

9th/10th Summer Reading Assignment

Regular English Assignment: The student will independently read and annotate **one** novel over the summer (see the lists below).

Honors English Assignment: The student will independently read and annotate **two** novels over the summer (see the lists below).

9th grade novel choices:

- ✚ [Silas Marner](#) by George Eliot
- ✚ [April Morning](#) by Howard Fast

- ✚ [Old Man and the Sea](#) by Hemingway
- ✚ [Emma](#) by Jane Austen

10th grade novel choices:

- ✚ [Cold Sassy Tree](#) by Olive Burns
- ✚ [Wuthering Heights](#) by Emily Bronte

- ✚ [Picture of Dorian Gray](#) by Oscar Wilde
- ✚ [Peace Like a River](#) by Leif Enger

Suggested Close Reading Strategy

Close reading requires the reader to annotate (or take notes) the text. Annotation helps the reader to better process and remember the text. Annotation is not required for this assignment, but students will be required to have in-class discussions about the plot, write about character and theme, and take a comprehension exam over the novel. Students may use any annotations they take to support their success in the novel activities.

Suggested Annotation Focus Questions

- ✚ Does this remind you of something you have gone through?
- ✚ How might you apply this advice to your life?
- ✚ What about this writing style or description do you like (or dislike)?
- ✚ How is this important to understanding the whole novel or a character?
- ✚ How does this remind you of some other book you have read?
- ✚ Does this relate to some real life incident you have heard about?
- ✚ What words are unfamiliar? Look up the definitions.

Summer Reading Subsequent Assignments and Grading

A reading comprehension exam – students will take a reading comprehension exam on the first day of class (reading grade 50 points).

Character and/or theme analysis – students will write paragraphs and/or an essay on character and theme (writing grade 50 points).

Suggested Summer Enrichment

Students will be given a grammar diagnostic test sometime during the first two weeks of school. A strong foundation of grammar concepts—parts of speech, types and parts of sentences, punctuation, and subject/verb agreement—is essential for student success in writing and reading. We strongly recommend students complete practice exercises over the course of the summer. Below is a list of websites and reference books that provide support and practice with grammar.

- ✚ [Quill.org](#) – Interactive Writing and Grammar
- ✚ [Owl. Purdue. Edu](#) – Purdue Online Writing and Grammar Lab
- ✚ [A Writer's Reference](#) by Diana Hacker
- ✚ [Painless Grammar](#) by Rebecca Elliot