

## Historical Fiction Booklist

How to add books to the booklist:

1. Log into Google.
2. Navigate to <http://books.google.com>
3. Search for the book by title or author.
4. Find the book in the results list, then click the “Add to my library” link underneath it. It will process for a few moments, then the link will change to “In my library (Remove)”
5. To edit the tags, click the “In my library” link (NOT “Remove”)
6. Click the “Add labels” link. An editable space will open. Enter your tags, separated by commas, then click save.

How to label books:

General guidelines: Label at multiple levels for place and time (eg, Africa, North Africa, Egypt, Cairo; Twentieth Century, 1950s, 1954)

General tags:

1. “SPL” for books held at any SPL branch.
2. “NET” for books held at Northeast.
3. Include the call letter provided by Horizon for level for all books; E for picture books; J/E for readers (probably not too many of these); J for chapter books.
4. Include “Historical fiction” tag when it is evident from the reviews or synopses that the book has a strong sense of time or is dealing with a particular period of history (even if the specifics may not be evident). Yeah, this is a judgment call.
5. Always check existing tags before adding a new one – search for other books set in the same region and time as the one you’re adding and make sure that you use the existing tags when appropriate. Try to only create new tags to represent a genuinely new addition to the events represented.
6. If you have located a booklist online and you are uploading books from it, keep track of the link and the regions completed so that future workers don’t duplicate your efforts.

Tags for place:

1. Tag at multiple levels, going as far down as appropriate/relevant: Continent, region, country, state, city. For example, a story set in Asmara, Eritrea, its tags should include: Africa, East Africa, Eritrea, Asmara. A story set in Cairo, Egypt, should include: Africa, North Africa, Middle East, Egypt, Cairo.
2. Use the generally known name for a country: “Laos” rather than “Lao People's Democratic Republic”; “China” rather than “People’s Republic of China”; “Hong Kong” rather than “Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of China”, etc. In general, the book blurb, back cover, and reviews will provide the most common usage. In general, err on the side of findability rather

than political accuracy. If no one is going to search for “Democratic Republic of the Congo,” don’t use it.

3. Especially for African and Eastern European nations, always double check to whether the country has changed its name. If it has, include both the name at the time of the events in the story and the name currently in use. You do not need to include tags for intervening names, if they are not mentioned in the book itself. For example, a story set in Rhodesia in 1968 should be tagged “Rhodesia” as well as “Zimbabwe”, but you do not need to include “Zimbabwe Rhodesia”.

4. Use the United Nations geoscheme to label regions.

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United\\_Nations\\_geoscheme](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_Nations_geoscheme)

- a. Africa ([http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United\\_Nations\\_geoscheme\\_for\\_Africa](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_Nations_geoscheme_for_Africa))
    - i. **East Africa:** Burundi, Comoros, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mayotte, Mozambique, Réunion, Rwanda, Seychelles, Somalia, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe
    - ii. **Middle Africa:** Angola, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, São Tomé and Príncipe
    - iii. **North Africa:** Algeria\*\*, Egypt\*\*, Libya\*\*, Morocco\*\*, Sudan, Tunisia\*\*, and Western Sahara
    - iv. **Southern Africa:** Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland
    - v. **West Africa:** Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Cape Verde, The Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Togo\*\*Books set in these countries should also be tagged “Middle East”.
  - b. Americas ([http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United\\_Nations\\_geoscheme\\_for\\_the\\_Americas](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_Nations_geoscheme_for_the_Americas))
    - i. **North America:** Canada, United States, Greenland, Mexico\*, Saint-Pierre and Miquelon, Bermuda\* The UN includes Mexico in Central America, but I have moved it to North America to reflect common usage in the US. –SW
  - ii. **Caribbean:** Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, Aruba, Bahamas, Barbados, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guadeloupe, Haiti, Jamaica, Martinique, Montserrat, Netherlands Antilles, Puerto Rico, Saint-Barthélemy, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Martin (France), Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago, Turks and Caicos Islands, United States Virgin Islands
  - iii. **Central America:** Belize, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama
  - iv. **South America:** Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Falkland Islands, French Guiana, Guyana, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Uruguay, Venezuela
- c. Asia ([http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United\\_Nations\\_geoscheme\\_for\\_Asia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_Nations_geoscheme_for_Asia))
  - i. **Central Asia:** Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan

- ii. **East Asia:** China - the People's Republic of China and the Republic of China (Taiwan), Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of China, Macao Special Administrative Region of China, Japan, Mongolia, North Korea, South Korea
  - iii. **South Asia:** Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Iran\*\*, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka
  - iv. **Southeast Asia:** Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Vietnam
  - v. **West Asia:** Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain\*\*, Cyprus\*\*, Georgia, Iraq\*\*, Israel\*\*, Jordan\*\*, Kuwait\*\*, Lebanon\*\*, Oman\*\*, Palestinian territories (West Bank and Gaza Strip)\*\*, Qatar\*\*, Saudi Arabia\*\*, Syrian Arab Republic\*\*, Turkey\*\*, United Arab Emirates\*\*, Yemen\*\*
- \*\*Books set in these countries should also be tagged "Middle East".
- d. Europe ([http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United\\_Nations\\_geoscheme\\_for\\_Europe](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_Nations_geoscheme_for_Europe))
    - i. **Eastern Europe:** Belarus, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Ukraine
    - ii. **Northern Europe:** Åland Islands, Channel Islands, Denmark, Estonia, Faeroe Islands, Finland, Guernsey, Iceland, Republic of Ireland, Isle of Man, Jersey, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway, Svalbard and Jan Mayen Islands, Sweden, United Kingdom
    - iii. **Southern Europe:** Albania, Andorra, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Gibraltar, Greece, Vatican City, Italy, Malta, Montenegro, Portugal, Republic of Macedonia, San Marino, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain
    - iv. **Western Europe:** Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Monaco, Netherlands, Switzerland
  - e. Oceania ([http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United\\_Nations\\_geoscheme\\_for\\_Oceania](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_Nations_geoscheme_for_Oceania))
    - i. **Australia**
    - ii. **New Zealand**
    - iii. **Melanesia:** Fiji, New Caledonia, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu
    - iv. **Micronesia:** Guam, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Nauru, Northern Mariana Islands, Palau
    - v. **Polynesia:** American Samoa, Cook Islands, French Polynesia, Niue, Pitcairn, Samoa, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu, Wallis and Futuna Islands
5. You may wish to add additional regions, such as "Scandinavia", "Great Britain", etc. The above are minimums, not maximums. Just make sure to focus on searchability and what you can expect a ten-year-old to ask for a book about.
  6. If a geographic feature is particularly prominent in a book ("mountains", "island", "river" (or a specific river: Nile, Mississippi), etc. include a tag for that.

Tag for time:

1. Tag for century and decade. For example, a novel set in 1945 should be tagged “20<sup>th</sup> century, 1940s”. Centuries should be in the format “20<sup>th</sup> century, 19<sup>th</sup> century”, etc. Decades should be in a strictly numerical format. For years prior to 0 C.E., use the format “6<sup>th</sup> century BCE”.
  - a. If a story takes place over a span of time, tag for decade, start year, and end year.
2. If the story is set during a particular well-known event, include a tag for the event (or events): Great Depression, WWII, Rwandan genocide. In general, if these are relevant, they will be listed in the book blurb, back cover, or reviews.
3. Include broader and more specific tags for general events; for example, tag with both “war” and “civil war”, “war of independence”, “world war”, etc. “famine”, “economic depression”, “genocide”, “epidemic”, etc.
4. Do the best you can – it may not be possible without the item in hand to determine what year a book is set in. Don’t sweat it. That said, Google Books includes links to a variety of other editorial and user reviews which may help you narrow down time; GoodReads is also a good place to check. But if it’s not possible, it’s not possible.

Links to booklists already completed:

- <http://www.ci.keene.nh.us/library/youth/historicalfiction.htm#africa>