

The Mercury Reader

AP English Suggested Readings*

Selections marked 'New!' available January 2007

The Mercury Reader Editorial Board has selected the following list of authors as appropriate for use in AP English courses. Asterisked readings are those specifically recommended by the English Language Teacher's Guide.

- Julia Alvarez**, El Doctor (11 pp)
Maya Angelou, Champion of the World (4 pp)
Maya Angelou, Finishing School (6 pp)
Maya Angelou, Graduation* (12 pp)
Gloria Anzaldúa, How to Tame a Wild Tongue (12 pp)
Margaret Atwood, Death by Landscape (18 pp)
W. H. Auden, Musée des Beaux Arts (2 pp)
Francis Bacon, Of Studies (2 pp)
Toni Cade Bambara, The Lesson
Dave Barry, A Hairy Experience (3 pp)
Dave Barry, Just Say No to Rugs (3 pp)
Dave Barry, Mr. Language Person Takes Some of Your Questions* (4 pp)
Ray Bradbury, And the Rock Cried Out (23 pp)
Elizabeth Bishop, The Fish (3 pp)
William Blake, The Tyger (2 pp)
Gwendolyn Brooks, We Real Cool (1 pp)
Albert Camus, The Myth of Sisyphus (4 pp)
Bruce Catton, Grant and Lee: A Study in Contrast* (4 pp)
Linda Chavez, Demystifying Multiculturalism (7 pp)
Kate Chopin, The Story of an Hour (4 pp)
Sandra Cisneros, The Monkey Garden (4 pp)
Emily Dickinson, Because I Could Not Stop for Death— (2 pp)
Joan Didion, On Keeping a Notebook (8 pp)
Annie Dillard, An American Childhood (8 pp)
Annie Dillard, The Chase (5 pp)
Annie Dillard, The Death of a Moth* (4 pp)
Annie Dillard, In the Jungle (5 pp)
Annie Dillard, Seeing (8 pp)

* Contents and availability subject to change.

Annie Dillard, *So This Was Adolescence* (4 pp)
Barbara Ehrenreich, *Kiss Me, I'm Gay* (3 pp)
Barbara Ehrenreich, *The Myth of Man as Hunter* (3 pp)
Barbara Ehrenreich, *Spudding Out* (3 pp)
Barbara Ehrenreich, *What I've Learned About Men* (5 pp)
Loren Eiseley, *The Brown Wasps** (8 pp)
Louise Erdrich, *Adam* (9 pp)
Louise Erdrich, *Indian Boarding School: The Runaways* (2 pp)
William Faulkner, *A Rose for Emily* (9 pp)
E. M. Forster, *My Wood* (4 pp)
Robert Frost, *Birches* (3 pp)
Robert Frost, *Mending Wall* (2 pp)
Malcolm Gladwell, *The Tipping Point* (10 pp)
Thomas Hardy, *The Oxen* (1 pp)
Nathaniel Hawthorne, *Rappaccini's Daughter* (29 pp)
Seamus Heaney, *Mid-Term Break* (2 pp)
Ernest Hemingway, *Big Two-Hearted River* (19 pp)
Langston Hughes, *Cora Unashamed* (10 pp)
Langston Hughes, *Salvation** (3 pp)
Langston Hughes, *Theme For English B*
Zora Neale Hurston, *How It Feels to Be Colored Me* (5 pp)
Shirley Jackson, *The Lottery* (9 pp)
Thomas Jefferson, *The Declaration of Independence** (4 pp)
Henry James, *The Beast in the Jungle* (42 pp)
James Joyce, *Araby* (6 pp)
Helen Keller, *Three Days to See* (10 pp)
Martin Luther King, Jr., *I Have a Dream* (5 pp)
Martin Luther King, Jr., *Letter from Birmingham Jail** (20 pp)
Jamaica Kincaid, *Girl* (2 pp)
Jamaica Kincaid, *From On Seeing England for the First Time** (4 pp)
Jamaica Kincaid, *Red Ants* (23 pp)
Jonathon Kozol, *Are the Homeless Crazy?* (5 pp)
Elizabeth Kübler-Ross, *On the Fear of Death* (8 pp)
Charles Lamb, *Letter to Wordsworth** (2 pp)
Ursula LeGuin, *Texts* (3 pp)
NEW! **Ursula LeGuin**, *The Ones Who Walk Away from Omelas* (7 pp)
Doris Lessing, *My Father* (9 pp)
Gabriel García Márquez, *Balthazar's Marvelous Afternoon* (8 pp)
Margaret Mead, *A Day in Samoa* (4 pp)
Lady Mary Whortley Montagu, *Letter to Her Daughter** (2 pp)

Desmond Morris, Territorial Behavior* (10 pp)
Donald Murray, The Maker's Eye: Revising Your Own Manuscript* (5 pp)
Tim O'Brien, The Things They Carried (14 pp)
Tillie Olsen, I Stand Here Ironing (8 pp)
NEW! **The Onion**, Evangelical Scientists Refute Gravity with New 'Intelligent
Falling' Theory (3 pp)
George Orwell, A Hanging* (6 pp)
George Orwell, Politics and the English Language* (14 pp)
George Orwell, The Principles of Newspeak (12 pp)
George Orwell, Shooting an Elephant (8 pp)
George Orwell, Why I Write (8 pp)
Thomas Paine, Rights of Man (4 pp)
Sylvia Plath, Bitter Strawberries (2 pp)
Sylvia Plath, Daddy (4 pp)
Plato, The Allegory of the Cave (5 pp)
Plato, The Crito (14 pp)
Edgar Allen Poe, The Cask of Amontillado* (7 pp)
Gary Soto, The Jacket (4 pp)
Gary Soto, Looking for Work (6 pp)
Jonathan Swift, A Modest Proposal*(9 pp)
Amy Tan, Mother Tongue (7 pp)
Dylan Thomas, Do Not Go Gentle into that Good Night (2 pp)
Henry David Thoreau, Civil Disobedience (21 pp)
Mark Twain, Luck (5 pp)
Mark Twain, Reading the River* (2 pp)
NEW! **Mark Twain**, The Story of the Good Little Boy (6 pp)
Alice Walker, Everyday Use (9 pp)
Eudora Welty, A Worn Path (9 pp)
E. B. White, Once More to the Lake* (7 pp)
Walt Whitman, When Lilacs Last in the Dooryard Bloom'd (10 pp)
Richard Wilbur, The Death of a Toad* (2 pp)
Mary Wollstonecraft, A Vindication of the Rights of Woman (3 pp)
Virginia Woolf, The Death of the Moth (4 pp)
William Butler Yeats, The Second Coming (2 pp)

