Shanter, The Holy Fair, Address to the Deil, To a Mouse, To a Louse, For A' That and A' That, John Anderson, My Jo, Highland Mary.

William Blake, The Marriage of Heaven and Hell, The Songs of Experience

*William Wordsworth, Tintern Abbey, *The Prelude, Bk. I, Intimations of Immortality, *Preface to Lyrical Ballads

*Percy Bysshe Shelley, *Ode to the West Wind, *Adonais, *Defense of Poetry

Sir Walter Scott, The Heart of Midlothian

*George Gordon, Lord Byron, *Don Juan, Dedication and Cantos I-IV, *Childe Harold's Pilgrimage, Canto III

*Samuel Taylor Coleridge, *Kubla Khan, *Christabel; Shakespearean Criticism; *Shakespeare's Judgment Equal to His Genius (Lecture)

John Keats, The Eve of St. Agnes, and these Odes: Grecian Urn, Melancholy, Autumn

Alfred Lord Tennyson, Oenone, The Lotus Eaters, Ulysses; The Holy Grail, The Passing of Arthur, from The Idylls of the King; In Memoriam, 1-30, 78, 95, 104, 106, 131-end

Robert Browning, My Last Duchess, The Lost Leader, Andrea del Sarto, Rabbi Ben Ezra; Book VII (Pompilia) and Book X (The Pope), from The Ring and the Book

4. English Literature, 1750-1950 (cont'd.)

- *Matthew Arnold, The Forsaken Mermaid, The Scholar Gypsy, Thyrsis, Dover Beach; Literature and Science, The Function of Criticism at the Present Time, Wordsworth
- *Thomas Carlyle, Sartor Resartus, Bk. I, Chap. V-IX; Bk. II, Chap. VII-IX, Bk. III, Chap. VIII. Heroes and Hero-Worship, III (Hero as Poet) and IV (Hero as Man of Letters)
- William Morris, The Defense of Guinevere, The Haystack in the Floods
- Algernon Swinburne, The Garden of Proserpine, To Walt Whitman in America; On the Death of Robert Browning
- Jane Austen, Emma
- Charlotte Bronte, Jane Eyre
- Emily Bronte, Wuthering Heights
- William M. Thackeray, Vanity Fair
- Charles Dickens, Great Expectations
- George Meredith, The Egoist
- Thomas Hardy, The Return of the Native
- Oscar Wilde, The Importance of Being Earnest
- George Bernard Shaw, Man and Superman
- *T.S. Eliot, *Poems, 1909-1935, On Poetry and Poets, Murder in the Cathedral
- *Walter Pater, Conclusion to Studies in the Renaissance
- Joseph Conrad, Lord Jim
- James Joyce, Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man
- J.M. Synge, Riders to the Sea
- D.H. Lawrence, Sons and Lovers
- Virginia Woolf, Mrs. Dalloway, The Common Reader
- *E.M. Forster, Howard's End, *Aspects of the Novel
Selected poems from: Thomas Hardy, Gerard Manley Hopkins, George Meredith, W.B. Yeats

5. American Literature

- *The Puritans (edited by P. Miller, Anchor), 50 pp. ad lib.
- *B. Franklin, Autobiography and Selected Writings (Rinehart)
- *Thoreau, Walden
- *Whitman, Leaves of Grass (Riverside)
- Emerson, Selected essays
- *Melville, Moby Dick
- *Hawthorne, The Scarlet Letter
- Poe, Selected Writings (Riverside)
- *Twain, Adventures of Huckleberry Finn
- James, The Portrait of a Lady, The Ambassadors
- S. Crane, The Red Badge of Courage
- Dreiser, Sister Carrie
- Hemingway, The Sun Also Rises, A Farewell to Arms, For Whom the Bell Tolls (read one)
- Faulkner, The Sound and the Fury, Absalom, Absalom!, Light in August (read one)
- O'Neill, Anna Christie, The Emperor Jones, The Hairy Ape (read one); and one of the following: Desire Under the Elms, Mourning Becomes Electra, The Iceman Cometh

5. American Literature(cont'd.)

The Oxford Book of American Verse (edited by F.O. Matthiessen)
read selections by: Bradstreet, Taylor, Freneau, Bryant,
Emerson, Longfellow, Whittier, Poe, Lowell, Whitman, Dick-
inson, Lanier, Robinson, Frost, Masters, Sandburg, Lindsay,
Stevens, Pound, Jeffers, Cummings, H. Crane, Auden.

Adams, The Education of Henry Adams

Lewis, Babbitt or Main Street

Fitzgerald, The Great Gatsby

Dos Passos, USA (read at least one volume)

*James, The Art of the Novel

American Short Stories (edited by E. Current-Garcia and
W. Patrick, Scott, Foresman)

Several of the Following:

Cooper, The Last of the Mohicans or The Prairie
Howells, The Rise of Silas Lapham, A Modern Instance,
A Hazard of New Fortunes

Twain, The Innocents Abroad, Life on the Mississippi

Farrell, Studs Lonigan

Wolfe, Look Homeward, Angel

Steinbeck, The Grapes of Wrath

Several of the Following:

M. Anderson, Winesburg, Ohio

Wilder, Our Town

Hellman, The Children's Hour, The Little Foxes

Williams, The Glass Menagerie, A Streetcar Named Desire

A. Miller, Death of a Salesman