

CREATIVE WRITING LIST - Fiction

Note: In preparing for the creative writing comprehensive examination, the student is expected to become familiar with most of these works, meaning the student should become broadly aware of their themes and importance. The student is not expected to read all of them, nor is this list meant to serve as a definitive canon. Rather the student should think of it as a starting point for assembling a list of about 40 works in consultation with the major professor. These are also works that have proven influential or inspiring for other writers and thus serve as good springboards for writing.

Achebe, Chinua

Agnon, S.Y.

Anderson, Sherwood

Atwood, Margaret

Austen, Jane

Babel, Isaac
, especially "My First Goose"

Baldwin, James

Barnes, Djuna

Barth, John

Barthelme, Donald

Barthelme, Frederick

Barthelme, Steven

Beattie, Ann

Borges, Jorge Luis

Cather, Willa

Chandler, Raymond

Gaines, Ernest J.

Gaitskill, Mary

Gardner, John

Gass, William

Genet, Jean

Gogol, Nikolai

Golding, William

Gordimer, Nadine

Greene, Graham

Hannah, Barry

Hardy, Thomas

Heller, Joseph

Hemingway, Ernest

Hempel, Amy

Hurston, Zora Neale

Ishiguro, Kazuo

James, Henry

Johnson, Denis

Joyce, James

Kafka, Franz

especially "The Metamorphosis," "In the Penal Colony," and "A Hunger Artist"

Kerouac, Jack

Kincaid, Jamaica

Kingston, Maxine Hong

Lowry, Malcolm

Mailer, Norman

Mann, Thomas

Marquez, Gabriel Garcia

Maupassant, Guy de

McCarthy, Cormac

McCullers, Carson

McPherson, James Alan

Melville, Herman

Miller, Henry

Moore, Lorrie

Morrison, Toni

Munro, Alice

Nabokov, Vladimir

Oates, Joyce Carol

O'Brien, Edna

Salter, James

Sartre, Jean-Paul

Sebald, W.G.

Silko, Leslie Marmon

Singer, Isaac Bashevis
especially "Gimpel the Fool" and "The Magician of Lublin"

Smiley, Jane

Smith, Zadie

Sterne, Laurence

Thackeray, William

Tolstoy, Leo

Turgenev, Ivan

Vonnegut, Kurt

Wallace, David Foster

Waugh, Evelyn

Welty, Eudora

West, Nathanael

Wharton, Edith

White, Edmund

Williams, Joy

Wolff, Tobias

Woolf, Virginia

Wright, Richard

NON-FICTION

Abrams, M.H.

Adorno, Theodor

Barry, Lynda

Barthes, Roland

Baudrillard, Jean

Baxter, Charles

de Beauvoir, Simone

Booth, Wayne

Bloom, Harold

Fanon, Franz

Freud, Sigmund

Frye, Northrop

Fussell, Paul

Gass, William

Hills, Rust

Hitchens, Christopher

Marx, Karl

Nietzsche, Friedrich

O'Connor, Flannery

Orwell, George

especially "Inside the Whale," "Politics and the English Language," "Why I Write"

Percy, Walker

Roethke, Theodore

Ruskin, John

Said, Edward W.

Shklovsky, Viktor
"Art as Technique"

Singer, Peter

Sontag, Susan

