

# 400

## American Government & Economics

Grade: 11-12 | Ages: 17-18

### Level 420 History & Bible

Includes items listed below. Plus level 670 Economics

#### Government and Bible

#### Level 420 American Gov't & Civics (one semester)

#### Government 420 Parent Guide

Holzmam & Lykosh. Full schedule, assignments, notes, questions and answers for the half year (18-week) course. Use this Parent Guide in conjunction with the Student Guide. The Parent Guide is identical to the Student Guide, but also includes answers to the study questions. Ready for your binder.

#### Government 420 Student Guide

Identical to the Parent Guide, but without answers, to allow the student to work independently.

#### God and Politics

Smith, ed. Subtitled "Four Views on the Reformation of Civil Government," more than a dozen contributors answer questions such as, was America ever a Christian nation, and should it be one? Which Old Testament laws apply to civil life today? To what extent should the state tolerate non-Christian views and practices in the name of pluralism? Pb. R: 9-A

#### Are You Liberal?

#### Conservative? Confused?

Maybury. A clear, interesting explanation of political labels: what they mean, associated economic policies, etc. Pb. R: 7-A

#### Basic American Government

Carson. We looked at dozens of texts before settling with delight on this volume. It provides exactly the kind of basic outline needed for a high school civics class. Mr. Carson provides a thorough view of the historical events that have permitted our national government to become the Leviathan it is today. For a work that covers so much difficult and complex material, this book is astonishingly thorough, well-organized, and easy to read. This course uses about 400 of the 500 pages. Hb. R: 9-A

#### Black Like Me

Griffin. A white man darkens his skin in 1959. He trudged southern streets searching for a place where he could eat or rest, looking vainly for a job other than menial labor, feeling the "hate stare." John Griffin crossed the line into a country of hate, fear, and hopelessness. A true and disturbing story. Pb. R: 9-A

#### The Complete Idiot's Guide to Government and Politics

Scardino. Our government has expanded well beyond the parameters of the Constitution. This book picks up where Carson leaves off, and covers current government, dealing with things like political parties, lobbyists, and bureaucracy. Pb. R: 8-A

#### Congress for Dummies

Silverberg. An in-depth look at our bicameral legislature. How are the House and Senate different in daily operation? (The Senate is more clubby, the House more divisive. Senators, elected for six years, have some time to deliberate, while Representatives hardly get settled in D.C. before they have to campaign again.) After reading this book, you will know how to get involved in politics, without campaigning or moving. Pb. R: 8-A

#### Miracles **NEW!**

Metaxas. In this groundbreaking work, Metaxas examines the compatibility between faith and science and provides well-documented anecdotal evidence of actual miracles.

#### Selecting a President

Clift. Covers the presidential campaign trail which, like it or not, is what the news covers for the better part of two out of four years. Why are certain stops more important? This book covers it all. Informative. Hb. R: 7-A

#### The U.S. Supreme Court

Greenhouse. A short book that brilliantly explains how the Court has functioned, how it breaks down demographically, how the justices come to their decisions. I feel like this is a gem, one of the books where you know the author had boxes of fascinating details and anecdotes and kept the very best for these few pages. Pb. R: 8-A

#### Economics

#### Level 670 Economics (one semester)

#### 670 Instructor's Guide

Bolin. A schedule for the half-year (18 week) course. This includes two lesson plans for use with the Thinkwell Economics material—one for general study, and a more in-depth schedule for preparing your high-schoolers to take the AP\* exams. Also includes thought-provoking questions to answer in the journal.

#### Thinkwell Economics Internet Course

Tomlinson. An incredible Internet-based resource for teaching your high schoolers about Modern Economics—both macro and micro. Thinkwell combines dynamic online multimedia video lectures and interactive exercises for a powerful learning experience.

#### The Invisible Heart

Roberts. A love story with a dose of economics thrown in. Teachers Laura and Sam interact, while, in a subplot, a ruthless CEO spars with a savvy consumer watchdog agency director. Entertaining and surprising. Watch economics play out in the world. Pb. R: 6-A

#### Money, Possessions, & Eternity

Alcorn. A thorough study on what the Bible says about money, including materialism, stewardship, debt. Includes such questions as: are Christians called to be poor? How much are believers today supposed to give? What is our responsibility to the homeless? You probably won't agree

with Alcorn on everything, but this is a great starting-point for Biblical thinking about money. Thought-provoking. Includes study guide. Pb. R: 7-A

#### Sonlight Personal Journal

Hardstock covers are spiral bound with 200 pages (100 sheets), ready to record your thoughts as you study economics. Hb.

#### American Literature

*Practice in-depth analysis on classics of American literature*

#### Level 430 Literature (full year)

#### Literature

#### Literature 430 Parent Guide

Holzmam & Lykosh. Full schedule, assignments, notes, questions and answers, writing assignments, vocabulary, and cultural literacy for American Literature. Use this Parent Guide in conjunction with the Student Guide. The Parent Guide is identical to the Student Guide, but also includes answers to the study questions. Ready for your binder.

#### Literature 430 Student Guide

Identical to the Parent Guide, but without answers, to allow the student to work independently.

#### 100 Best-Loved Poems

Smith, ed. Includes some of the best-loved English and American verse by Tennyson, Whitman, Frost, Donne, and more. A fabulous collection for a very reasonable price. Pb. R: 4-A

#### Adventures of Huckleberry Finn

Twain. "Notice. Persons attempting to find a motive in this narrative will be prosecuted; persons attempting to find a moral in it will be banished; persons attempting to find a plot in it will be shot.—By order of the Author." Thus does Mark Twain try to preserve unwilling students from being forced to read his famous book for anything but the sheer joy of it. A classic of American literature. Ernest Hemingway wrote, "All modern American literature comes from one book by Mark Twain called *Huckleberry Finn*." Beautiful edition printed on acid-free paper with all the original illustrations. Pb. R: 8-A; RA: 6-A

#### The Best Short Stories of O'Henry

Henry. This collection offers for readers' delight the thirty-eight O. Henry stories that represent, in variety and balance, the best work of America's favorite storyteller. They give the full range and flavor of one of the great masters of the short story. Hb. R: 9-A

#### Breve Companions

McCullough. Famed historian David McCullough, twice a Pulitzer Prize winner, writes several short biographies and histories. Scientist Agassiz, building the Panama Canal, building the Brooklyn Bridge, and more. Vigorous prose, fabulous narratives: a wonderful collection.

It's not just fiction that can be beautiful and inspiring. Pb. RA: 6-A; R: 6-A

### The Chosen

Potok. In 1940s Brooklyn, an accident throws Reuven Malther and Danny Saunders together. Despite their differences (Reuven is a modern Orthodox Jew with an intellectual, Zionist father; Danny is the brilliant son and rightful heir to a Hasidic rebbe), the young men form a deep friendship. Together they negotiate adolescence, family conflicts, crises of faith, loss, love, and the journey to adulthood. The intellectual and spiritual clashes between fathers, between each son and his own father, and between the two young men, provide a unique backdrop for this exploration of fathers, sons, faith, loyalty, and, ultimately, the power of love. A deep and thought-provoking work. Pb. RA: 6-A; R: 8-A

### Death of a Salesman

Miller. Listed as one of the finest American plays of the 20th Century, the aging salesman is sidelined, after a life of average, and a few below-average decisions. Devastating, powerful. Pb. RA: 7-A; R: 7-A

### The Elements of Style

Strunk and White. Cowritten by the author of perennial favorite *Charlotte's Web*, this slim volume gives specific instructions on writing. After reading this, you will want all the characters you read to "say" things. Not "chortle" or "trill" or "growl." Outstanding. Pb. R: 7-A

### Ender's Game

Card. One of my all-time favorite protagonists. Ender, a prodigy, trains to command the fleet against a third alien invasion. I love reading about how he thinks, love reading about his training, love reading about his battles. For me, this is delight. But it can also prompt discussion about the uses and abuses of power, about just war, about cultural misunderstanding. This science fiction book won both the Hugo Award and the Nebula Award, the two most prestigious awards in sci-fi, and made it on the Modern Library's list of 100 Best Novels. Compulsively readable. Pb. RA: 6-A; R: 8-A

### Eternity in Their Hearts

Richardson. In 1795, deep in the jungles of Burma, hundreds of tribesmen rush out to a clearing to greet a white-skinned stranger. Could he be the one to bring the book their forefathers lost so many centuries ago—the book that tells the secrets of Y'Wa, the Supreme God? Astonishingly, yes! Don Richardson believes that God has not only prepared the Gospel for all peoples, but He has prepared all peoples for the Gospel. This book examines dozens of examples of peoples around the world whose cultural background prepared them to receive the Gospel long before missionaries ever appeared. Richardson suggests that all peoples have a sense of God's existence. The title of the book comes from Ecclesiastes 3:11: "[God] has...set eternity in the hearts of men" so that they will seek Him. Pb. R: 8-A

### Evidence Not Seen

It encourages my faith to read what God has done for his children. In the midst of horrible circumstances in a Japanese internment camp in WWII, Darlene Deibler Rose survived. (Once, desperate for bananas, she pleaded with God for one and the camp commander gave her 92.) Seek God's prompting and then obey. Powerful. Pb. RA: 6-A; R: 8-A

### Fidelity

Berry. One of the most beautiful books I've ever read, with five short stories, loosely interconnected. Perhaps the best demonstration of Christian community ever written. And the best love story! What happens? A young wife gets the flu. How can that be a love story? Read it to find out! Pb. R: 7-A

### The Grapes of Wrath

Steinbeck. Nobel Prize. "One of the greatest and most socially significant novels of the twentieth century." Indelibly captures America during the Great Depression through the story of the Joads, an Oklahoma farm family forced to migrate to the land of promise, California. Out of their trials and repeated collisions with the hard realities of an America divided into Haves and Have-Nots, Steinbeck creates a landmark novel that is, at once, intense, tragic, and stirring. Pb. R: 9-A

### How to Read a Book

Adler & Van Doren. If you read for information, basic literacy allows you to extract the facts from the text. But literature requires more effort, more thought. Called "the best and most successful guide to reading comprehension," this is an education of how to be a liberal arts student, how to read and understand more than the basic plot in practical books, plays, poetry, history, science, mathematics, philosophy and more. Pb. R: 9-A

### Jacob Have I Loved

Paterson. Newbery Medal. Louise knows that she should be proud of her beautiful twin, Caroline. But she is convinced that, ever since they were born, Caroline has done nothing but take from her: their parents' love, Louise's hopes for an education, even her best and only friend. That is the way things appear to Louise. But is it the truth? A book that will challenge many teenagers who perceive themselves as unloved. Pb. RA: 8-A; R: 8-A

### My Ántonia

Cather. H.L. Mencken once wrote, "No romantic novel ever written in America, by man or woman, is one half so beautiful as *My Ántonia*." I believe he is correct. The space I am allowed here to describe this book cannot do it justice. I cannot read a few paragraphs without tears leaping to my eyes, the words are too beautiful. Summary: the fond remembrance of an astonishing, but believably real, immigrant woman from Bohemia living in 1880s Nebraska. A literary feast. Pb. RA: 8-A; R: 9-A

### On Writing Well

Zinsser. Clear, charming prose on how to write and edit well. The foundation for the writing assignments this year. Marvelous, funny, informative. Pb. R: 7-A

### Our Town

Wilder. Pulitzer Prize. One of the most popular American dramas of all time, *Our Town* recalls three time periods in the life of residents of a small Connecticut town. It calls us to focus on the "little things" of life. We don't know our time; therefore, as Solomon exhorts us: "A man can do nothing better than to eat and drink and find satisfaction in his work. This...is from the hand of God" (Eccles. 2:24). Poignant. Pb. R: 9-A

### Outliers

Gladwell. A staff writer for *The New Yorker*, the author writes brilliant essays about fascinating people. His argument that it takes 10,000 hours to become an expert (even for those geniuses, like The Beatles and Mozart), a phenomenal amount of time, can be an encouragement: if you have a passion, pursue that passion! Young people: go change the world! Pb. RA: 6-A; R: 6-A

### The Portable Poe

Poe. Poe was perhaps the most melancholy and deeply brooding author in American history. This book compiles Poe's most famous works: tales of fantasy, terror, death, revenge, murder, and mystery. Includes "The Murders on the Rue Morgue," the world's first detective story. Also "The Pit and the Pendulum," "The Fall of the House of Usher," "The Tell-Tale Heart," and "The Cask of Amontillado." Poe's poetry also appears here, including his famous "The Raven." Pb. R: 9-A

### The Scarlet Letter

Hawthorne. A study of the tension between public and private morality, *The Scarlet Letter* carved new paths in American literary technique and substance. Hester Prynne, the first and arguably still greatest heroine in American literature, struggles to turn a badge that her community is determined should shame and destroy her into a badge of moral triumph. An embroidered "A" intended to stigmatize her as an Adulteress becomes a symbol for Able, Admirable, Angel—exactly opposite that which the social leaders have determined it should mean. In Hester's struggle with the community that tries to condemn and ignore her, *The Scarlet Letter* has a conflict of great thematic significance. Pb. R: 9-A

### A Separate Peace

Knowles. An accident at a boys' school. But was it an accident? A novel about relationships, about how we can both love and hate someone at the same time, about the human heart, about motivations. Beautiful, haunting, powerful coming-of-age tale. Pb. RA: 6-A; R: 8-A

### Teaching a Stone to Talk

Dillard. This collection of essays by a Pulitzer Prize winner, includes one of the finest I have ever read, about a solar eclipse. Dillard is thoughtful, perceptive, enjoyable, and unpredictable. Pb. RA: 6-A; R: 8-A

### Their Eyes Were Watching God

Hurston. Set in serval black communities in the Deep South in the early 1900s, this story of one woman's life is told with a stunning, deeply moving, almost poetic prose. One of my favorite love stories ever, simply because the characters are so happy together. Pb. RA: 6-A; R: 8-A

### Up from Slavery

Washington. Booker T. Washington was a devoutly Christian man who, as a former slave, treaded a dangerous middle ground in a time of racial backlash and Disenfranchisement. As he publicly acquiesced to whites on issues of social equality, he fiercely exhorted blacks to unite and improve their lot. This classic autobiography recounts Washington's life from childhood as a slave, through his struggle for education, his founding and presidency of Tuskegee Institute and his rise to national prominence. A man of real courage, talent, and dedication. Pb. R: 7-A