



# COMUNE DI CONCESIO

PROVINCIA DI BRESCIA

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**CONCORSO PUBBLICO, PER SOLI ESAMI, PER L'ASSUNZIONE A TEMPO PIENO ED INDETERMINATO DI N. 2 ASSISTENTI BIBLIOTECARI (AREA DEGLI ISTRUTTORI) PRESSO IL SETTORE AMMINISTRATIVO, SERVIZIO BIBLIOTECARIO, DEL COMUNE DI CONCESIO DI CUI N.1 POSTO RISERVATO AGLI OPERATORI VOLONTARI DEL SERVIZIO CIVILE UNIVERSALE O NAZIONALE\_TRACCE LINGUA INGLESE.**

1. **Dante's Divine Comedy**

Dante Alighieri's epic poem is a monumental masterpiece of world literature. It takes the reader on a profound allegorical journey through Hell, Purgatory, and Heaven. Beyond its theological depth, it shaped the modern Italian language and inspired endless artists.

2. **The Betrothed by Alessandro Manzoni**

This historical novel is considered a cornerstone of Italian cultural identity and literature. Set in Lombardy during the 17th century, it tells the story of two young lovers facing oppression. Manzoni explores themes of faith, corruption, and the resilience of ordinary people under foreign rule.

3. **The Decameron by Giovanni Boccaccio**

Written during the Black Death, this collection features a hundred stories told by ten young people. It offers a vivid, witty, and often ironic portrayal of human nature, love, and survival. Boccaccio's masterpiece broke away from medieval mysticism to celebrate earthly life and cleverness.

4. **The Leopard by Giuseppe Tomasi di Lampedusa**

Set during the Italian Unification, this novel depicts the decline of a noble Sicilian family. The narrative famously suggests that everything must change so that everything can remain the same. It is a beautifully melancholic reflection on time, political shifts, and psychological resistance to change.

5. **Hamlet by William Shakespeare**

This tragic masterpiece probes deep into the complexities of human psychology, revenge, and existential doubt. The young prince of Denmark struggles with his moral duty after his father's murder. Its universal themes and philosophical soliloquies make it one of the most performed plays worldwide.

6. **Don Quixote by Miguel de Cervantes**

Widely regarded as the first modern novel, it follows a delusional knight and his squire. Cervantes brilliantly parodies medieval romance while exploring the tension between idealism and harsh reality. The protagonist's tragicomic adventures remind readers of the enduring power of human imagination.

7. **The Great Gatsby by F. Scott Fitzgerald**

Set in the Roaring Twenties, this novel critiques the glamorous yet hollow American Dream. Through the mysterious millionaire Jay Gatsby, Fitzgerald examines obsession, social class, and tragic romanticism. The lyrical prose beautifully captures the disillusionment of a wealthy, decadent society.



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## 8. **Crime and Punishment by Fyodor Dostoevsky**

This intense psychological novel examines the mental torment and moral dilemma of a poor student. After committing a cold-blooded murder, Raskolnikov faces overwhelming guilt and paranoia. Dostoevsky masterfully explores redemption, suffering, and the boundaries of human law.

## 9. **The Late Mattia Pascal by Luigi Pirandello**

Pirandello's groundbreaking novel explores identity through a man who fakes his own death. Believing he has gained absolute freedom, the protagonist soon realizes that living without a past is impossible. It is a brilliant existentialist critique of social conventions and human isolation.

## 10. **Pride and Prejudice by Jane Austen**

Austen's classic romance offers a sharp social commentary on the British nineteenth-century gentry. The witty Elizabeth Bennet and the proud Mr. Darcy must overcome their mutual misconceptions to find love. The novel remains immensely popular due to its memorable characters and timeless humor.

## 11. **One Hundred Years of Solitude by Gabriel García Márquez**

This masterpiece introduced the world to magical realism through the multigenerational story of the Buendía family. In the fictional town of Macondo, supernatural events are woven seamlessly into daily life. The novel is a metaphorical epic about Latin American history, love, and inescapable solitude.

## 12. **The Odyssey by Homer**

As one of the oldest surviving works of Western literature, this epic poem chronicles Odysseus's return home. He faces mythical monsters, wrathful gods, and treacherous temptations during his ten-year voyage. It established the definitive template for the classic adventure story and the hero's journey.

## 13. **Zeno's Conscience by Italo Svevo**

Written as a psychological journal for a psychoanalyst, this novel presents a highly unreliable narrator. Zeno Cosini analyzes his addictions, failed relationships, and self-deceptions with dark, ironic humor. Svevo captured the modern European neurosis, making it a landmark of modernist literature.

## 14. **1984 by George Orwell**

Orwell's dystopian masterpiece remains a terrifyingly relevant warning about totalitarianism and mass surveillance. The novel introduces concepts like Big Brother, thoughtcrime, and the systematic manipulation of historical truth. It examines the vulnerability of human freedom when psychological control becomes absolute.

## 15. **The Count of Monte Cristo by Alexandre Dumas**

This thrilling French classic is the ultimate tale of betrayal, patience, and meticulous revenge. Edmond Dantès is wrongfully imprisoned, escapes, and uses a hidden treasure



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to ruin his enemies. Dumas expertly explores whether justice belongs solely to God or if a man can claim it.

## 16. **If This Is a Man by Primo Levi**

Levi's powerful memoir provides a calm, analytical account of his survival in Auschwitz. Instead of seeking simple hatred, he observes the human condition under extreme dehumanization. It stands as an essential moral document and a crucial witness to twentieth-century history.

## 17. **Madame Bovary by Gustave Flaubert**

This realistic novel tells the tragic story of Emma Bovary, a woman bored by provincial life. To escape her dull reality, she seeks romance and luxury, leading to her financial and moral ruin. Flaubert's precise style perfectly illustrates the danger of living in romantic illusions.

## 18. **The Picture of Dorian Gray by Oscar Wilde**

Wilde's only novel explores the dark side of aestheticism and the desire for eternal youth. While Dorian remains young and beautiful, his painted portrait reflects the sins of his corrupted soul. It is a witty yet gothic philosophical critique of vanity and moral decay.

## 19. **Canti by Giacomo Leopardi**

Leopardi's collection of poems represents the height of Italian romanticism and existential philosophy. Through beautiful verses, he explores nature's indifference, human suffering, and the illusion of happiness. Despite his deep pessimism, his work offers profound comfort through its artistic perfection.

## 20. **Frankenstein by Mary Shelley**

Often called the first science fiction novel, it explores the dangers of playing God. Victor Frankenstein creates life from death but quickly abandons his grotesque creation out of horror. The story raises profound questions about scientific responsibility, isolation, and what makes us human.

## 21. **The Name of the Rose by Umberto Eco**

This brilliant historical mystery is set in a remote Italian monastery during the fourteenth century. A clever friar investigates a series of bizarre murders linked to a secret library. Eco masterfully blends detective fiction with medieval philosophy, literary theory, and political intrigue.

## 22. **The Stranger by Albert Camus**

This French masterpiece illustrates the philosophy of the absurd through its detached protagonist, Meursault. After committing a random murder on a beach, he is judged more for his emotional indifference than the crime. Camus challenges the artificial meanings that society forces upon human existence.