12th-GRADE ENGLISH SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENT

Essential Question for 12th-grade English: How do we make sense of our learning?

Next year we will read and write about people who write with grit and guts and stamina to investigate and understand a topic. We will discuss and reflect on approaches to investigative skills and writing strategies. This summer reading assignment will ignite your thinking on these issues.

Overall Assignment

1. Read 1 book from the list AND at least 2 books of ~250 pages (or more) each. (Note that this is a total of at least 3 books!)
2. Complete one typed written assignment from the “Writing Menu” for each book. (Note that this is a total of 3 writing assignments!)

Writing Menu

For each of the books you read (minimum of 3), complete one of the following typed writing assignments. Each assignment should be approximately 200-300 words, or 2-3 good sized paragraphs. Make sure to label each of your assignments with the title and author of the book!

DUE Date: All written assignments are handed in on paper, typed, on the first day you arrive to school. Students must bring in a signed letter from parents.

1. Type a letter to one of the major characters of the book. Tell him/her what you respect or do not respect about them or their actions.

2. Write a diary entry from the perspective of the main character (pretend you are him/her). Your diary entry should be about what you believe to be the most important event that happens to the character in the book.

3. Write the transcript of an interview with the main character (protagonist), a supporting character or antagonist, and an interviewer. The interviewer can be you, or a real-life
talk show host (Oprah, Tyra, Steve Harvey, Ellen DeGeneres, Michael Fallen, Seth Myers) or another fictional character. *This option should be at least 1 full page*

4. Write a **review** of the book in the format of a book review.(see New York Youth Connections online has sample book reviews)

5. **Pop-up popcorn** - Choose a significant quote and discuss its meaning.

**Typing Format**

- Use 12-point Times New Roman Font.
- Type double spaced (single spaced for option # 3)
- Use the heading below:

Your First and Last Name
Summer Reading
Grade 12
Date

Science Skills Summer Reading Choices and Book Talks

**List of Titles** ***Be sure to thoroughly check and test out a book before buying/borrowing it to make sure it is at a proper reading level for you. Some of these books are more difficult than others!***

**Suggested Books for 12th Grade**

- **Cover-up by John Feinstein**
- **Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close by Jonathan Safran Foer**
- **Anansi Boys by Neil Gaiman**
- **Grendel by John Gardner**
- **Two Parties, One Tux and a Very Short Film About the Grapes of Wrath by Steven Goldman**
- **Looking for Alaska by John Green**
- **Water for Elephants by Sara Gruen**
- **The Photographer: Into War Torn Afghanistan with Doctors without Borders by Emmanuel Guibert**
- **The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time by Mark Haddon Fiction**
- **Haddon**
- **Born Confused by Tanuja Desai Hidier**
- **The Big Sea: An Autobiography by Langston Hughes**
• Their Eyes Were Watching God by Zora Neale Hurston
• The 9/11 Report: A Graphic Adaptation by Sid Jacobson
• Lost in the City by Edward P. Jones
• Woman Warrior: Memoirs of a Girlhood Among Ghosts by Maxine Hong Kingston
• The Historian by Elizabeth Kostova
• The Left Hand of Darkness by Ursula K. LeGuin
• Wicked by Gregory Maguire
• Life of Pi by Yann Martel
• Madapple by Christina Meldrum
• A Wreath for Emmett Till by Marilyn Nelson
• The Things They Carried by Tim O’Brien
• DC Noir by George Pelecanos
• When I Was Puerto Rican by Esmeralda Santiago
• Hamlet by William Shakespeare
• Marcelo in the Real World by Francisco X. Stork
• The Color Purple by Alice Walker
• The Glass Castle by Jeannette Walls
• The Time Machine by H.G. Wells
• The Wedding by Dorothy West
• In the Time of the Butterflies by Julia Alvarez
• Foundation by Isaac Asimov
• The Salt Eaters by Toni Cade T. Bambara
• Frida: Viva La Vida! Long Live Life! by Carmen Bernier-Grand
• Kendra by Coe Booth
• Going Bovine by Libba Bray
• Year of Wonders by Geraldine Brooks
• Shakespeare: The World as Stage by Bill Bryson
• Caramelo by Sandra Cisneros
• Swimming to Antarctica: Tales of a Long-Distance Swimmer by Lynne Cox
• The Souls of Black Folk by W.E.B. Du Bois
• Light in August by William Faulkner
• When Rain Clouds Gather by Bessie Head
• Malcolm X: A Graphic Biography edited by Andrew Helfer
• Beowulf by Gareth Hinds
• Never Let Me Go by Kazuo Ishiguro
• Soldier: A Poet’s Childhood by June Jordan
• A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man by James Joyce
• The Secret Life of Bees by Sue Monk Kidd
• Color of Earth by Tong-hwa Kim
• Annie John by Jamaica Kincaid
• Interpreter of Maladies by Jhumpa Lahiri
• Endurance: Shackleton’s Incredible Voyage by Alfred Lansing
• The Blind Side: Evolution of a Game by Michael Lewis
• Makes Me Wanna Holler by Nathan McCall
• The Road by Cormac McCarthy
• Let the Great World Spin by Colum McCann
• Atonement by Ian McEwan
• Spindle’s End by Robin McKinley
• Dreams from My Father by Barack Obama
• Luna: A Novel by Julie Anne Peters
• My Jim by Nancy Rawles
• Stiff: The Curious Lives of Human Cadavers by Mary Roach
• What I Was by Meg Rosoff
• The Rose that Grew from Concrete by Tupac Shakur
• A Thousand Acres by Jane Smiley
• East of Eden by John Steinbeck
• The Confessions of Nat Turner by William Styron
• The Good Negress by A.J. Verdelle
• The Aeneid by Virgil
• Black and White by Paul Volponi
• Fist Stick Knife Gun: A Personal History of Violence by Geoffrey Canada
• Slaughterhouse-Five by Kurt Vonnegut
• The Once and Future King by T.H. White
• A Streetcar Named Desire by Tennessee Williams
• Demo by Brian Wood
• Monstrumologist by Richard Yancey