

The Road to Freedom: One Hundred Best Books for an Education

As recommended by Will Durant in *The Greatest Minds and Ideas of All Time*

GROUP I. INTRODUCTORY

1. THOMSON, J. A., *The Outline of Science*. 4v.
2. CLENDENING, LOGAN, *The Human Body*.
- *3. KELLOGG, J.H., *The New Dietetics*; pp. 1-531, 975-1011.
4. JAMES, Wm., *Principles of Psychology*. 2v.
- *5. WELLS, H. G., *The Outline of History*; chs. 1-14.
6. SUMNER, W. G., *Folkways*.
7. FRAZER, SIR JAS., *The Golden Bough*.

GROUP II. ASIA AND AFRICA

- *8. BREASTED and ROBINSON, *The Human Adventure*. 2v. vol. I, chs. 2-7.
5. WELLS, chs. 15-21, 26.
9. BROWN, BRIAN, *The Wisdom of China*.
- *10. The Bible: Genesis, Exodus, Ruth, Esther, Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Solomon, Isaiah, Amos, Micah, the Gospels, Acts of the Apostles, and Epistles of St. Paul.
- *11. FAURE, ELIE, *History of Art*. 4v. vol. I, chs. 1-3; vol. II, chs. 1-3.
12. WILLIAMS, H. S., *History of Science*, 5v. bk. I, chs. 1-4.

GROUP III. GREECE

8. BREASTED and ROBINSON, vol. I, chs. 8-19.
5. WELLS, chs. 22-25.
13. BURY, J. B., *History of Greece*. 2v.
14. HERODOTUS, *Histories*. (Everyman Library.)
15. THUCYDIDES, *The Peloponnesian War*. (Everyman Library.)
- *16. PLUTARCH, *Lives of Illustrious Men* (esp. Lycurgus, Solon, Themistocles, Aristides, Pericles, Alcibiades, Demosthenes, Alexander).
17. MURRAY, G., *Greek Literature*.
18. HOMER, *Iliad*. Trans. Bryant. Selections.
19. HOMER, *Odyssey*. Trans. Bryant. Selections.
20. AESCHYLUS, *Prometheus Bound*. Trans. Eliz. Browning.
21. SOPHOCLES, *Oedipus Tyrannus* and *Antigone*. Trans. Young. (Everyman Library.)
22. EURIPIDES, all plays so far translated by Gilbert Murray.
23. DIOGENES LAERTIUS *Lives of the Philosophers*.
- *24. PLATO, *Dialogues*. Trans. Jowett. Esp. *The Apology of Socrates*, *Phaedo*, and *The Republic* (sections 327-32, 336-77, 384-85, 392-426, 433-35, 481-83, 512-20, 572-95). 1v. ed. by Irwin Edman.
25. ARISTOTLE, *Nicomachean Ethics*.
26. ARISTOTLE, *Politics*.
12. WILLIAMS, *History of Science*, bk. I, chs. 5-9.
11. FAURE, *History of Art*, vol. I, chs. 4-7.

GROUP IV. ROME

8. BREASTED and ROBINSON, vol. I, chs. 20-30.
5. WELLS, chs. 27-29.
16. PLUTARCH, *Lives* (esp. Cato Censor, Tiberius and Caius Gracchus, Marius, Sylla, Pompey, Cicero, Caesar, Brutus, Antony).
27. LUCRETIUS, *On the Nature of Things*. Trans. Munro. (Certain passages are admirably paraphrased in W. H. Mallock, *Lucretius on Life and Death*.)
28. VIRGIL, *Aeneid*. Trans. Wm. Morris. Selections.
- *29. MARCUS AURELIUS, *Meditations*. (Everyman Library.)
12. WILLIAMS, bk. I chs. 10-11.
11. FAURE, vol. I ch. 8.
- *30. GIBBON, E., *Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire*. 6v. (Everyman Library.) Esp. chs. 1-4, 9-10, 14, 15-24, 26-28, 30-31, 35-36, 44, 71.

GROUP V. THE AGE OF CHRISTIANITY

8. BREASTED and ROBINSON, vol. II, chs. 1-11.
5. WELLS, chs. 30-34.
30. GIBBON, chs. 37-38, 47-53, 55-59, 64-65, 68-70.
- *31. OMAR KHAYYAM, *Rubaiyat*. Fitzgerald's paraphrase.
32. MOORE, GEO., *Heloise and Abelard*. 2v.
33. DANTE, *Divine Comedy*. Trans. Longfellow, or C. E. Norton.
- *34. TAINE, H., *History of English Literature*, bk. I.
35. CHAUCER, G., *Canterbury Tales*. (Everyman Library.) Selections.
36. ADAMS, H., *Mont St. Michel and Chartres*.
12. WILLIAMS, bk. II, chs. 1-3.
11. FAURE, vol. II, chs. 4-9.
37. GRAY, C., *History of Music*, chs. 1-3, 5.

GROUP VI. THE ITALIAN RENAISSANCE

5. WELLS, ch. 35.
38. SYMONDS, J. A., *The Renaissance in Italy*, 7v.
39. CELLINI, B., *Autobiography*. Trans. Symonds.
40. VASARI, G., *Lives of the Painters and Sculptors*. 4v. Esp. Giotto, Brunelleschi, Botticelli, Fra Angelico, Leonardo da Vinci, Raphael, and Michelangelo.
41. HOFFDING, H., *History of Modern Philosophy*. 2v. Sections on Bruno and Machiavelli.
42. MACHIARELLI, N., *The Prince*.
37. GRAY, chs. 6, 8.

GROUP VII. EUROPE IN THE SIXTEENTH CENTURY

8. BREASTED and ROBINSON, vol. II, chs. 13-14.
43. SMITH, P., *The Age of the Reformation*.
44. FAGUET, E., *The Literature of France*; sections on the 16th century.
45. RABELAIS, *Gargantua and Pantagruel*.
- *46. MONTAIGNE, *Essays*. 3v. (Everyman Library.) Esp. *Of Coaches*, *Of the Incommodity of Greatness*, *Of Vanity*, and *Of Experience*.
47. CERVANTES, *Don Quixote*.
- *48. SHAKESPEARE:, *Plays*. Esp. *Hamlet*, *Lear*, *Macbeth*, *Othello*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Julius Caesar*, *Henry IV*, *Merchant of Venice*, *As You Like It*, *Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Timon of Athens*, and *The Tempest*.
34. TAINE, bk. II, chs. 1-4.
37. GRAY, chs. 4, 7.
12. WILLIAMS, bk. II, chs. 4-8.
11. FAURE, vol. III, chs. 4-6.

GROUP VIII. EUROPE IN THE SEVENTEENTH CENTURY

8. BREASTED and ROBINSON, vol. II, ch. 15.
44. FAGUET, sections on the seventeenth century.
49. LA ROCHEFOUCAULD, *Reflections*.
50. MOLIERE, *Plays*. Esp. *Tartuffe*, *The Miser*, *The Misanthrope*, *The Bourgeois Gentleman*, *The Feast of the Statue (Don Juan)*.
- *51. BACON, F., *Essays*. All. (Everyman Library.)
52. MILTON, J., *Lycidas*, *L'Allegro*, *Il Penseroso*, *Sonnets*, *Areopagitica*, and selections from *Paradise Lost*.
12. WILLIAMS, bk. II, chs. 9-13.
41. HOFFDING, sections on Bacon, Descartes, Hobbes, Locke, Spinoza, and Leibnitz.
53. HOBBS, *Leviathan*. (Everyman Library.)
54. SPINOZA, *Ethics* and *On the Improvement of the Understanding*. (Everyman Library.)
11. FAURE, vol. IV, chs. 1-4.
37. GRAY, chs. 9-10.

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GROUP IX. EUROPE IN THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY

8. BREASTED and ROBINSON, vol. II, chs. 16-21.
5. WELLS, chs. 26-27.
44. FAGUET, sections on the eighteenth century.
55. SAINTE-BEUVE, *Portraits of the 18th Century*.
56. VOLTAIRE, *Works*. I-vol. ed. Esp. *Candide*, *Zadig*, and essays on *Toleration and History*.
57. ROUSSEAU, J.J., *Confessions*.
58. TAINÉ, H., *Origins of Contemporary France*. 6v. vols. I-IV.
- *59. CARLYLE, *The French Revolution*. 2v. (Everyman Library.)
34. TAINÉ, *History of English Literature*, bk. III, chs. 4-7.
- *60. BOSWELL, *Life of Samuel Johnson*. 2v. (Everyman Library.)
61. FIELDING, H., *Tom Jones*. (Everyman Library, 2v.)
62. STERNE, L., *Tristram Shandy*. (Everyman Library.)
- *63. SWIFT, J., *Gulliver's Travels*. (Everyman Library.)
64. HUME, D., *Treatise on Human Nature*. 2v. (Everyman Library.) Esp. bks. II and III.
65. WOLLSTONECRAFT, MARY, *Vindication of the Rights of Woman*.
66. SMITH, ADAM, *The Wealth of Nations*. 2v. (Everyman Library.) Selections.
12. WILLIAMS, bk. II, chs. 14-15.
41. HOFFDING, sections on the eighteenth century.
11. FAURE, vol. IV, chs. 5-6.
37. GRAY, chs. 11-12.

GROUP X. EUROPE IN THE NINETEENTH CENTURY

8. BREASTED and ROBINSON, vol. II, chs. 22-28.
5. WELLS, chs. 38-39.
58. TAINÉ, *Origins of Contemporary France*. vol. V, *The Modern Regime*, pp. 1-90.
67. LUDWIG, E., *Napoleon*.
68. BRANDES, G., *Main Currents of 19th Century Literature*. 6v.
- *69. GOETHE, *Faust*.
70. ECKERMANN, *Conversations with Goethe*.
71. HEINE, *Poems*. Trans. Louis Untermeyer.
34. TAINÉ, *History of English Literature*, bks. IV-V.
- *72. KEATS, *Poems*.
- *73. SHELLEY, *Poems*.

- *74. BYRON, *Poems*.
44. FAGUET, sections on the nineteenth century.
75. BALZAC, *Père Goriot*.
- *76. FLAUBERT, *Works*. I-vol. ed. Esp. Mme. Bovary and Salambo.
77. HUGO, *Les Misérables*.
78. FRANCE, ANATOLE, *Penguin Isle*.
79. TENNYSON, *Poems*.
80. DICKENS, *Pickwick Papers*.
81. THACKERAY, *Vanity Fair*.
82. TURGENEV, *Fathers and Sons*.
83. DOSTOIEVSKI, *The Brothers Karamazov*.
84. TOLSTOI, *War and Peace*.
85. IBSEN, *Peer Gynt*.
12. WILLIAMS, bks. III-IV
86. DARWIN, *Descent of Man*.
41. HOFFDING, sections on the nineteenth century.
87. BUCKLE, *Introduction to the History of Civilization in England*. Esp. part I, chs. 1-5, 15.
88. SCHOPENHAUER, *Works*. I-vol. ed.
89. NIETZSCHE, *Thus Spake Zarathustra*.
11. FAURE, vol. IV, chs. 7-8.
37. GRAY, chs. 13-17.

GROUP XI. AMERICA

- *90. BEARD, C. and M., *The Rise of American Civilization*. 2v.
91. POE, *Poems and Tales*.
92. EMERSON, *Essays*.
93. THOREAU, *Walden*.
- *94. WHITMAN, *Leaves of Grass*.
95. LINCOLN, *Letters and Speeches*.

GROUP XII. THE TWENTIETH CENTURY

8. BREASTED and ROBINSON, vol. II, chs. 29-30.
5. WELLS, chs. 40-41.
96. ROLLAND, R. *Jean Christophe*. 2v.
- *97. ELLIS, H., *Studies in the Psychology of Sex*. vols. I, II, III, VI.
- *98. ADAMS, H., *The Education of Henry Adams*.
99. BERGSON, *Creative Evolution*.
- *100. SPENGLER, O., *Decline of the West*. 2v.

* Books marked with a star are recommended for purchase. Number of books starred: 27; number of volumes in the list: 151. Time required for reading: 4 years at 7 hours per week, 10 hours per volume.