READING LIST FOR THE ENGLISH COMPREHENSIVE EXAM
*NAEL = THE NORTON ANTHOLOGY OF ENGLISH LITERATURE
*NAAL = THE NORTON ANTHOLOGY OF AMERICAN LITERATURE

Caedmon’s Hymn
Beowulf
The Dream of the Rood
Sir Gawain and the Green Knight
Everyman
Chaucer, The Canterbury Tales [Selections in NAEL]
The Second Shepherd’s Play
Sidney, Astrophil and Stella 1, 31, 45, 63, 108; “Defense of Poesy” [Selections in NAEL]
Spenser, Amoretti 1, 68, 75; The Faerie Queene, Book I
Shakespeare, A Midsummer Night’s Dream; Henry V; Hamlet; King Lear; Sonnets 1, 15, 18, 116, 129, 130
Marlowe, Doctor Faustus
Jonson, Volpone; “On My First Son,” “To Penshurst,,” “To Heaven,” ”Ode on Cary and Morison”
Herbert, The Temple [Selections in NAEL]
Milton, “Lycidas”; Paradise Lost, Books IV and IX
Dryden, “Absalom and Achitophel”
Pope, The Rape of the Lock; “Epistle to Arbuthnot”
Wycherley, The Country Wife
Johnson, The Vanity of Human Wishes
Fielding, Joseph Andrews
Swift, Gulliver’s Travels, “A Modest Proposal”
Austen, Pride and Prejudice
Blake, “The Lamb,” “The Tyger”
Coleridge, The Rime of the Ancient Mariner
P.B. Shelley, “Defense of Poetry” [Selections in NAEL]; “Mont Blanc”
M. Shelley, Frankenstein
Keats, “Ode on a Grecian Urn”
Carlyle, Sartor Resartus [Selections in NAEL]
Newman, The Idea of a University [Selections in NAEL]
Tennyson, In Memoriam [Selections in NAEL]
Harriet Jacobs, Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl: chapters I, VII, X, XIV, XXI, XLI
Hawthorne, The Scarlet Letter
Melville, “Billy Budd”
Thoreau, “Resistance to Civil Government” [aka. “Civil Disobedience”]
Emerson, “The Poet”
Brontë, Jane Eyre
Robert Browning, “My Last Duchess”
Arnold, “Dover Beach”
Whitman, “Out of the Cradle Endlessly Rocking,” “Crossing Brooklyn Ferry”
Dickinson, “Because I could not stop for death,” “I Felt a Funeral, in my Brain,” “The Robin’s My Criterion for Tune,” “My Life Had Stood – A Loaded Gun”
Twain, *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*
Wilde, Preface to *The Picture of Dorian Grey*
Shaw, *Mrs. Warren’s Profession*
Hopkins, “Pied Beauty,” “The Windhover”
James, *The Turn of the Screw*
Yeats, “Easter 1916,” “Lake Isle of Innisfree,” “The Second Coming,” “Leda and the Swan”
Joyce, “The Dead”
Moore, “The Fish,” “Poetry” [the 29-line version]
Frost, “Birches,” “Mending Wall,” “After Apple Picking”
Stevens, “Sunday Morning,” “The Idea of Order at Key West”
[Predictions in NAEL]
Pound, “In a Station of the Metro,” “Portrait d’une Femme,” “The River Merchant’s Wife: A Letter”
Owen, “*Dulce et Decorum Est*”
Woolf, *Mrs. Dalloway*
Faulkner, *As I Lay Dying*
W.C. Williams, “The Red Wheelbarrow,” “This is Just to Say,” “Spring and All”
Hemingway, “The Snows of Kilimanjaro”
G. Brooks, “We Real Cool,” “To Those of My Sisters Who Kept Their Naturals”
Plath, “Colossus,” “Lady Lazarus”
O’Neill, *Long Day’s Journey into Night*
Lowell, “Skunk Hour”
Bishop, “The Armadillo”
Auden, “Museé de Beaux Arts,” “In Memory of W.B. Yeats”
Thomas, “Do Not Go Gentle into That Good Night”
Hurston, *Their Eyes Were Watching God*
O’Connor, “Good Country People,” “A Good Man is Hard to Find”
Beckett, *Waiting for Godot*
Friel, *Translations*
Larkin, “Church Going”
Walcott, “A Far Cry from Africa”
Walker, “Everyday Use”
Heaney, “Digging”
Rushdie, *Haroun and the Sea of Stories*