

# 2024 WCDS 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 in grades 7-12 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.

Students in 6th grade will create a dialectal journal to get them used to how to note, respond, and retain the connections they are making in their novel. The directions for this assignment are located on the WCDS website under "Find it Fast."

## **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 should read the novel first. While they are reading, they are simply working to understand the story. Encourage them to look up any words they don't know and write the definitions in the margins.

Then, students will explore the elements of the novel by recording their observations in a **dialectal journal**. The directions for this assignment are located on the WCDS website under "Find it Fast."

*A Wrinkle in Time* by Madeline L'Engle

### 7th Grade

Students will read and annotate:

*The Outsiders* by S.E. Hinton  
*All Summer in a Day* by Ray Bradbury

### 8th Grade

Students will read and annotate both novels:

*Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury  
(ISBN-10: 9781451673319 / ISBN-13: 978-1451673319)

*The Giver* by Lois Lowry  
(ISBN-10: 0544336267 / ISBN-13: 978-0544336261)

### Biology

*The Hot Zone: A Terrifying True Story*  
by Richard Preston

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.

### English 9

All English 9 students must read and annotate both novels:

*Lord of the Flies* by William Golding  
(ISBN: 978-0-14-312940-0)

*Of Mice and Men* by John Steinbeck  
(ISBN-10: 0140177396 / ISBN-13: 978-0140177398)

## **English 10**

All English 10 students will need to read and annotate:

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

## **HONORS English 10**

In addition to the 10th grade novel above, you will need to read and annotate:

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

All Honors English 10 students will also need to purchase a copy of the following book, which will be read and annotated during the Spring semester.

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

## **Composition 10**

All Composition 10 students need a copy of the following book for use during their semester in the course.

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

## **English 11**

All English 11 students must read and annotate:

*The Underground Railroad* by Colson Whitehead

## **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 both of the following:

*The Glass Castle* by Jeannette Walls

*How to Read Nonfiction Like a Professor: A Smart, Irreverent Guide to Biography, History, Journalism, Blogs, and Everything in Between* by Thomas C. Foster

## 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 will also 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