



Harvard Classics Challenge

"In my opinion a five-foot shelf would hold books enough to give in the course of a year a good substitute for a liberal education in youth to anyone who would read them with devotion, even if he could spare but fifteen minutes a day." -Charles W. Eliot

Below is a suggested order of reading, based on the grade-level subject level. Scholars do not need to follow the order listed; it is merely a suggestion. Books may be read in any order.

<i>7th Grade</i>	
Volume 16	The Thousand and One Nights
Volume 17	Folk-Lore & Fables
Volume 44	Sacred Writings, Part I
Volume 45	Sacred Writings, Part II
Volume 49	Epic & Saga
<i>8th Grade</i>	
Volume 23	Two Years Before the Mast
Volume 28	Essays English & American
Volume 33	Voyages & Travels
Volume 39	Prefaces & Prologues
<i>Sciences</i>	
Volume 11	The Origin of Species
Volume 29	The Voyage of the Beagle
Volume 30	Scientific Papers
Volume 38	Scientific Papers
<i>9th Grade</i>	
Volume 8	Nine Greek Dramas
Volume 9	Letters by Cicero & Pliny
Volume 12	Plutarch's Lives
Volume 13	Virgil's Aeneid
<i>10th Grade</i>	
Volume 6	Poems & Songs of Robert Burns
Volume 18	Modern English Drama
Volume 19	Goethe & Marlowe

Volume 20	The Divine Comedy
Volume 21	I Promessi Sposi
Volume 27	English Essays
10th Grade, continued	
Volume 31	Benvenuto Cellini
Volume 35	Chronicles & Romances
Volume 36	The Prince, Utopia, & 95 Thesis
Volume 40	English Poetry
Volume 41	English Poetry
Volume 42	English Poetry
11th Grade	
Volume 1	Franklin, Woolman & Penn
Volume 5	Essays & English Traits
Volume 26	Continental Drama
Volume 43	American Historical Documents
Poli-Phil	
Volume 2	Plato, Epictetus & Marcus Aurelius
Volume 3	Bacon, Milton & Browne
Volume 7	The Confessions & Imitations of Christ
Volume 24	Edmund Burke
Volume 32	Literary & Philosophical Essays
Volume 34	French & English Philosophers
Volume 37	English Philosophers
Volume 48	Blaise Pascal
12th Grade	
Volume 4	Complete Poems of John Milton
Volume 10	Wealth of Nations
Volume 14	Don Quixote
Volume 15	Pilgrim's Progress
Volume 22	The Odyssey of Homer
Volume 25	John Stuart Mills & Thomas Carlyle
Volume 46	Elizabethan Drama
Volume 47	Elizabethan Drama

"Within the limits of fifty volumes, containing 22,000 pages, I was to provide the means of obtaining such a knowledge of ancient and modern literature as seems essential to the twentieth-century idea of a cultivated man."

-Charles W. Eliot