Summer Reading 2016-2017

All students must read at least two books over the summer. **Students in advanced courses will be required to read three books.** The first book will be reviewed and tested during the first week of school. For the second and third books, students are to keep a journal of responses. The journal will be collected on the **first day of school – without exception.** Then students will be permitted to use the journal as a resource while they write a five-paragraph in-class essay during the second week of school.

All of these assignments – the test, journal, and essay – will count toward each student’s first quarter grade. The test and essay will be considered quiz grades. The test has a typical test set-up – multiple choice, short answer, true or false, etc. The essay will be graded based on a rubric created by the English department, which will be given to the student when they receive the prompt on the book he/she read. The journal will also count as a quiz grade. Students must write one journal response **per chapter of the book.** Entries are expected to be at least one thorough paragraph that reflects both comprehension and individual thought. These entries are **NOT** simply summaries. They must also include reflection. Some topics you may use but are not limited to:

- One thing that really interested me was…
- One thing that really shocked me was…
- One thing that disgusted/upset me…
- One thing that confused me…
- One thing that inspired me…
- When I read ____________, it reminded me of…
- I can relate to ______________…
- The line “_____________” really had an impact on me…
- Chapter ____________ had the best information because…
- Something completely new I learned was…
- Part of the book that will stay with me is ____________…
- After finishing the book, my final thoughts are…
- Name two major issues that occurred through the novel and discuss how they affected the characters.

Remember students may use these journals as they write their in-class essays. Thus, the better information they include in their journals, the better information they have available to them as they write their essays. There are no exceptions to the summer reading program. If a student has **transferred after August 1,** it is the student and their parents’ responsibility to make arrangements for the completion of the assignments with his/her English teacher. If those who transfer after August 1 have not completed the summer reading by halfway through the first quarter, the assignments will be given zeros. If there are any questions, please contact the school or a teacher in the English department.

Contact information:
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English Department Chairman
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The required texts are listed on the back of this page.
Incoming Ninth Grade Titles (all students)

- 1. *Percy Jackson and The Lightning Thief* by Rick Riordan (journal and in-class essay)  
   Student choice for second book: 2. *The Old Man and the Sea* by Ernest Hemingway (test)  
   or  
   2. *The Hobbit* by JRR Tolkien (test)

Incoming Tenth Grade Titles (all students)

- *Into the Wild* by Jon Krakauer (test)  
  *Stiff* by Mary Roach (journal and in-class essay) * this is an interdisciplinary text and will also be discussed in biology class this year

In addition to these titles, advanced American Literature students must also read:

ADVANCED: *The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald (journal and in-class essay)

Incoming British Literature Titles (all students)

- *1984* by George Orwell (journal and in-class essay)  
  *Dracula* by Bram Stoker (test)

In addition to these titles, advanced British Literature students must also read:

ADVANCED: *Jane Eyre* by Charlotte Bronte (journal and in-class essay)

Incoming World Literature Titles (all students)

- *The Count of Monte Cristo* by Alexandre Dumas (journal and in-class essay)  
  *The Metamorphosis* by Franz Kafka (test)

In addition to these titles, advanced World Literature students must also read:

ADVANCED: *The Plague* by Albert Camus (journal and in-class essay)

*Incoming  ADVANCED PLACEMENT World Literature Titles (all students)

- *Crime and Punishment* by Fyodor Dostoevsky (test)  
  *Blindness* by Jose Saramago (journal and in-class essay)  
  *The Kite Runner* by Khaled Hosseini (journal and in-class essay)