

Choosing a literary text for a foreign language class is not as simple as it might seem. Before making a decision, a teacher should consider three things: the course, the students and the text itself. Age matters: mature readers may find very simple stories childish, so the teacher needs to know what they actually enjoy. Cultural background must also be taken into account, and a teacher ought to avoid topics that could offend learners or belittle their beliefs. Finally, length cannot be ignored. If class time is limited, students might have to read part of the text at home, and they will need some background information to make sense of it.

*Adapted from Bousbai, A. (2014). Techniques for selecting and evaluating English language literary texts.*