



Humanities Department/Michael Murray, Chair
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Required Grade-level Based ELA Summer Reading Assignments

Students entering English CP classes: read **one** of the books from among the choices in the the appropriate grade-level list below. If you have another grade-level appropriate book you would prefer to read, it must be approved by Mr. Murray in person by June 16th. Summer reading tests will be administered by the second week of school and will constitute 10% of the first quarter grade.

Students entering Honors/AP English classes Students entering honors English classes, please choose one of the books from the list below, (or an alternate title I need to approve), in addition to one of the books from the list specific to the honors class in which you will be enrolled. Students entering AP 12, please read **only** the selections listed for that class. Summer reading tests will be administered by the second week of school and will constitute 10% of the first quarter grade.

Choices for Grades 9 & 10 CP

Chol-hwan Kang/The Aquariums of Pyongyang: Ten Years in the North Korean Gulag *Non-Fiction: North Korean boy sent to prison camp with his entire family for the “crimes” of his grandfather.*

Immaculee Ilibagiza/Left to Tell: Discovering God Amidst the Rwandan Holocaust *Non-Fiction: Rwandan girl’s experiences in the Rwandan genocide in the 1990’s*

Fredrik Backman/My Grandmother Asked Me to Tell You She’s Sorry *Fiction: Seven year old kid’s adventures with a hot ticket grandmother who shoots at people from her porch*

Alanna Young/Almost Lost Forever (Book is by a local author. Available only on Amazon) *Fantasy Fiction: Brother and sister fall through a portal to another world and have to make difficult choices*

Ursula K. Le Guin/The Lathe of Heaven *Science Fiction: Man goes to psychiatrist because his dreams keep coming true. Psychiatrist decides to experiment with this for the good of all.*

Caren Stelson/Sachiko: A Nagasaki Bomb Survivor’s Story *Non-Fiction: Six year old survives atomic bomb in Nagasaki in 1945.*

Jon Krakauer/Into Thin Air *Non-Fiction: Personal Account of a tragic climb up Mount Everest in 1996*

John Coy/Crackback *Fiction: New football coach shakes up the high school team*

Madeleine Blais/In These Girls Hope is a Muscle: A True Story of Hoop Dreams and One Very Special Team *Amherst High School girls basketball team’s champion season*

Karen Blumenthal, Steve Jobs: The Man Who Thought Different *Biography: Life of one of inventor of the Apple Computer*

Choices for Grades 11 & 12

Khassan Baiev/The Oath: The Remarkable Story of a Surgeon’s Life Under Fire in Chechnya *Non-Fiction: Doctor working in war zone in Chechnya in the early 2000’s*

Alex Haley, The Autobiography of Malcolm X as Told to Alex Haley *Biography: Life and transformations of 1960’s civil rights leader Malcolm X.*

Anthony Doerr/All the Light We Cannot See *Historical Fiction: Blind French girl and German boy in occupied France during WWII*

Joyce Carol Oates/Foxfire *Fiction: Coming of age story about a girl in a gang*

Geraldine Brooks/Nine Parts of Desire: The Hidden World of Islamic Women *Non-Fiction: Exploration of the daily life of Muslim women in the Middle East*

Kate Atkinson/Life After Life *Fiction: Mysterious story of a character that is born and dies several times and lives an unusual existence.*

Terry Pratchett & Neil Gaiman/Good Omens *Fantasy: Two bad angels try to sabotage the coming of the “End Times” because they like things the way they are.*

Vanessa Diffenbaugh/The Language of Flowers; *Fiction: Girl in foster care realizes she has a gift for helping others*

Trevor Noah/Born a Crime: Stories from a South African Childhood *Autobiography: Comedian and host of The Daily Show recalls his childhood growing up under apartheid.*

Larry Niven/Ringworld *Science Fiction: Two humans and two non-humans explore an artificial ring-like planet built by ancient alien race. A sci-fi classic!*

Entering English 9 Honors please read one of these additional titles: Laurie Halse Anderson, Fever 1793, John Feinstein, Foul Trouble (ISBN-13: 978-0375871696); Ruta Sepetys, Between Shades of Grey, Madeline Miller, Song of Achilles

English 10 Honors: , Isabella Allende, Eva Luna, John Fante, Ask The Dust, Pat Conroy, My Losing Season, Kathryn Erskine, Mockingbird; Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barrows, The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Society

English 11 Honors: Toni Morrison, The Bluest Eye, Louisa May Alcott, Little Women;; Phillip Roth, The Plot Against America

English 12 Honors: Andrea Levy, Small Island; Helen Oyeyemi, White is for Witching; Ian McEwan, The Child in Time, Jane Austen, Emma

Students entering English 12 AP are required to read two specific books. These selections are listed below:

Students entering **AP English 12:** T.C. Boyle, Tortilla Curtain AND Thomas C. Foster, How to Read Literature Like a Professor: A Lively and Entertaining Guide to Reading Between the Lines

Social Studies Summer Work: Students entering the **U.S. I Honors, U.S. II Honors, and AP U.S. History** must pick up summer work packets and books in room 210 (humanities dept. office) between June 7-June 16. This summer work will constitute 10% of the first quarter grade in each of these classes.