



## SUMMER ENGLISH ASSIGNMENTS

2020–21 School Year

Middle School

For parental support with summer reading, we offer Commonsensemedia.org and Goodreads.com as resources.

### English 6 Required Summer Reading

**Seedfolks** by Paul Fleischman

Rising 6<sup>th</sup>-graders are required to read *Seedfolks* over the summer. As your 6<sup>th</sup>-grader reads the novel, they should use a highlighter or pencil or pen to mark passages that are especially interesting to them. This book will serve as the central text for the first unit of the year, so please purchase a copy of the book for your student and they should bring it on the first day of school.

### English 7 Required Summer Reading

***I Am Malala*** (Young Readers Edition) by Malala Yousefzai and Patricia McCormick

- 1) Rising 7<sup>th</sup>-graders are required to read two summer reading books. One is the student's choice of any book she has not previously read from the selections below. The other is *I Am Malala* (Young Readers Edition) by Malala Yousefzai and Patricia McCormick. Take one page of notes—handwritten or double-spaced typed—for each of the two books read. Notes are ideas, phrases, bullets, or thoughts to remind you of the plot (the story), the setting, and/or the name and basic personality of each main character. Bring your notes on both novels the first day of class.
- 2) Choose another novel from the English 7 Independent Reading List below:
  - **Posted** by John David Anderson
  - ***Girl in the Blue Coat*** by Monica Hesse
  - ***Finding Gobi: A Little Dog with a Very Big Heart*** by Dion Leonard
  - ***I Will Always Write Back: How One Letter Changed Two Lives*** by Caitlin Alifirenka and Martin Ganda

### English 8 Required Summer Reading

***The Outsiders*** by S.E. Hinton

***The Girl Who Drank the Moon*** by Kelly Barnhill

Assignment for BOTH BOOKS: Choose five quotations from each novel that you think are the most significant. Select quotations that develop themes or characters. Type your 10 quotations, along with page numbers, and save an electronic copy. We will use your choices for a classroom activity.



## SUMMER ENGLISH ASSIGNMENTS

2020–2021 School Year

Upper School

For parental support with summer reading, we offer Commonsensemedia.org and Goodreads.com as resources.

### English 9 Required Summer Reading

***The Secret Life of Bees*** by Sue Monk Kidd

- 1) Read actively and mark your books with thoughtful annotations. Annotations can include, but are not limited to, definitions of unknown words, interpretations of symbols, and questions about confusing passages. Select one quote from each chapter (include page number where the quote is found), and write the quote on the first page of the chapter. Upon returning to school, you will submit your book for review. You will be expected to be conversant with the text and should reference the significant quotes you selected to support your connections to themes in the novel. This text will be used in a character analysis project and other activities in class.
- 2) Choose another novel from the English 9 list below to read and enjoy.
  - *The History of Bees* by Maja Lunde
  - *The End of the Ocean* by Maja Lunde

Please annotate the novel you choose. Annotations can include, but are not limited to, definitions of unknown words, interpretations of symbols, reactions to significant scenes, emerging themes, and questions about confusing passages.

### English 10 Required Summer Reading

**1984** by George Orwell

Please annotate with attention to the following topics: 1) dystopian society, 2) the power of language (communication/Newspeak), 3) mind control (manipulation/memory), 4) rebellion. In addition, annotate character development in your book with specific attention to Winston, Julia, O'Brien, and Parsons. Annotations can include, but are not limited to, definitions of unknown words, interpretations of symbols, reactions to significant scenes, and questions about confusing passages. This effort will be very useful to you in our first weeks of class. Upon completion of the novel, review your annotations. What about this novel is different from other novels you've read/studied up to this point? In what ways is it similar? (Be sure to mention specific works--do not generalize.) What about the novel feels realistic to you? Is there anything about the novel that feels unrealistic or impossible? Type a reflection of at least 1.5 pages that answers these questions. Be sure to use proper MLA format. Proofread carefully for grammar.



## English 10 Required Summer Reading (continued)

**Never Let Me Go** by Kazuo Ishiguro

Please annotate with attention to the following topics: 1)

reliability/unreliability of memory, 2) possession and ownership, 3) birth and death, 4) humanity and the nature of the soul. In addition, annotate character development in your book with specific attention to Kathy H., Tommy, and Ruth. Annotations can include, but are not limited to, definitions of unknown words, interpretations of symbols, reactions to significant scenes, and questions about confusing passages.

Upon completion of the novel, review your annotations. What about this novel is different from other novels you've read/studied up to this point? In what ways is it similar? (Be sure to mention specific works--do not generalize.) What about the novel feels realistic to you? Is there anything about the novel that feels unrealistic or impossible? Type a reflection of at least 1.5 pages that answers these questions. Be sure to use proper MLA format. Proofread carefully for grammar.

## English 11 Required Summer Reading

**Kindred** by Octavia Butler

Read actively and mark your book with thoughtful annotations. Annotations can include, but are not limited to, definitions of unknown words, thematic concerns, interpretations of symbols, and questions about confusing passages. Select a passage of at least one full sentence in length for every chapter you read, and recopy the passage on the first page of the chapter. After completing the novel, select four related passages from your chapters and write one reflection concerning the connections you see in the four passages. Possible connections include development of a theme or character, interpreting symbols, etc. Your reflection should be in MLA formatting, typed, double-spaced, and approximately two pages in length.

**The Prince of los Cocuyos: A Miami Childhood** by Richard Blanco

Read actively and mark your book with thoughtful annotations.

Sandra Lilley from NBCNews.com writes: "...there are the passages that break your heart. When asked about that, Blanco said the sense of "tragicomedia" is very cultural. "One minute you're laughing and one minute you're crying and you don't know why - that feeling of crying and laughing at the same time; there should be a name for it," he said." Find and mark four passages that qualify as "tragicomedia" moments in the memoir and be prepared to write a reflection about these in class.



## 11th AP English Language and Composition Required Reading

### ***The Prince of los Cocuyos: A Miami Childhood*** by Richard Blanco

Read actively and mark your book with thoughtful annotations. Sandra Lilley from NBCNews.com writes: "...there are the passages that break your heart. When asked about that, Blanco said the sense of "tragicomedia" is very cultural. "One minute you're laughing and one minute you're crying and you don't know why - that feeling of crying and laughing at the same time; there should be a name for it," he said." Find and mark four passages that qualify as "tragicomedia" moments in the memoir and be prepared to write a reflection about these in class.

### ***Kindred*** by Octavia Butler

Read actively and mark your book with thoughtful annotations. Annotations can include, but are not limited to, definitions of unknown words, thematic concerns, interpretations of symbols, and questions about confusing passages. Select a passage of at least one full sentence in length for each one of the eight chapters you read, and recopy the passage on the first page of the chapter. After completing the novel, select four related passages from your chapters and write one reflection concerning the connections you see in the four passages. Possible connections include development of a theme or character, interpreting symbols, etc. The reflection should be handwritten in ink and approximately two pages in length.

Students will submit both text reflections (for Blanco and Butler) in class for credit. Please do not use any outside sources for this work.

## English 12 Required Summer Reading

### ***The Martian*** by Andy Weir

Read actively and mark your books with thoughtful annotations. Annotations can include, but are not limited to, definitions of unknown words, interpretations of symbols, and questions about confusing passages. As you read, pay attention to and mark passages that capture moments of human connection, ingenuity, and the will to survive.



## English 12 Required Summer Reading(continued)

***Their Eyes Were Watching God*** by Zora Neale Hurston

Read actively and mark your books with thoughtful annotations.

Annotations can include, but are not limited to, definitions of

unknown words, interpretations of symbols, and questions about confusing passages. While you read this novel, keep a journal of figurative language. Choose ten examples of figurative language from the novel and write or type that example or quotation at the top of a page. Under the figurative language quotation, draw a picture that represents your example. Figurative language can include metaphors, similes, personification, symbolism, and hyperbole.

## 12th AP Required Summer Reading

***The God of Small Things*** by Arundhati Roy

Read actively and mark your books with thoughtful annotations. Annotations can include, but are not limited to, definitions of unknown words, interpretations of symbols, and questions about confusing passages. After completing the novel, select four related passages from your annotations and write one reflection concerning the connections you see in the four passages. Possible connections include development of a theme or character, interpreting symbols, etc. The reflection should be typed in MLA formatting and approximately two pages in length.

***Their Eyes Were Watching God*** by Zora Neale Hurston

Read actively and mark your books with thoughtful annotations. Annotations can include, but are not limited to, definitions of unknown words, interpretations of symbols, and questions about confusing passages. While you read this novel, keep a journal of figurative language. Choose ten examples of figurative language from the novel and write or type that quotation at the top of a page. Under the figurative language quotation, draw a picture that represents your example. Figurative language includes metaphors, similes, personification, symbolism, and hyperbole.

***Atonement*** by Ian McEwan

Read actively and mark your books with thoughtful annotations. Annotations can include, but are not limited to, definitions of unknown words, interpretations of symbols, and questions about confusing passages. Be prepared for an in-class essay and Harkness discussion based on this novel.