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# HSLDA ONLINE ACADEMY

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## English 2: World Literature & Writing 2018–19 Booklist

Title	Edition	Author/Editor	ISBN
Elements of Language, 4 <sup>th</sup> Course	2009	Rinehart and Winston Holt	978-0-03-094196-2
Cyrano de Bergerac	2011	Edmond Rostand	9780451531988
Seven Men and the Secret of their Greatness	*	Eric Metaxas	9781595554697
Seven Women and the Secret of their Greatness	*	Eric Metaxas	9780718021832
Animal Farm	*	George Orwell	978-0-451-52634-2
Peter Pan	*	J.M. Barrie	978-0-689-86691-3
Cry, the Beloved Country	*	Alan Paton	9780743262170
The Hiding Place	*	Corrie ten Boom	9780800794057
Maus: A Survivor's Tale, Volume I	*	Art Spiegelman	9780394747231
The Poem of the Cid	*	Hamilton, Rita	9780140444469

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### Please note:

1. Books and materials requirements are subject to change at the discretion of the instructors.
2. Books marked with \* do not have required editions. Page numbers will differ between publishers.
3. Book synopses and potential disclaimers can be found on the following pages of this PDF.

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### **For more information**

If you would like more information about English 2, please contact us at **540-338-8290** (*Monday–Friday; 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. EST*), or send an email to [academy@hsllda.org](mailto:academy@hsllda.org).

## ***7 Men and 7 Women* by Eric Metaxas (America)**

**Synopsis:** These two books, written by Christian author Eric Metaxas, focus on seven men and seven women who made a significant impact on the world during and after their lives. For the purpose of this class, we will be reading selected chapters on individuals such as William Wilberforce, Eric Liddell, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Joan of Arc, Hannah Moore, and Mother Teresa.

**Reasons for teaching:** These books will be used as part of a larger unit on research. Through these chapters, students will learn how to research and write about life-changing people and events. These individuals will serve as a springboard for students to self-evaluate their own footprint and impact in their circle of influence.

## ***Animal Farm* by George Orwell (England)**

**Synopsis:** Fed up with the ignorance of their human masters, farm animals rise up in rebellion and take over the farm. Led by intellectually superior pigs like Snowball and Napoleon, the animals learn how to take charge of their destiny and remove the inequities of their lives. But as time passes, they realize that things are not happening quite as expected. *Animal Farm* is, on one level, a simple story about barnyard animals. On a much deeper level, it is a savage political satire on corrupted ideals, misdirected revolutions, and class conflict—themes as valid today as they were sixty years ago.

**Reasons for teaching:** This classic tale will be used to introduce students to the complex literary strategies of satire and allegory. Specific focus will center on theme, plot development, and the interpretation of the satirical choices the author makes.

**Disclaimer:** There are scenes of animal violence.

## ***Cry, the Beloved Country* by Alan Paton (Africa)**

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**Synopsis:** *Cry, the Beloved Country* is the deeply moving story of Christian Zulu pastor Stephen Kumalo and his son Absalom, set against the background of a land and a people driven by racial injustice. Remarkable for its lyricism and unforgettable for character and incident, this novel is a classic work of love and hope, courage and endurance, born of the dignity of man.

**Reasons for teaching:** This text will provide opportunity for students to analyze historical fiction. They will continue to develop skills critiquing literature and analyzing different rhetorical choices made by the author. Discussions and compositions will focus on racial injustice, redemption, and the power of forgiveness.

**Disclaimer:** This text includes tactful descriptions of tense racial scenes, difficult moral dilemmas, and some violence.

## *The Hiding Place* by Corrie ten Boom (Netherland)

**Synopsis:** This memoir is written about Corrie ten Boom's experience in a Nazi concentration camp, where she and her older sister Betsie had been sent for helping the Jews. This book focuses on the courage of a quiet Christian woman whose life was transformed by her experience with the Nazis. She recounts the risks her family took, the horrors they witnessed, and the personal pain and loss they experienced. However, the text also addresses the power of prayer, kindness, and the love of Christ and what His glory can accomplish even in such dark situations.

**Reasons for teaching:** *The Hiding Place* will be read in conjunction with *Maus*, a graphic novel (essentially a comic book with a serious message) written from a non-believer's perspective of the horrors of the Holocaust. Students will compare and contrast viewpoints from the two texts and analyze the differences in their accounts. Other topics that will be explored include biases, worldviews, race, and religion.

**Disclaimer:** Due to the topic, some intense scenes of violence are included.

## *Maus: A survivor's tale Volume 1* by Art Spiegelman (Poland)

**Synopsis:** This is the story of Vladek Spiegelman, a Jewish survivor of Hitler's Europe and his son, a cartoonist who tries to come to terms with his father, his father's terrifying story, and history itself. This graphic novel (essentially a comic book with a serious message) is a moving work of art that portrays the multi-generational impact of the Holocaust on one Jewish family.

**Reasons for teaching:** The Holocaust was one of the most significant events in world history. A survey of world literature must include text from this harrowing time. This specific text will be used in conjunction with *The Hiding Place* to help students learn how to compare and contrast literary pieces that deal with similar topics. It also introduces students to a rather new genre of literature, the graphic novel. This will require students to evaluate, critique, and read differently. Other topics that will be explored include biases, worldviews, race, and religion.

**Disclaimer:** Spiegelman represents all of his characters as animals. He does this for satirical purposes; however, some readers may be offended by his depiction. Objectionable language occurs occasionally in dialogue. The story also briefly describes one character's emotional turmoil over another character's suicide.

## *Cyrano de Bergerac* by Edmond Rostand (France)

**Synopsis:** This comedy is Edmond Rostand's most popular play due to its larger-than-life hero, Cyrano de Bergerac. Set in 1640, this play is fast-paced, as it introduces a variety of absurd characters that grapple through the tragedies of life, love, war, and intellect. Themes focus on morality, beauty, judgment, and deceit.

**Reasons for teaching:** This play introduces students to satire, farce, and comedy. Students will learn literary terms relating to theatre, analyze stage directions and character lines, and interpret the true meaning behind Rostand's presentation. This will open up dialogue about honesty, morality, and judgment.