

Reading List for 2019-20 Written Comprehensive Exam in English

Texts not listed as “On Reserve at Penrose Library” are available either through the links included in this document or as PDF documents in the Resources folder on the “Senior English Majors 2020” Site. Note that https URLs will not open directly from this document: you must copy and paste them into your browser.

Biblical Poetry (date uncertain; circa 3rd century BCE)

The Song of Songs: A New Translation with an Introduction and Commentary, trans. Ariel Bloch and Chana Bloch. U of California P, 1998. On reserve under course number ENGL 000: BS1483 .B56 1995

Medieval through Restoration

Pearl (late 14th century). Trans. William Vantuano (U of Notre Dame Press). Please focus especially on lines 1-420. On reserve at Penrose under course number ENGL 000: PR2111 .A28 1995

Aemilia Lanyer, “The Description of Cookeham” (1611)

Ben Jonson, “To Penshurst” (1616)

Andrew Marvell, “The Mower Against Gardens” and “The Garden” (circa 1650s; first printed 1681)

British Romantic

Charlotte Smith, “SONNET LVIII. The Glow Worm” (1783)

Samuel T. Coleridge, “This Lime Tree Bower, my Prison” (1797)

Percy B. Shelley, “The Sensitive Plant” (1820)

British Victorian

Matthew Arnold, “Lines Written in Kensington Gardens” (1852)

<https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poems/43593/lines-written-in-kensington-gardens>

British and Anglophone Anti-Colonial, 20th-Century to the present

William Butler Yeats, “The Rose Tree” (1917, 1921)

<https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poems/57315/the-rose-tree>

Katherine Mansfield, “Out in the Garden” (1917)

<http://www.katherinemansfieldsociety.org/assets/KM-Poems/Out-in-the-Garden1917.pdf>

D. H. Lawrence, “Trees in the Garden” (1932) <https://www.poets.org/poetsorg/poem/trees-garden>

Seamus Heaney, “Digging” (1966) <https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poems/47555/digging>

Derek Walcott, “Nights in the Gardens of Port of Spain” (1965)

American Literary Emergence, 1620-1920

Emily Dickinson, “New Feet within my garden go” (written 1859)

“Some Keep the Sabbath Going to Church” (written 1861)

“Within my Garden, rides a Bird” (written 1862)

“A Visitor in Marl” (written 1863)

Walt Whitman, “This Compost!” (1867)

<https://whitmanarchive.org/published/LG/1867/poems/142>

E. Pauline Johnson (Tekahionwake), “The Corn Husker” (1903) and “The Indian Corn Planter” (1912)

Amy Lowell, "Patterns" (1916) <https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poems/42987/patterns>
Alice Moore Dunbar Nelson, "Violets" (1917)

American 1920 to the Present

Jean Toomer, "Reapers" (1923) and "November Cotton Flower" (1923)

<https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poems/46405/reapers>

<https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poems/46406/november-cotton-flower>

Theodore Roethke, "Big Wind" (1948)

Gwendolyn Brooks, "Beverly Hills, Chicago" (1949)

<https://www.poets.org/poetsorg/poem/beverly-hills-chicago>

Alison Hawthorne Deming, "Eve Revisited" (1994)

<https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poems/54769/eve-revisited>

Li-Young Lee, "Secret Life" (2007) <https://www.jstor.org/stable/pdf/20607941.pdf>

Kimberly Johnson, "A Benediction: On the Tulpenwoede of Seventeenth-Century Holland" (2012)

<https://muse.jhu.edu/article/481800/pdf>

Aimee Nezhukumatathil and Ross Gay, Selections from *Lace & Pyrite: Letters from Two Gardens* (co-authored poetry collection) Organic Weapon Arts, 2014 – Specifically, those published online as "Letters from Two Gardens" in *Orion Magazine*

<https://orionmagazine.org/article/letters-from-two-gardens/>

Diane Seuss, "I Have Lived My Whole Life in a Painting Called Paradise" (2018)

<https://www.poets.org/poetsorg/poem/i-have-lived-my-whole-life-painting-called-paradise>

Katherine Riegel, "What I Would Like to Grow in My Garden" (2018)

Framing Texts

Carl Phillips, "Muscularity and Eros: On Syntax." *at Length*, 2016.

<http://atlengthmag.com/poetry/muscularity-and-eros-on-syntax/>

Gary Lutz, "The Sentence is a Lonely Place," 25 September 2008. *The Believer*.

<https://believermag.com/the-sentence-is-a-lonely-place/?fbclid=>

[IwAR3T7NxGzokmycPHxZKOD5Q6lbFT2ovYlmc7RNGpQ9o9PHVqq23rwfGnBZw](https://believermag.com/the-sentence-is-a-lonely-place/?fbclid=IwAR3T7NxGzokmycPHxZKOD5Q6lbFT2ovYlmc7RNGpQ9o9PHVqq23rwfGnBZw)

Amy L. Tigner, "Introduction." *Literature and the Renaissance Garden from Elizabeth I to Charles I: England's Paradise* (Ashgate, 2012). Available in eBook from via Penrose Library Catalogue:

<https://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/whitman/detail.action?docID=883343&query=Tigner+Renaissance>

Judith Farr, "The Enclosed Garden," Chapter Three of *The Gardens of Emily Dickinson* (2005). Available in eBook form via Penrose Library Catalogue:

<https://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/whitman/detail.action?docID=3300308>