

2023 Summer Reading - Grades 6-12

Students and parents:

- *Each student is expected to have his or her own copy of the required summer reading novel(s) for each applicable class below. You can purchase a copy in whatever visual medium they prefer (physical hardback or paperback, e-book, et al.).*
- ***If an ISBN number is listed, be sure to purchase that specific copy. Otherwise, you are free to purchase at your own discretion.***
- **Accountability for New Students**
 - If you are enrolled by **June 30**, you will be expected to complete the summer reading by the first day of school. You will be assessed within the first two weeks along with your classmates.
 - If you enroll between July 1 and August 30, you will have until the end of the first quarter to complete the summer reading. You will be assessed at the end of the first quarter.
 - Students who enroll on or after **September 1** will not be expected to complete the summer reading, but should still attend an annotation seminar.

English

Students are expected to annotate their novels. Annotations are notes which reveal the reader's connections, impressions, inferences, and even personal reactions to elements within the text. These notes are typically written in the margins, but students can also use sticky notes, highlighters, or whatever they prefer to record and organize their observations. The WCDS Annotation Guide is available on the school website if you need to see examples.

After completing your summer reading and annotations, you should be able to:

- Accurately summarize events of the plot (i.e. rising action, conflict, climax, resolution)
- Elaborate on how characters are depicted and how they develop over the course of the novel.
- Identify literary elements (figurative language, setting, irony, words with strong connotations)
- Define unfamiliar words, terms, allusions, or concepts.

Biology

The Biology summer reading novel is required for all students who will be enrolled as 9th graders as well as 10th and 11th grade students who have not taken Biology and will be enrolled in the course in the current academic year.

You will not be expected to closely annotate but will be expected to write a one-sentence summary for each chapter. In the case the chapter is more than 10 pages, write a 2-3 sentence summary. This should be completed on a Google Doc and each summary should be labeled by chapter.

6th Grade

Students will read and annotate:

A Single Shard by Linda Sue Park

7th Grade

Students will read and annotate:

The Outsiders by S.E. Hinton

8th Grade

Students will read and annotate both novels:

Fahrenheit 451 by Ray Bradbury

The Giver by Lois Lowry

Biology

The Hot Zone: A Terrifying True Story by Richard Preston

9th Grade

English 9

All English 9 students must read and annotate:

Lord of the Flies by William Golding

In addition, students should also choose one of the following to read and annotate:

Of Mice and Men by John Steinbeck

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time by Mark Haddon

When students return, *Lord of the Flies* will be discussed as part of a Socratic seminar.

The book they choose will be assessed in a formal written test.

Both assessments require close and thoughtful annotations of literary elements (i.e. the plot, characterization, symbolism, themes/ideas).

See the WCDS annotation guide for guidance.

10th Grade

English 10

All English 10 students will need to read and annotate both of the following books:

Night by Elie Wiesel
(ISBN-10 : 9780374500016 / ISBN-13 : 978-0374500016)

No One is Too Small to Make a Difference by Greta Thunberg
(Penguin Books - ISBN-10: 014313356X / ISBN-13: 978-0143133568)

HONORS English 10

In addition to the 10th grade novels above, you will need to purchase copies of the following books, which will be read and annotated during the school year.

Fall semester (September):

The Glass Menagerie by Tennessee Williams (ISBN 13: 978-0-8112-1404-9)

Spring semester (January):

Oedipus Rex by Sophocles (Literary Touchstone Edition - ISBN 13: 978-1-58049-593-6)

11th Grade

English 11

All English 11 students must read and annotate:

The Glass Castle by Jeannette Walls

AP English Language and Composition

In addition to the 11th grade novel listed above, all AP English Language and Composition students must read and closely annotate:

A Farewell to Arms by Ernest Hemingway

12th Grade

English 12

All English 12 students must read and closely annotate:

Small Great Things by Jodi Picoult

AP English Literature and Composition

In addition to the 12th grade novel listed above, all AP English Literature and Composition students must read and closely annotate ONE of the following:

The Handmaid's Tale by Margaret Atwood
Their Eyes Were Watching God by Zora Neale Hurston

Lastly, AP Literature students are also asked to read the book listed below. While annotation will not be required, students will be expected to know the themes, concepts, and symbolic patterns Thomas Foster says are found in literature. It is expected for students to take notes on these ideas for use throughout the year.

How to Read Literature Like a Professor: A Lively and Entertaining Guide to Reading Between the Lines by Thomas C. Foster