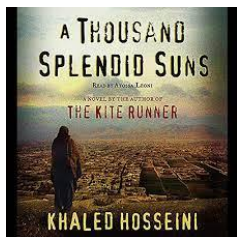


Summer Reading for Honors English 10

This summer, you will read one or both of the suggested novels below. In addition, you will select a memoir to read. You will begin the school year with writing and discussions pertaining to the reading.

Novel Selection

Read and annotate one or both of the following novels:



A Thousand Splendid Suns by Khaled Hosseini

Hosseini traces two generations of characters during thirty, war-torn years in Afghanistan. An unlikely, but stirring friendship between two women is at the heart of this story, a friendship that binds them together despite poverty, violence, and Taliban oppression. It is an intimate look at life in Afghanistan and a deeply moving tale of sacrifice and love.



Klara and the Sun by Kazuo Ishiguro

Ishiguro's novel is narrated by Klara, an Artificial Friend who studies the humans around her to learn and adapt to her environment. When she leaves her storefront for a new life as the AF of an adolescent girl, Klara changes the lives of the people around her. Klara is an unforgettable narrator and Ishiguro's novel challenges us to consider what we believe about love, friendship, and belonging.

Memoir Selection

Read and annotate a memoir of your choosing.

In addition to reading one or both of the novels listed above, please also select a memoir to read. This opportunity gives you the chance to choose a memoir based on what interests you. Be discerning and read closely. You will also discuss and write about this text.

Context for Challenging Texts

In English department classes, rigor often manifests in the complex, provocative, sometimes ambiguous, personally, and emotionally challenging material and discussions – which can be significant – in the pursuit of understanding the human condition. The material will likely be some of the most nuanced that the students have encountered thus far in their education. Consequently, we encourage each of us to be present, speak our truth, expect discomfort, and accept non-closure as part of the preparation for college and beyond.

- ❖ *Please note that Hosseini's novel contains challenging and mature material, most notably domestic abuse within an arranged marriage.*
- ❖ *Please note that Ishiguro's contains a depiction of terminal illness and grief and loss.*