

Honors English 9

Summer Reading 2016

To: **Incoming Freshmen in Honors English 9**
From: **Honors English 9 Teachers**

Please select two works from the attached list to read over the summer. You will need to have both books **finished** by the first day of school in preparation for your entrance into Honors English 9.

Along with the reading, you will need to select **10** significant passages from EACH piece of literature. These passages should be typed and arranged in the order they appear. Be sure to separate your selected passages with numbers/spaces. Pay **VERY** close attention to the following MLA citation formats.

FOR PAPER COPIES OF THE TEXT, include the **author's last name** and the **page** the passage is from:

"It is getting to be a great effort for me to think straight. Just this nervous weakness I suppose" (Gilman 21).

FOR E-READERS (Kindle, etc.), include the **author's last name, a comma, and** the **chapter** [ch.] the passage is from:

"Towards evening of that day, the Pequod was torn of her canvas, and bare-poled was left to fight a Typhoon which had struck her directly ahead" (Melville, ch. 119).

After each citation, write 1-2 paragraphs that explain why you think this quote is significant. You are welcome to make connections to the text as a whole or you can make personal connections. These should **NOT** be brief paragraphs. Develop and expand your ideas.

TEXTUAL EXAMPLE

"The street is lined with cars. There's not a breath of fresh air in the neighborhood. The grass don't grow anymore, you can't raise a carrot in the back yard. They should've had a law against apartment houses. Remember those two beautiful elm trees out there? When I and Biff hung the swing between them?" (Miller 6).

MY PARAGRAPH

I am reminded of my grandparent's house when reading this. They lived in an apartment building that was surrounded by several other tall city-like buildings. However, there was some natural beauty my siblings and I enjoyed just around the corner. Instead of elm trees, there were HUGE pine trees. The pine cones that dropped every year were the size of grapefruits and...

Please be advised these assignments are collected, graded, and count as a test grade; be prepared to use your passages on the first day of school. We will be discussing plot, theme, character development, etc. with

reference to these novels. There will also be an additional assignment at the beginning of the year focused specifically on your books.

Enjoy and have a great summer! Feel free to contact Dr. Lindley-Soucy at the high school if you have any questions: klindley-soucy@londonderry.org

SUMMER READING CHOICES

CLASSIC FICTION

The Age of Innocence – Wharton Brilliant portrayal of New York society in the 1870's where money counted more than manners or morals.

Catcher in the Rye – Salinger A controversial novel about a boy's account of the days following his expulsion from private school.

Cyrano de Bergerac – Rostand Classic drama of chivalry, wit, and bittersweet sadness, told in exquisitely polished language.

Don Quixote – Cervantes The saga of the fabulous knight and his simple squire and their adventures in medieval Spain.

Ethan Frome – Wharton This tragic love story set in New England has become a timeless classic.

Gulliver's Travels and Other Writings – Swift A satire revealing human foibles through Gulliver's adventures in fantastic lands.

The Last of the Mohicans – Cooper Cooper's most famous novel concerning the desperate struggle of the Native Americans against the pressures and restrictions of white civilization.

FICTION

A Lesson Before Dying – Gaines Set in the 1940's, here unfolds a heartbreaking story of friendship between two black men – one wrongly condemned to die and one who's persuaded to impart something of himself.

The Aguero Sisters – Williams-Garcia A lyrical story of family secrets and cultural boundaries. Reina and Constancia are sister who reunite after a thirty-year estrangement.

All the Pretty Horses – McCarthy John Grady Cole is a young Texas rancher who sets off for adventure in the beautiful but dangerous borderland of Mexico.

Anywhere But Here – Simpson Adele, a larger-than-life American dreamer, and her wise child Ann August follow their perennial urge to keep moving on the open road.

Black Elk Speaks – Neihardt The life story and personal vision of a Sioux warrior and medicine man who lived through the Battle of Little Big Horn, the massacre at Wounded Knee, and the death of his people.

Briar Rose – Yolen Disturbed by her grandmother Gemma’s unique version of Sleeping Beauty, Rebecca seeks the truth behind the fairy tale.

The Chocolate War – Cormier High school politics, cruelty, and conformity sparked by the annual fundraising event – would you believe? – selling chocolates.

The Contender – Lipsyte Alfred Brooks must placate his Harlem gang – and the white world as well.

A Death in the Family – Agee Agee’s great novel of a loving, close-knit family and the courage they display when tragedy suddenly changes their lives.

Dacey’s Song – Voight A heartwarming novel of the young Tillerman family, led by the eldest sister Dacey.

Don’t You Dare Read This Mrs. Dunphrey – Haddix Sixteen year old Tish chronicles her life in the journal she must keep for English class. When her abusive father returns home, Tish’s entries are increasingly marked “Do Not Read” until she realizes silence may be dangerous.

The Education of Little Tree – Carter A Cherokee Indian boy growing up in the Tennessee hills with his grandparents during the Depression narrates his story, expressing honesty, innocence, trust in goodness, wrenching unhappiness, and sadness.

8 Plus 1 – Cormier A collection of nine stories that offer readers insight into various types of adult relationships.

The Elephant Man – Pomerance John Merrick, trapped in the ugly body of a circus freak, finds love and becomes the toast of London society

A Gathering of Old Men – Gaines In this eloquent novel, set in Louisiana in the 1970’s, eighteen old, black men each claim to have shot a white man and, in the process, experience their first taste of power and pride.

Heroes – Cormier Just returned home from World War II, 18-year-old Joseph Cassavant embarks on one last mission – the death of a boyhood hero. Cormier has written a lean and powerful novel that explores the nature of heroism.

Native Son – Wright Caught up by forces of racism he can’t understand or control, Bigger Thomas turns to violence. Uncompromisingly realistic.

Practical Magic – Hoffman Gillian and Sally Owens, born into a family of witches, can’t wait to leave their eccentric aunts for a life of normalcy. When they are inexorably drawn back to their Massachusetts town, the sisters learn that magic is far from the affliction they thought it to be.

Shadow of the Dragon – Garland Sixteen-year-old Danny Vo is caught between two worlds: he fits in with his American friends, yet they don’t understand his traditional Vietnamese home life.

Snow Falling of Cedars – Guterson In 1954 on the isolated beaches of San Pedro Island in Puget Sound, a local fisherman mysteriously drowns. When a Japanese-American is charged with his murder, it becomes clear over the course of the ensuing trial that much more is at stake than one man’s guilt.

To Sir With Love – Braithwaite The classic and inspiring story of schoolroom savages and the teacher who tames them.

Two Old Women – Wallis Abandoned by their tribe during a fierce winter famine in the Alaskan wilderness, two cantankerous elderly Athabascan women learn to survive on their own in this moving depiction of life in the far north.

The Women of Brewster Place – Naylor Weaving together the lives of six women, Naylor creates a powerful and moving portrait of the strengths, struggles and hopes of black women in today's America.

NON-FICTION

Into Thin Air – Krakauer The tragedy that took the lives of experienced mountain guides and novice climbers in a raging blizzard atop Mt. Everest in 1996 is chronicled with clarity, poignancy, and brutal honesty by one who witnessed the event first-hand.

Longitude: The Story of a Lone Genius Who Solved the Greatest Scientific Problem of His Time – Sobel
A self-taught eighteenth-century English clockmaker succeeded in the scientific community.

MYSTERY

The Hound of the Baskervilles – Doyle The most famous adventure of the peerless detective Sherlock Holmes concerns a family living under the curse of a spectral hound.

Murder on the Orient Express – Christie Agatha Christie's renowned mystery of the fabled Orient Express.

BIOGRAPHY

Almost a Woman – Santiago In her new memoir, the author of *When I Was Puerto Rican* continues the chronicle of her emergence from the barrios of Brooklyn to the theaters of Manhattan; a brave and heartfelt immigrant story.

The Autobiography of Malcolm X – Malcolm X and Alex Haley The absorbing personal story of Malcolm X's rise from hoodlum to dynamic leader of the black revolution. Brilliant, painful, honest.

The Color of Water – McBride As an adult, James McBride finally persuades his mother to tell her story – a story of a rabbi's daughter, born in Poland and raised in the South, who fled to Harlem, married a black man, founded a church, and raised twelve children. A remarkable tribute to his mother and an unforgettable exploration of what family really means.

Coming of Age in Mississippi – Moody Anne Moody writes unforgettably and courageously about what it was to grow up black in Mississippi in the fifties and early sixties.

When I Was a Puerto Rican – Santiago Esmerelda Santiago's coming-of-age memoir begins in rural Puerto Rico and follows her to New York City, where the rules and language are bewilderingly different.

SCIENCE FICTION & FANTASY

Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde – Stevenson A bizarre potion transforms the mild-mannered Dr. Jekyll into his alter ego, the psychopathic Mr. Hyde.

Ender's Game – Card Ender Wiggins is the result of a genetic breeding program and years of harsh, unforgiving training.

Something Wicked This Way Comes – Bradbury October is the season of mystery and dying, and when Halloween brings the Pandemonium Shadow Show to town, two fourteen-year-old boys discover its sinister secrets.

SPORTS LITERATURE

Brian's Song – Blinn Two football players conquer the differences of race, personality and place of birth to support each other in this screenplay based on the story of Brian Piccolo's courageous battle with cancer.

Slam – Myers Seventeen-year-old Greg "Slam" Harris can do it all on the court. But his grades aren't so hot. When his teachers put pressure on him, he blows up. Suddenly Slam is one-on-one with his future, and he doesn't have the ball.