

Epics for Students: Titles	Author	Vol	Nationality	Gale Lit Index	Bloom	Twayne	Other
The Cantos <i>Looks beyond Homeric culture into a darker past, as if the modern mind, before it can escape the labyrinthine confusions of its age, must establish contact with forgotten beginnings</i>	Pound, Ezra	2	American	Y	Y	N	
Le Morte d' Arthur <i>Presents the epic story of King Arthur, his knights of the Round Table, the sword Excalibur, and his tragic and poetic death.</i>	Malory, Thomas	2	English	N	Y	N	
Paradise Lost <i>Depicts the creation, fall, and redemption of humankind and the moral and spiritual dilemmas of God's judgment</i>	Milton, John	1	English	Y	Y	Y	
The Faerie Queene <i>The story of a knight, representing a particular Christian virtue, as he or she would convey at the court of the Faerie Queene</i>	Spenser, Edmund	2	English	Y	N	N	
Kalevala <i>Begins with an account of the Creation - from a broken egg - and ends with an interpretation of the Virgin Birth</i>	Lonnrot, Elias	1	Finnish	Y	N	N	
Les Miserables <i>Escaped convict Jean Valjean risks his life to take care of a motherless young girl during the first half of the 19th century.</i>	Hugo, Victor	2	French	Y	N	N	
Iliad <i>Recounts the triumphs and defeats of the Greek and Trojan heroes during the Trojan War and the destruction of Troy by combined Greek armies</i>	Homer	1	Greek	Y	Y	Y	
Odyssey <i>Presents the classic poem concerning the wanderings of the hero Odysseus and his miraculous return to Ithaca and a faithful wife</i>	Homer	1	Greek	Y	Y	Y	
Dante Divina Commedia (The Divine Comedy) <i>A collection of critical essays on Dante's epic poem arranged in chronological order of publication.</i>	Dante, Alighieri	1	Italian	Y	Y	N	
Gerusalemme Liberata <i>A verse epic on the 11th-century First Crusade and the love of Tancred and Clorinda</i>	Taaao, Torquato	2	Italian	Y	N	N	

The Tale of Genji <i>In the Heian period, Prince Genji associates with a variety of court women.</i>	Shikibu, Murasaki	2	Japanese	Y	N	N	
Sundiata <i>A hunter from the north came with a prophecy that two hunters would come to the king with a very ugly woman whom he must marry, for she would bear him Mali's greatest king ever</i>	Kouyate, Dejele Mamoudou	1	Malian	Y	N	N	
De rerum natura <i>Presents a comprehensive study of atomic theory, natural phenomena, free will, and religious fears and prejudices by the ancient Roman philosopher and poet, Titus Lucretius Carus</i>	Lucretius	2	Roman	Y	N	N	
Virgil <i>Virgil's epic poem in verse translation describing the fall of Troy.</i>	Aeneid	1	Roman	N	Y	N	
War and Peace <i>People from diverse social strata respond to Napoleon's invasion of Russia.</i>	Tolstoy, Leo	2	Russian	Y	Y	Y	
Lord of the Rings <i>An epic detailing the Great War of the Ring, a struggle between good and evil in Middle-Earth, in which the tiny Hobbits play a key role</i>	Tolkien, J.R.R.	2	South African	Y	N	N	
Pharsalia <i>Recounts the events surrounding the decisive battle fought near Pharsalus in 48 B.C. during the civil war between the forces of Pompey the Great and Julius Caesar.</i>	Lucan(us), Marcus Annaeus	2	Spanish	Y	N	N	
Omeros <i>Follows the wanderings of a present-day Odysseus and the inconsolable sufferings of those who are displaced and traveling with trepidation toward their homes.</i>	Walcott, Derek	1	West Indian	Y	Y	N	