

Grade Eight Resources

I. Spelling

Continue work with spelling through writing and vocabulary development, with special attention to commonly misspelled word, including:

absence	counterfeit	guarantee	permanence
accommodate	courageous	hygiene	physician
analysis	curiosity	independence	prairie
attendance	defendant	laboratory	sergeant
believe	dessert	library	souvenir
bureau	desperate	lightning	straight
capitol	dissatisfied	maintenance	technique
colonel	extraordinary	mileage	temporary
committee	fascinating	necessary	vacuum
correspondence	foreign	occurrence	whether

II. Vocabulary: Students should know the meaning of these Latin and Greek words and be able to give examples of English words that are based on them.

<u>Latin/Greek Word</u>	<u>Meaning</u>	<u>Examples</u>
aequus (L)	equal	equal, equation
ago, acta (L)	do, things done	agent, enact, transact
anthropos (G)	man, human being	anthropology, misanthrope
ars(L)	art	artist, artifact
brevis (L)	short	brevity, abbreviate
canto(L)	sing	chant, cantor
caput (L)	head	captain, decapitate
clino (L)	to lean, bend	incline, decline
cognito(L)	know	cognizant, recognize
copia (L)	plenty	copy, copious
credo (L)	believe	credible, incredulous
culpa (L)	blame	culpable, culprit

dominus (L)	a lord, master	dominate, dominion
duco (L)	lead	abduct, introduce
fido (L)	to trust, believe	confide, infidel
fundo. Fusum (L)	pour, thing poured	effusive, transfusion
genus (L)	kind, origin	generic, congenital
holos (G)	whole	holistic, catholic
jungo (L)	join	junction, conjugal
lego, lectum (L)	read, thing read	intellect, legible
locus (L)	a place	local, dislocate
loquor(L)	speak	eloquent, loquacious
medius (L)	middle	mediate, mediocrity
mission (L)	a sending	emissary, mission
morior (L)	die	mortal
nego (L)	deny	negate
nihil (L)	nothing	nihilism, annihilate
occido (L)	kill	homicide, suicide
pathos (G)	suffering, feeling	sympathy, apathy
pendo (L)	weigh, hang	depend, pendant
per (L)	through	perceive, persist, persevere
phobos (G)	fear	phobia, claustrophobia
plenus (L)	full	plenty, plenary
positum (L)	placed	position, opposite
porto (L)	carry	transport, export
possum (L)	be able	possible, potent
pugno (L)	to fight	impugn, pugnacious
punctum (L)	point	punctual, punctuation
rego (L)	to rule	regular, regency
sanguis (L)	blood	sanguine
satis (L)	enough	satisfy
scio (L)	know	science, conscious
solus (L)	alone	solo, desolate
sonus (L)	a sound	unison, consonant
sophos (G)	wise	philosophy, sophomore
Spiritus (L)	breath	inspire, spirit
totus (L)	whole	total, totalitarianism

tractum (L)	drawn, pulled	distract, tractor
usus (L)	use	abuse, utensil
vacuus (L)	empty	evacuate, vacuum
verbum (L)	word	verbal
verto (L)	turn	avert, convert, anniversary
via (L)	way, road	deviate, viaduct

III. Poetry

Poems listed below constitute a selected foundation of poetry for this grade. Students should be exposed to more poetry, classical and contemporary and students should have the opportunity to write their own poetry. Students should examine some poems in detail, discussing what the poems mean as well as asking questions about the poet’s use of language

A. Poems

The Raven (Poe)
 Buffalo Bill’s (e.e. cummings)
 Chicago (Carl Sandburg)
 Do Not Go Gentle into That Good Night (Dylan Thomas)
 How do I love thee? (Elizabeth Barrett Browning)
 How They Brought the Good News from Gent to Aix (Robert Browning)
 I dwell in possibility; Apparently with no surprise (Emily Dickinson)
 The Lake Isle of Innisfree (William B. Yeats)
 Lucy Gray (or Solitude); My Heart Leaps Up (William Wordsworth)
 Mending Wall; The Gift Outright (Robert Frost)
 Mr. Flood’s Party (Edward Arlington Robinson)
 Polonius’s speech from *Hamlet*, “Neither a borrower nor a lender be . . .” (William Shakespeare)
 Ozymandias (Percy Bysshe Shelley)
 Sonnet 18, “Shall I compare thee. . .” (William Shakespeare)
 Spring and Fall (Gerald Manley Hopkins)
 A Supermarket in California (Allen Ginsberg)
 Themes for English B (Langston Hughes)
 We Real Cool (Gwendolyn Brooks)

B. Elements of Poetry

- Review: meter, iamb, rhyme scheme, free verse, couplet, onomatopoeia, alliteration, assonance Review: forms: ballad, sonnet, lyric, narrative, limerick, haiku, stanzas and refrains.

- Review: types of rhyme; end, internal, slant, eye metaphor and simile; extended and mixed metaphors, imagery, symbol, personification allusion

IV. Fiction, Nonfiction, and Drama

Similar to the poetry, this list is a foundation for this grade level and is not comprehensive of all the stories, novels and drama that should be read. Effort should be made to find literary works that can easily lead to lessons in our Catholic faith and Catholic social teaching. An excellent resource is *A Working Reading List for Catholic School Students, Early Adolescence, Grade Six to Grade Eight* by Kay Burgess.

A. Short Stories

- “The Bet” (Anton Chekov)
- “Dr. Heidegger’s Experiment” (Nathaniel Hawthorne)
- “God Sees the Truth But Waits” (Leo Tolstoy)
- “An Honest Thief” (Fyodor Dostoyevsky)
- “The Open Boat” (Stephen Crane)
- “The Cask of Amontillado” (Poe)
- “The Monkey’s Paw” (Jacobs)
- “The Treasure of Lemon Brown” (Myers)
- “The Ransom of Red Chief” (O. Henry)
- “The Legend of Sleepy Hollow” (Irving) is a must.

Some stories from G.K. Chesterton might be appropriate for this level. Father Brown mysteries are Catholic themed mystery stories that influenced 20th century detective formulas.

Ablaze: Stories of Daring Teen Saints. Colleen Swaim, Liguori Publications

B. Novels (Note: As novels are evaluated and priorities are established within the curriculum, this section will continue to be updated and revised. Fiction and Non-fiction topics should be used to establish interdisciplinary themes and connections).

Title	Author	Genre	Level/Lexile
• <i>A Man for All Seasons</i>			
• <i>A Christmas Carol</i>	Charles Dickens	Classic	900
• <i>The Boy Who Dared</i>	Susan Bartoletti	Historical/Biography	760
• <i>Across Five Aprils</i>	Irene Hunt	Historical Fiction	1100
• <i>And then There Were None</i>	Agatha Christie	Mystery	570
• <i>Animal Farm</i>	George Orwell	Science Fiction	1170

• <i>Anything But Typical</i>	Nora Raleigh Baskin	Realistic	640
• <i>Archie Comics 1930's & 1980's</i>		Graphic Novels	
• <i>Boy in the Striped Pajamas</i>	John Boyne	Historical Fiction	1080
• <i>Daniel's Story</i>	Carol Matas	Historical/Interdisciplinary	720
• <i>Double Eagle</i>	Sneed Collard III	Realistic/Mystery	790
• <i>Elephant Run</i>	Roland Smith	Historical Fiction	750
• <i>Elijah of Buxton</i>	C. Paul Curtis	Historical Fiction	1070
• <i>Fahrenheit 451</i>	Ray Bradbury	Classic/Sci Fi	890
• <i>Flipped</i>	Wendelin Van Draanen	Realistic Fiction	720
• <i>Flowers for Algernon</i>	Daniel Keyes	Classic	910
• <i>Great Expectations</i>	Charles Dickens	Classic	1150
• <i>Harry Potter series</i>	J.K. Rowling	Fantasy	880-1160
• <i>Huckleberry Finn</i>	Mark Twain	Classic	850
• <i>Jacob Have I Loved</i>	Katherine Paterson	Fiction	880
• <i>Night</i>	Eli Wiesel	Biography	570
• <i>On the Wings of Heroes</i>	Richard Peck	Historical (Reluctant reader)	730
• <i>Out of the Dust</i>	Karen Hesse	Historical Fiction	1040
• <i>Sing Down the Moon</i>	Scott O'Dell	Historical Fiction	820
• <i>Summer of my German Soldier</i>	Bette Greene	Historical Fiction	800
• <i>The Best Bad Luck I ever Had</i>	Kristin Levine	Historical (Reluctant reader)	680
• <i>The Boy Who Dared</i>	Susan Bartoletti	Historical/Biography	760
• <i>The Call of the Wild</i>	Jack London	Classic Adventure	820
• <i>The Count of Monte Cristo</i>	Alexander Dumas	Classic Adventure	830
• <i>The Day of the Pelican</i>	Katherine Paterson	Realistic/Modern history	770
• <i>The Devil's Arithmetic</i>	Jane Yolen	Historical Fiction/Interdis.	730
• <i>The Diary of Anne Frank</i>	Ann Frank	Biography	1080
• <i>The Education of Little Tree</i>	Forrest Carter	Memoir/Southern lit.	890
• <i>The Giver</i>	Lois Lowry	Sci Fi	760
• <i>The Good Earth</i>	Pearl S. Buck	Classic	1530
• <i>The Hound of the Baskervilles</i>	Sir Arthur Conan Doyle	Classic	980
• <i>The Man Who was Poe</i>	Avi	Mystery/Historical	600
• <i>The Rifle</i>	Gary Paulsen	Fiction	1480
• <i>The Pearl</i>	John Steinbeck	Classic Fiction	1010
• <i>The Wednesday Wars</i>	Gary Schmidt	Historical Fiction	990
• <i>To Kill a Mockingbird</i>	Harper Lee	Classic	790
• <i>Touching Spirit Bear</i>	Ben Michaelson	Realistic Fiction	670
• <i>Tronble</i>	Gary D. Schmidt	Realistic/historical	930
• <i>Summer of my German Soldier</i>	Bette Greene		
• <i>Watership Down</i>	Richard Adams	Adventure	880
• <i>Where the Lilies Bloom</i>	Vera Cleaver, Bill Cleaver	Fiction	920
• <i>Woods Runner</i>	Gary Paulsen	Historical Fiction	870

C. Non-Fiction (Not complete)

“Declaration of War on Japan”	Franklin D. Roosevelt		
<i>Fast Food Nation</i>	Eric Schlosser		1240
<i>Into Thin Air</i>	Jon Krakauer	Novel/Adventure	1320
<i>The Boy Who Dared</i>	Susan Bartoletti	Historical/Biography	760
<i>The Great Fire</i>	Jim Murphy		1130
<i>The Invisible Thread,</i>	Yoskiko Uchihida		1060

D. Essays and Speeches

“Ask not what your country can do for you” (John F. Kennedy’s Inaugural Address)
“I have a Dream”.; “ Letter from Birmingham Jail (Martin Luther King, Jr.)
“Death of a Pig” (E.B. White)
“The Marginal World” (Rachel Carson)
Selections (Such as Chapters 2 and 16 from *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings* –Maya Angelou

i. Drama

Diary of Anne Frank play can be listed under here.
If there is time for Shakespeare, A Midsummer Night’s Dream could be suggested.
The radio play, The Hitchhiker, narrated by Orson Welles is a good one. There’s a Twilight Zone adaptation that is safe to watch and compare.

ii. Literary Terms

- Irony: verbal, situational, dramatic
- Flashback and foreshadowing
- Hyperbole, oxymoron, parody

I. Foreign Phrases Commonly Used in English

Teachers: Students should learn the meaning of the following French words and phrases that are commonly used in English speech and writing.

Au revoir-goodbye, until we see each other again

Avant-garde-a group developing new or experimental concepts, a vanguard

Bete noire- a person or thing especially dreaded and avoided (literally, “black beast”)

C’est la vie-that’s life that’s how things happen

Cart blanche-full discretionary power (literally, “blank page”)

Cause celebre-a very controversial issue that generates fervent public debate (literally, a ‘celebrated case’)

Coup de grace a decisive finishing blow

Déjà vu-something overly familiar (literally, ‘already seen’)

Enfant terrible-one who remarks or actions cause embarrassment, or someone strikingly unconventional (literally, “terrible child”)

Madame, Mademoiselle, Monsier-Mrs., Miss, Mr.

Merci-thank you

Piece de resistance-the principal part of the meal, a showpiece item

Raison d’etre-reason for being

Savoir-faire-the ability to say or do the right thing in any situation polished sureness in society (literally, “to know (how) to do)

Tete-a-tete-private conversation between two people (literally, ‘head to head’).

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