

**Master's Exam: Renaissance List (late sixteenth to mid seventeenth century)**

1. Thomas More (1478-1535)  
selections from *Utopia* (prose)
2. Edmund Spenser (1552-1599)  
Selections from *The Faerie Queene* (poetry) Books I and III suggested
3. Queen Elizabeth (1553-1602)  
selected speeches (prose) and poems
4. Philip Sidney (1554-1586)  
“The Defense of Poesy” (prose)  
selections from *Astrophil and Stella* (poetry)
5. Francis Bacon (1561-1626)  
*The New Atlantis* (prose)  
“The Four Idols” (from *Novum Organum* -- prose)
6. Christopher Marlowe (1564-1593)  
*Doctor Faustus* and *Edward II* (drama)
7. William Shakespeare (1564-1616)  
*Parts 1 and 2 Henry IV, Hamlet, Othello, Twelfth Night, Measure for Measure, The Tempest* (drama)  
selected sonnets (poetry)
8. King James I (1567-1625)  
*Daemonologie* (prose)
9. Ben Jonson (1572-1637)  
*Volpone* (drama)  
*The Masque of Blackness* (poetry/performance)
10. John Donne (1572-1631)  
*Songs and Sonnets* (poetry)
11. John Webster (1575?-1634?)  
*The Duchess of Malfi*
12. Elizabeth Cary (1585?-1639)
13. *The Tragedy of Mariam* (drama)  
*Songs and Sonnets*(poetry)
14. Robert Herrick (1591-1674)  
selected poems (*Hesperides* suggested)
15. George Herbert (1593-1633)  
selected poems (*The Temple* suggested)
16. Reginald Scot  
*The Discoverie of Witchcraft* (prose – circa 1603)
17. John Milton (1608-1674)  
Selected short poems (“When I Consider How My Light is Spent,” “Methought I Saw My Late  
Espous’d Saint,” “L’ Allegro” suggested)  
*Paradise Lost* (poetry)  
*Areopagitica* (prose)
18. Thomas Dekker, with John Ford and William Rowley  
*The Witch of Edmonton* (drama – circa 1621)  
*The True Law of Free Monarchies* (prose)
19. Robert Burton  
selections from *The Anatomy of Melancholy* (1621)
20. Andrew Marvell (1621-1678)  
Selected poems (surely “To His Coy Mistress”)