



Curiosity in the World

When you lean into your curiosity, you become more open to new experiences. While international travel is a great way to broaden your perspective, there are many other ways you can learn about different cultures while staying at home.

What's Going On?

One way to engage your curiosity about the world around you is to read about current events in a different country. In this activity, you will begin thinking about issues that concern the local population of a country other than the United States.

Instructions: Pick a foreign country to focus on. This should be a country that you are curious about, but one that you have never visited.

Do some research to determine what current events are affecting the local population of your chosen country. Find and read one local news article from the country you have chosen. **The source you use must be from the same country you are writing about!** (e.g. *The Guardian* - UK, *Le Monde* - France, *El País* - Spain, etc.)

Once you have read the article, consider to the following questions:

- What is the article about? How would you summarize the article in your own words?
- Why did you choose this article? Why was it of interest to you?
- How is the topic of your chosen article important to the local population?
- What website did you use? How do you know this is a reputable news source?
- Why is it important to use a news source that is based in the country you chose?

You may compose your response as a written journal entry or presentation, with one paragraph/slide per question.

Go Further: Compare and contrast the article you analyzed with a current events article from your own community. What issues are people in your community concerned about? How would you answer the questions above for your local article?

Exploring Foreign Films and Novels

Foreign films and novels are a great resource to help you gain exposure to a new culture, without having to leave your front door. In this activity, you will select a film and novel to serve as sources for a comparative analysis designed to activate your prior knowledge and explore new material.

Instructions: Identify a country that you are curious about but have never visited. Find a film AND a novel that are set in the country you have chosen. Note: We recommend that you do not choose a film that is an adaptation of your novel.

If you are stuck, check out the recommendation list at the end of this worksheet! Of course, you are invited to take additional recommendations from family and teachers.

For each topic, consider the following:

- How is the topic presented in the film and in the novel? What similarities and differences do you notice?
- Why is the setting important in the portrayal of this topic?
- How can you relate this topic to your own personal experience?
- How might you experience this topic if you were to travel to this country in the future?

You may compose your response as a full-sentence, alphanumeric outline (bit.ly/2BLKPqQ). Each topic should be a separate heading, with subheadings for the film, the novel, and your personal experience with the topic. Provide at least two supports per subheading.

Comparing Social Norms

Social norms are the informal rules that govern our behavior in society. They aren't explicitly written down or stated, but we follow them nonetheless! In this activity, you will identify and compare social norms across cultures.

Resources:

Watch this brief video clip for a humorous example of a social norm that is not a law—although some people may feel strongly about it!



Check out the video here.

WATCH: youtu.be/KLOyChP2AWA

Read this interview with Michele Gelfand where she explains the difference between 'tight' and 'loose' cultures and how different cultures enforce social norms.



Read the interview here.

WEBSITE: behavioralscientist.org/tight-and-loose-cultures-a-conversation-with-michele-gelfand/

Finally, read this article from *Scientific American* that builds on Michele's idea by applying it to the United States.



Read the article here.

WEBSITE: scientificamerican.com/article/tightness-and-looseness-a-new-way-to-understand-differences-across-the-50-united-states/

Instructions: To begin, pick a foreign country to focus on. In this activity, you will be comparing social norms in your selected country to social norms in your home state.

Step 1 – Conduct some research on your chosen country to answer the following questions:

- Using Michele's criteria, does this country have a 'tight' or 'loose' culture?
- What are five examples of social norms you would encounter if you visited this country?
- What reasons can you give for why these social norms exist?

Step 2 – Now, do a similar analysis of your home state.

- In your opinion, and using Michele's criteria, does your state have a 'tight' or 'loose' culture?
- How does this compare to the United States' culture at large?
- What are five examples of social norms that a traveler would encounter were they to visit your state?
- What reasons can you give for why these social norms exist?

Step 3 – Make a comparison between the country you researched and your home community.

- How do the cultures relate? What similarities or differences do you notice?
- Are there any norms that overlap between cultures? Are there any norms that conflict?

Create! Share your research in the form of a social media campaign. Your campaign should have ten posts: five advertising the destination you researched to potential travelers and five advertising your home state. In each post, aim to inform your audience of the social norms they may encounter, and share why it is important to educate oneself as a traveler. Your posts can be in the form of a document or presentation and must combine images and text.

Students! Answering our questions? Using our strategies? Share them with us at discovery@worldstrides.com.

Suggested Film & Book List

Films

Austria

Austrian-produced:

Die Stadt ohne Juden / The City Without Jews (1924)
The Seventh Continent (1989)
Sissi (1955)
The White Ribbon (2009)

Foreign-produced:

Amadeus (1984)
*Jules and Jim (1962)
The Sound of Music (1965)
The Third Man (1949)
The Woman in Gold (2015)

China

Chung Kuo, Cina (1972)
Close to Eden (1992)
Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon (2000)
Girl From Hunan (1986)
Hero (2003)
Jug Dou (1991)
Life on a String (1991)
Not One Less (1999)
Once Upon a Time in China (2003)
Raise the Red Lantern (1992)
Red Sorghum (1989)
Small Happiness (1984)
The Forbidden City (1918)
The Last Emperor (1987)
To Live (1994)
Unruly Dragon (1988)
Yellow Earth (1988)

Costa Rica

Agua fría de mar (2010)
Bonne année (2006) – *short film*
C'est comme ça (2005) – *short film*
El Camino (2007)
*Gestación (2009)
*Presos (2015)



Cuba

Cuban-produced:

The Beauty of the Alhambra (1989)
Death of a Bureaucrat (1966)
I Am Cuba (1964)
The Last Supper (1976)
Memories of Underdevelopment (1968)
Portrait of Teresa (1979)
Strawberry and Chocolate (1993)
Suite Habana (2003)
Viva Cuba (2005)

Foreign-produced:

Before Night Falls (2000)
Buena Vista Social Club (1999)
Our Man in Havana (1959)



Czech Republic / Czechoslovakia

Adelheid (1969)
Alois Nebel (2011)
Closely Watched Trains (1966)
*Daisies (1966)
The Ear (1970)
The Firemen's Ball (1967)
I Served the King of England (2006)
Intimate Lighting (1965)
Marketa Lazarova (1967)



France

French-produced:

The 400 Blows (1959)
Amélie (2001)
Au Revoir Les Enfants (1987)
Bande à part / Band of Outsiders (1964)
Le Cercle Rouge (1970)
Les Choristes (2003)
*Day for Night (1973)
The Dinner Game (1998)
The Discreet Charm of the Bourgeoisie (1972)
Les Enfants du Paradis / Children of Paradise (1945)
Entre les murs / The Class (2008)
Etre et avoir (2002)
Les femmes du sixième étage (2010)
Girlhood (2014)
La Grande Illusion / The Grand Illusion (1937)
*La Haine (1995)

* recommended only for mature audiences



The Hunchback of Notre Dame (1939, 1996)

The Intouchables (2011)

cont.

Jean de Florette (1986)

Mon Oncle (1958)

Le Papillon (2002)

Playtime (1968)

La Reine Margot (1994)

The Umbrellas of Cherbourg (1964)

Van Gogh (1991)

La Vie en rose (2007)

Foreign-produced:

The Da Vinci Code (2006)

Hugo (2011)

*Inglourious Basterds (2009)

Marie Antoinette (2006)

Midnight in Paris (2011)

Paris, Je t'aime (2006)

Saving Private Ryan (1998)



Germany

German-produced:

1, 2, 3 (1961)

All Quiet on the Western Front (1930)

Amen. (2002)

*The Baader Meinhof Complex (2008)

Bach's Fight for Freedom (1995)

Berlin Alexanderplatz (1980)

A Coffee in Berlin (2012)

Das Wunder von Bern (2003)

The Diary of Anne Frank (1959)

Die Blechtrommel / The Tin Drum (1979)

Downfall (2004)

The Edukators (2004)

The Enigma of Kaspar Hauser (1974)

Europa! Europa! (1991)

Germania Anno Zero (1948)

Good Bye Lenin! (2003)

Head-on (2004)

Heimat is a Space in Time (2019)

Ich war zuhause, aber / I Was at Home, But (2019)

*The Lives of Others (2006)

The Lost Honor of Katharina Blum (1975)

M (1931)

Metropolis (1927)

Rosa Luxemburg (1979)

Rosenstrasse (2003)

* recommended only for mature audiences



Signs of Life (1968)

Sophie Scholl (2005)

cont.

Systemsprenger / System Crasher (2019)

Toni Erdmann (2016)

Valkyrie (2008)

Walk on Water (2004)

The Wave (2008)

The White Rose (1982)

Wings of Desire (1987)

Woyzeck (1979)

The Young Karl Marx (2017)

Foreign-produced:

Schindler's List (1993)



Iceland

*101 Reykjavik (2000)

Angels of the Universe (2000)

Bjarnfreðsson (2009)

Börn náttúrunnar / Children of Nature (1991)

Djúpið / The Deep (2012)

Dreamland (2010)

Eldfjall / Volcano (2011)

*Hafið / The Sea (2002)

Hjartasteinn / Heartstone (2016)

Hross í oss / Of Horses and Men (2013)

Hrútar / Rams (2015)

Lof mér að falla / Let Me Fall (2018)

Metalhead (2015)

Vonarstræti / Life in a Fishbowl (2014)



Ireland

Angela's Ashes (1999)

Calvary (2014)

The Commitments (1991)

*A Date for Mad Mary (2016)

The Field (1990)

His & Hers (2009)

In the Name of the Father (1993)

Intermission (2003)

Man About Dog (2004)

Michael Collins (1996)

My Left Foot (1989)

Once (2007)

What Richard Did (2013)

The Wind That Shakes the Barley (2006)



Italy

Italian-produced:

8 ½ (1963)
 Bicycle Thieves (1948)
 Caterina in the Big City (2003)
 Cinema Paradiso (1988)
 Diva (1981)
 Divorce Italian Style (1961)
 Gomorrah (2008)
 Human Capital (2013)
 I Cento Passi (2000)
 Il Divo (2008)
 Il Postino / The Postman (1994)
 *L'Avventura (1960)
 *L'Eclisse / The Eclipse (1962)
 La Dolce Vita (1960)
 La grande bellezza / The Great Beauty (2013)
 La vita è bella / Life is Beautiful (1997)
 Plein Soleil / Purple Noon (1999)
 Quo Vado? (2016)
 Rocco ei suoi Fratelli / Rocco and his Brothers (1961)
 Roma, citta aperta / Rome, Open City (1945)
 We Have a Pope (2011)

Foreign-produced:

The Agony and The Ecstasy (1965)
 Angels & Demons (2009)
 The Best of Youth (2003)
 Bread and Tulips (2000)
 Three Coins in the Fountain (1954)
 Francis from Assisi (1961)
 Galileo (1975)
 Love is All You Need (2012)
 The Merchant of Venice (2004)
 Only You (1994)
 Pompeii (2014)
 Roman Holiday (1953)
 Sarahsara (1994)
 Spartacus (1960)
 A Tea with Mussolini (1999)



Japan

Japanese-produced:

An Autumn Afternoon (1962)
 *The Ballad of Narayama (1983)
 Castle in the Sky (1986)
 Floating Weeds (1959)

* recommended only for mature audiences



Godzilla (1954)

Hanging Garden (2005)
 cont. Ikiru (1952)
 Late Spring (1949)
 Like Father, Like Son (2013)
 Linda Linda Linda (2005)
 Memories of Matsuko (2006)
 Mind Game (2004)
 My Neighbor Totoro (1988)
 Princess Mononoke (1997)
 Ran (1985)
 Rashomon (1950)
 Seven Samurai (1954)
 Shin Godzilla (2016)
 Spirited Away (2001)
 Still Walking (2008)
 Tokyo Story (1953)
 The Wind Rises (2013)
 Woman in the Dunes (1964)
 Yojimbo (1961)

Foreign-produced:

Hiroshima mon amour (1959)



Mexico

Alamar (2009)
 *Amores perros (2000)
 Ánimas Trujano / The Important Man (1961)
 Colosio: El asesinato (2012)
 Como agua para chocolate / Like Water for Chocolate (1992)
 Ensayo de un crimen / The Criminal Life of Archibaldo de la Cruz (1955)
 *The Exterminating Angel (1962)
 Godfather Mendoza (1934)
 Güeros (2014)
 Hecho En México (2012)
 I Hate Love (2012)
 La misma luna / Under the Same Moon (2007)
 Los Olvidados / The Young and the Damned (1950)
 Macario (1960)
 The Pearl (1947)
 Red Dawn (1989)
 Roma (2018)
 La sombra del Caudillo (1960)
 The Violin (2005)
 Viridiana (1961)



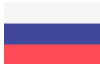
Peru

Peruvian-produced:

Asu Mare (2013)
 Caídos del cielo / Fallen from Heaven (1991)
 Ciudad de M (2000)
 Días de Santiago (2004)
 Gregorio (1984)
 Juliana (1989)
 La boca del Lobo / In the Mouth of the Wolf (1988)
 La ciudad y los Perros (1985)
 La teta asustada / The Milk of Sorrow (2009)
 Madeinusa (2005)
 *No se lo digas a nadie (1998)

Foreign-produced:

Aguirre, the Wrath of God (1972)
 Fitzcarraldo (1982)
 The Motorcycle Diaries (2004)
 When Two Worlds Collide (2016)



Russia / Soviet Union

Russian-produced:

Alexander Nevsky (1938)
 Andrei Rublev (1966)
 Ballad of a Soldier (1959)
 The Barber of Siberia (1998)
 Battleship Potemkin (1925)
 Brother (1997)
 Burnt by the Sun (1994)
 Come and See (1985)
 The Cranes Are Flying (1957)
 The Dawns Here Are Quiet (1972)
 The Diamond Arm (1969)
 Elena (2011)
 How I Ended This Summer (2010)
 The Irony of Fate (1975)
 Ivan's Childhood (1962)
 Leviathan (2014)
 Moscow Does Not Believe in Tears (1980)
 Russian Ark (2002)
 Silent Souls (2011)
 Solaris (1971)
 White Sun of the Desert (1970)

Foreign-produced:

Dersu Uzala (1975)

* recommended only for mature audiences



Spain

Spanish-produced:

Belle Epoque (1992)
 *Broken Embraces (2009)
 Carmen (1983)
 Carol's Journey (2002)
 Cría Cuervos (1976)
 The Devil's Backbone (2001)
 El Cid (1961)
 *Hable con ella / Talk to Her (2002)
 La aldea maldita / The Cursed Village (1942)
 La prima Angélica (1974)
 Little Ashes (2009)
 Mamá cumple cien años (1979)
 Ocho apellidos catalanes (2015)
 Ocho apellidos vascos (2014)
 Off Course (2015)
 Rosita (1923)
 Salvador (1986)
 The Spirit of the Beehive (1973)
 *That Obscure Object of Desire (1977)
 Viridiana (1961)

Foreign-produced:

Butterfly (1982)
 Goya's Ghosts (2006)
 L'auberge espagnole / The Spanish Apartment (2002)
 Land and Freedom (1995)
 Pan's Labyrinth (2006)
 The Red Squirrel (1993)
 Vantage Point (2008)
 *Vicky Cristina Barcelona (2008)
 *Women on the Verge of a Nervous Breakdown (1988)



United Kingdom

*24 Hour Party People (2002)
 Atonement (2007)
 Barry Lyndon (1975)
 Bill (2015)
 Billy Elliot (2000)
 Chariots of Fire (1981)
 Chimes at Midnight (1966)
 Dunkirk (2017)
 East is East (1998)
 Elizabeth (1998)
 A Field in England (2013)



Four Weddings and a Funeral (1994)
Great Expectations (1946)
cont. Hope and Glory (1987)
Hot Fuzz (2007)
I, Daniel Blake (2016)
*If... (1968)
The Importance of Being Earnest (1952)
Johnny English (2003)
Kes (1969)
Kind Hearts and Coronets (1949)
The King's Speech (2010)
The Life and Death of Colonel Blimp (1943)
Looking For Richard (1996)
A Man For All Seasons (1966)
Newton: A Tale of Two Isaacs (1998)
Northanger Abbey (2007)
*Once Upon a Time in the Midlands (2002)
Oliver Twist (1948)
The Pirates of Penzance (1983)
The Queen (2006)
Sense and Sensibility (1995)
Shakespeare in Love (1998)
*This Is England (2006)
*Trainspotting (1996)
Twenty Four Seven (1997)
Zulu (1964)

*** recommended only for mature audiences**

Books



China

Women of Mongolia by Martha Avery
Imperial Woman by Pearl Buck
Pavilion of Women by Pearl Buck
The Good Earth by Pearl Buck
The Earth is the Lord's: A Tale of the Rise of Genghis Khan by Taylor Caldwell
The Attic: Memoir of a Chinese Landlord's Son by Guanlong Cao and Nancy Moskin
The Devil's Horsemen by James Chambers
Three Daughters of China by Jung Wild Swans Chang
Bound feet and Western Dress by Pang-Mei Natasha Chang
Before the Deluge, the Vanishing World of the Yangtze's Three Gorges by Deirdre Chetham
Orlok/Snow Warrior by Don Dandrea
Manchu by Robert Elegant
A Floating Life: The Adventures of LiPo by Simon Elegant
The Family by Li Fei-kan Pa Chin
Seven Years in Tibet by Heinrich Harrer
Son of the Revolution by Liang Heng
Splendid Slippers: A Thousand Years of Tradition by Beverly Jackson



Costa Rica

Novels

Mamita Yunai by Carlos Luis Fallas
Única mirando al mar by Fernando Contreras

Culture and Natural History

Tropical Nature by Adrian Forsyth and Ken Miyata
The Ticos: Culture and Society Change by Richard Karen and Mavis Biesanz
What Happen: A Folk-History of Costa Rica's Talamanca Coast by Paula Palmer



Cuba

Novels and Poetry

Selected Writings by José Martí
Come, Come my Boiling Blood: The Complete Poems by José Martí

* recommended only for mature audiences

Versos Sencillos (Simple Verses) by José Martí
Yoruba from Cuba by Nicolás Guillén
Reasons of State by Alejo Carpentier
Waiting for Snow in Havana by Carlos Eire
Before Night Falls by Reinaldo Arenas
Three Trapped Tigers by Guillermo Cabrera Infante
Sab and Autobiography by Gertrudis Gómez de Avellaneda y Arteaga
Cecilia Valdés o El Ángel Hill by Cirilo Villaverde
The Old Man and the Sea by Ernest Hemingway
Our Man in Havana by Graham Greene

History and Philosophy

Conversations With Cuba by Peter C. Ripley
The Pride of Havana: A History of Cuban Baseball by Roberto Gonzalez Echevarria
My Life: A Spoken Autobiography by Fidel Castro
The Motorcycle Diaries by Ernesto "Che" Guevara



France

Novels

The Letters of Abelard and Héloïse by Peter Abelard
Candide by Voltaire
Gargantua and Pantagruel by François Rabelais
Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea by Jules Verne
Les Misérables by Victor Hugo
The Count of Monte Cristo by Alexandre Dumas
The Hunchback of Notre Dame by Alexandre Dumas
The Phantom of the Opera by Gaston Leroux
Madame Bovary by Flaubert
Nana by Emile Zola
The Red and the Black by Stendhal
**Atomised* by Michel Houellebecq
Life: A User's Manual by Georges Perec

History / Nonfiction

The Paris Commune by Danny Gluckstein
Fatal Purity: Robespierre and the French Revolution by Ruth Scurr
Bad Faith: A Forgotten History of Family, Fatherland, and Vichy France by Carmen Callil

The Almost Impossible Ally: Harold MacMillan and Charles De Gaulle by Peter Mangold
The Autobiography of Alice B. Toklas by Gertrude Stein

Philosophy

Meditations on First Philosophy by René Descartes
The Social Contract by Jean Jacques Rousseau
A Philosophical Essay on Man by Jean-Paul Marat
Democracy in America by Alexis de Tocqueville
The Spirit of the Laws by Montesquieu
Rights of Man by Thomas Paine
The Stranger by Albert Camus
Existentialism and Humanism by Jean-Paul Sartre
The Second Sex by Simone de Beauvoir
Tristes Tropiques by Claude Lévi-Strauss
Politics and History by Louis Althusser
The Archaeology of Knowledge by Michel Foucault

Economics

For Marx by Louis Althusser
The Civil War in France by Karl Marx
What is Property? by Pierre-Joseph Proudhon
Between Marxism and Anarchism by Benoît Malon
French Reformist Socialism by K. Steven Vincent
Capital by Thomas Piketty

Culture

The Physiology of Taste by Jean Anthelme Brillat-Savarin
French Food: On the Table, on the Page, and in French Culture by Schehr Lawrence
My Life in France by Julia Child



Germany

Novels

Faust by Johann Wolfgang von Goethe
The Tin Drum by Günter Grass
Berlin Alexanderplatz by Alfred Döblin
Grimms' Fairy Tales by the Brothers Grimm
Steppenwolf by Hermann Hesse

All Quiet on the Western Front by Erich Maria Remarque

The Reader by Bernhard Schlink
The Trial by Franz Kafka
The Castle by Franz Kafka
The Metamorphosis by Franz Kafka
Doktor Faustus by Thomas Mann
The Magic Mountain by Thomas Mann
Effi Briest by Theodor Fontane
The Neverending Story by Michael Ende
Every Man Dies Alone by Hans Fallada
Mephisto by Klaus Mann
Wilhelm Tell by Friedrich Schiller

Philosophy

Thus Spoke Zarathustra by Friedrich Nietzsche
Introduction to Metaphysics by Martin Heidegger
Discourse on Metaphysics by Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz
Critique of Pure Reason by Immanuel Kant
The Phenomenology of Spirit by Georg Wilhelm Friedrich Hegel
The World as Will and Idea by Arthur Schopenhauer
Tractatus Logico-Philosophicus by Ludwig Wittgenstein
The Concept of Anxiety by Søren Kierkegaard
Knowledge and Human Interests by Jürgen Habermas
Eichmann in Jerusalem: A Report on the Banality of Evil by Hannah Arendt
To Have or to Be? by Erich Fromm

Economics

Das Kapital by Karl Marx
Socialism: Utopian and Scientific by Friedrich Engels
The German Ideology by Marx & Engels
The Protestant Ethic by Max Weber



Iceland

Novels

Independent People by Halldór Laxness
World Light by Halldór Laxness
Iceland's Bell by Halldór Laxness

* recommended only for mature audiences

Angels of the Universe by Einar Már Guðmundsson
Jar City by Arnaldur Indriðason
Silence of the Grave by Arnaldur Indriðason

Tales and Sagas

Gunn Loth's Tale by Svava Jakobsdóttir
Egils Saga by Unknown c. 1200s
Saga of Erik the Red by Unknown c. 1265

Nonfiction

From High Latitudes by Lord Dufferin
Frost on My Moustache: the Arctic Exploits of a Lord and a Loafer by Tim Moore

Italy

Famous Literary Works

The Divine Comedy by Dante Alighieri
The Prince by Niccolò Machiavelli
The Name of the Rose by Umberto Eco
Foucault's Pendulum by Umberto Eco
Invisible Cities by Italo Calvino
Gomorra by Roberto Saviano
The Collected Poetry of Nikki Giovanni by Nikki Giovanni
The Poet and the Politician by Salvatore Quasimodo
If This Is A Man by Primo Levi
Death in Venice by Thomas Mann
The Tartar Steppe by Dino Buzzati
The Conformist by Alberto Moravia
My Brilliant Friend by Elena Ferrante

History

A Concise History of Italy by Christopher Duggan
The New Italians by Charles Richards
The Dark Heart of Italy by Tobias Jones
City of the Soul: A Walk in Rome by William Murray
An Italian Education by Tim Parks
The Dark Heart of Italy by Tobias Jones
Midnight in Sicily by Peter Robb
Rambling on the Road to Rome by Peter Francis Browne
The Story of San Michele by Axel Munthe

The History of the Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire by Edward Gibbon

Economics

Prison Notebooks by Antonio Gramsci
The Rebuilding of Italian Politics and Economics 1945-1955 by Muriel Grindrod

Culture

Rome: A Cultural and Literary Companion by Jonathan Boardman
Vanilla Beans and Brodo by Isabella Dusi
Moon Living Abroad in Italy by John Moretti
The Italians by Luigi Barzini
Under the Tuscan Sun by Frances Mayes
Bella Tuscany by Frances Mayes

Mexico

Novels

Like Water for Chocolate by Laura Esquivel
The Death of Artemio Cruz by Carlos Fuentes
Terra Nostra by Carlos Fuentes
The Old Gringo by Carlos Fuentes
Los años con Laura Díaz by Carlos Fuentes
The Pearl by John Steinbeck
The Labyrinth of Solitude by Octavio Paz
Signs Preceding the End of the World by Yuri Herrera
Under the Volcano by Malcolm Lowry
The Power and the Glory by Graham Greene
Faces in the Crowd by Valeria Luiselli
The Body Where I Was Born by Guadalupe Nettel
Down The Rabbit Hole by Juan Pablo Villalobos
The Uncomfortable Dead by Paco Ignacio Taibo II & Subcomandante Marcos
Leaving Tabasco by Carmen Boulosa

History / Philosophy

Aztec Thought and Culture: A Study of the Ancient Nahuatl Mind by Miguel León-Portilla
The Broken Spears by Miguel León-Portilla
The True History of the Conquest of New Spain by Bernal Díaz del Castillo
History of the Conquest of Mexico by William Hickling Prescott

* recommended only for mature audiences

Fire and Blood: A History of Mexico by T. R. Fehrenbach
When Montezuma Met Cortes: The True Story of the Meeting that Changed History by Matthew Restall
Villa and Zapata: A History of the Mexican Revolution by Frank McLynn
The Cosmic Race by José Vasconcelos



God and the State by Mikhail Bakunin
Selected Articles and Speeches by Alexandra Kollontai

Spain

Novels

Don Quixote by Miguel de Cervantes
Lazarillo de Tormes by Anonymous (1554)
Tirant lo Blanc by Joanot Martorell
Blanquerna by Ramon Llull
Amadis de Gaula by Garci Rodríguez de Montalvo
The Poetry & Plays of Federico García Lorca
Abel Sanchez: The History of a Passion by Miguel de Unamuno
The Family of Pascual Duarte by Camilo José Cela
The Shadow of the Wind by Carlos Ruiz Zafon
The Time of the Doves by Mercè Rodoreda
The Angst Ridden Executive by Manuel Vazquez Montalban
The Sun Also Rises by Ernest Hemingway
For Whom the Bell Tolls by Ernest Hemingway
Monsignor Quixote by Graham Greene
Tales of the Alhambra by Washington Irving
Leaving the Atocha Station by Ben Lerner
Winter in Madrid by C.J. Sansom
The Last Jew by Noah Gordon

History

The New Spaniards by John Hooper
The Battle for Spain by Antony Beevor
The Spanish Civil War by Paul Preston
Forgotten Places: Barcelona and the Spanish Civil War by Nick Lloyd
Homage to Catalonia by George Orwell
Barcelona by Robert Hughes
South from Granada by Gerald Brenan
The Story of Spain by Mark Williams
Iberia by James Michener
The Basque History of the World by Mark Kurlansky
Homage to Barcelona by Colm Tóibín
The Odyssey of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade: Americans in the Spanish Civil War by Peter Carroll

Russia / Soviet Union

Novels

War and Peace by Leo Tolstoy
Anna Karenina by Leo Tolstoy
The Death of Ivan Ilyich by Leo Tolstoy
The Brothers Karamazov by Fyodor Dostoyevsky
Crime and Punishment by Fyodor Dostoyevsky
The Idiot by Fyodor Dostoyevsky
Notes from Underground by F. Dostoyevsky
The Master and Margarita by Mikhail Bulgakov
Heart of a Dog by Mikhail Bulgakov
Doctor Zhivago by Boris Pasternak
Fathers and Sons: A Novel by Ivan Turgenev
Dead Souls by Nikolai Gogol
Eugene Onegin by Alexander Pushkin
One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich by Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn
A Hero of Our Time by Mikhail Lermontov
And Quiet Flows the Don by Mikhail Sholokhov
Life and Fate by Vasily Grossman
The Funeral Party by Lyudmila Ulitskaya
What Is to Be Done? by Nikolay Chernyshevsky

History

October: The Story of the Russian Revolution by China Miéville
The Last of the Tsars by Robert Service
Secondhand Time: The Last of the Soviets by Svetlana Alexievich

Philosophy

A Confession by Leo Tolstoy
The Russian Idea by Vladimir Solovyov
The Conquest of Bread by Peter Kropotkin
Mutual Aid: A Factor of Evolution by Peter Kropotkin
What Is to Be Done? by Vladimir Lenin
Who Is to Blame? by Alexander Herzen

*** recommended only for mature audiences**

Philosophy

The Revolt of the Masses by José Ortega y Gasset
The Tragic Sense of Life by Miguel de Unamuno
The Tree of Knowledge by Pío Baroja
Travels With My Donkey by Tim Moore
The Lost Diary of Don Juan: A Novel by Douglas Carlton Abrams

Culture

El Bulli by Ferran Adrià
Tapas, A Taste of Spain by José Andrés
Discovering Spain: An Uncommon Guide by Penelope Casas
Velazquez: Painter and Courtier by Jonathan Brown
Je suis le cahier: The Sketchbooks of Picasso by Arnold Glimcher



United Kingdom

Novels

Sense and Sensibility by Jane Austen
Pride and Prejudice by Jane Austen
Wuthering Heights by Emily Brontë
Alice's Adventures in Wonderland by Lewis Carroll
The Canterbury Tales by Geoffrey Chaucer
Sherlock Holmes by Arthur Conan Doyle
Heart of Darkness by Joseph Conrad
Robinson Crusoe by Daniel Defoe
A Tale of Two Cities by Charles Dickens
Brighton Rock by Graham Greene
Brave New World by Aldous Huxley
Kim by Rudyard Kipling
Lady Chatterley's Lover by D.H. Lawrence
The Chronicles of Narnia by C.S. Lewis
1984 by George Orwell
Frankenstein by Mary Shelley
Barry Lyndon by William Makepeace Thackeray
The Lord of the Rings by J.R.R. Tolkien
The Time Machine by H.G. Wells
The Picture of Dorian Gray by Oscar Wilde
To The Lighthouse by Virginia Woolf

Performance / Theatre

Works and Plays of William Shakespeare

Theatre: The Lively Art by Edwin Wilson and Alvin Goldfarb
The First London Theatre: Materials for a History by Charles W. Wallace
The De-Definition of Art by Harold Rosenberg
Shakespeare and the Force of Modern Performance by W.B. Worthen
Shakespeare's Mystery Play: The Opening of the Globe Theatre in 1599 by Steve Sohmer
Shakespeare: The Biography by Peter Ackroyd
Verbal Art as Performance by Richard Bauman and Barbara A. Babcock
A Life in the Theatre by Sir Tyrone Guthrie
Defining Art, Creating the Canon: Artistic Value in an Era of Doubt by Paul Crowther
The Philosophy of Art by Stephen Davies
Performance and Cultural Politics by Elin Diamond
Theatre and the World: Performance and the Politics of Culture by Rustom Bharucha
Monarchy and Democracy: A Progressive Agenda by Adrian Harvey

Economics and Philosophy

The Wealth of Nations by Adam Smith
Essays by Francis Bacon
The Condition of the Working Class in England by Friedrich Engels
Leviathan by Thomas Hobbes
The History of England by David Hume
On Liberty by John Stuart Mill
Common Sense by Thomas Paine
A History of Western Philosophy by Bertrand Russell
The Age of Revolution by Eric Hobsbawm

* recommended only for mature audiences