



**Upper School  
English  
Department  
Summer  
Reading  
2023-2024**

## **Some Strategies for Understanding, Appreciating, and Enjoying Your Reading More This Summer**

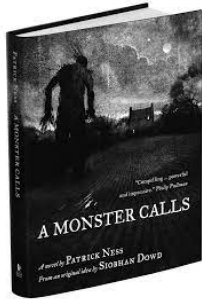
1. First **review** all the information the book offers: Book covers, inside flaps, chapter headings to orient yourself to what the book is about to offer. **Make predictions** about what the text will present. Even **ask some initial questions** about the text.
2. **Write while you read**, making marginal notes at key points, asking questions, and making outlines and summaries at the end of chapters/sections. Have a conversation with the text.
3. **Visualize as you read**: See characters, hear their voices, picture the setting, engage your powerful imagination with the author's. **BE ACTIVE**, not passive, in your reading.
4. **Make connections** between the text you are reading and your knowledge of the world, your previous reading, and your life experiences. Find the heartbeat in every book by connecting it to yours.
5. When you finish a text, walk away from it a couple of days. Let it simmer in your brain a bit. Then return to it: Remind yourself of characters and the plot's key moments. **Letting some time lapse will stretch your muscle memory.**
6. **Reflect on the text as a whole work of art**: What major ideas has this author spent her time exploring? What major ideas does she want you, a fellow human being, to ponder and understand more deeply? How has this author compelled you to think about these ideas through the artistic/rhetorical choices she has deliberately made?
7. Authors, especially fiction writers, write primarily to ENTERTAIN you through language. Remember that and **be entertained.**



## English I: The Journey to the Self (9th)

Students may use a physical book or an e-book.

### Required Book for All 9th Grade Students

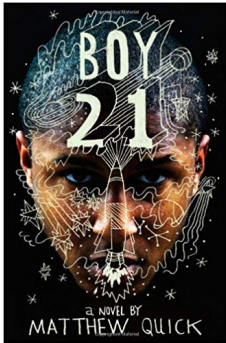


***A Monster Calls* by Patrick Ness**

**ISBN-13: 978-0763660659**

At seven minutes past midnight, thirteen-year-old Conor wakes to find a monster outside his bedroom window. But it isn't the monster Conor's been expecting-- he's been expecting the one from his nightmare, the nightmare he's had nearly every night since his mother started her treatments. The monster in his backyard is different. It's ancient. And wild. And it wants something from Conor. Something terrible and dangerous. It wants the truth.

### Choose ONE of the Following Fifteen Books

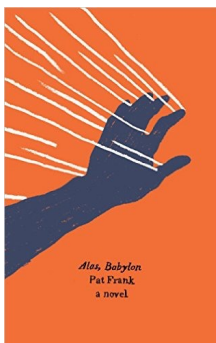


***Boy 21* by Matthew Quick**

**ISBN-10: 9780316127974**

**ISBN-13: 978-0316127974**

Two lovers of the game of basketball, brought together by stunning circumstances. One a "minimalist" speaker who suffers from a terrible family loss; the other a self-proclaimed spaceman named Boy21 who has his own heartbreaking brush with family tragedy. Together they find their way to their own answers on how to overcome suffering and a violent neighborhood and stay true to themselves.

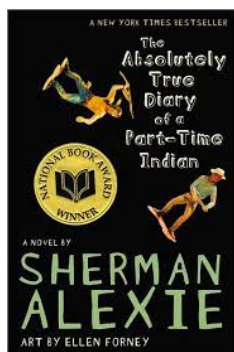


***Alas, Babylon* by Pat Frank**

**ISBN-10: 0062421034**

**ISBN-13: 978-0062421036**

What would you do if life as you had always known it suddenly changed in a single flash? After "The Day" the people of Ft. Repose, Florida, will never enjoy life as it was again. Pat Frank's classic apocalyptic tale features heroes and villains, those who rise above and those who sink under as a brave new world begins.

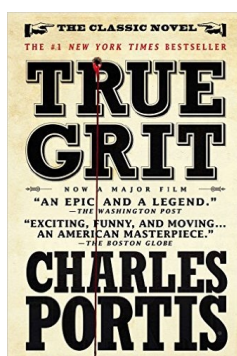


***The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-time Indian* by Sherman Alexie \***

**ISBN-10:** 1783442018

**ISBN-13:** 978-1783442010

Bestselling author Sherman Alexie tells the story of Junior, a budding cartoonist growing up on the Spokane Indian Reservation. Determined to take his future into his own hands, Junior leaves his troubled school on the rez to attend an all-white farm town high school where the only other Indian is the school mascot.

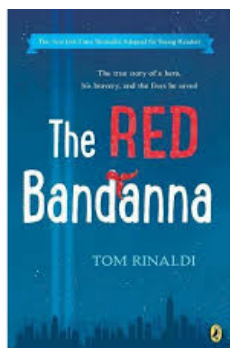


***True Grit* by Charles Portis**

**ISBN-10:** 159020459X

**ISBN-13:** 978-1590204597

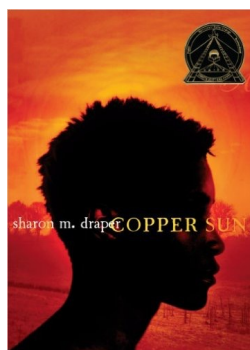
[*True Grit*] tells the story of Mattie Ross, who is just fourteen years of age when a coward going by the name of Tom Chaney shoots her father down in Fort Smith, Arkansas, and robs him of his life, his horse, and \$150 in cash money. Mattie leaves home to avenge her father's blood. With the one-eyed Rooster Cogburn, the meanest available U.S. Marshal, by her side, Mattie pursues the homicide into Indian Territory.



***The Red Bandanna* by Tom Rinaldi (NONFICTION)**

**ASIN:** B01CDVCAZQ

9/11 brought much suffering and much heroism. Among those heroes was a young man wearing a red bandana. Unknown to the many people he helped save that day in the South Tower of the World Trade Center where he worked, that young man was Welles Crowther, and this is his enduring story told powerfully by Tom Rinaldi.

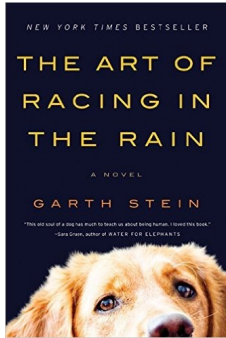


***Copper Sun* by Sharon Draper**

**ISBN-10:** 1416953485

**ISBN-13:** 978-1416953487

Amari's life was once perfect. Engaged to the handsomest man in her tribe, adored by her family, and living in a beautiful village, she could not have imagined everything could be taken away from her in an instant. But when slave traders invade her village and brutally murder her entire family, Amari finds herself dragged away to a slave ship headed to the Carolinas, where she is bought by a plantation owner and given to his son as a birthday present. Survival seems all that Amari can hope for.

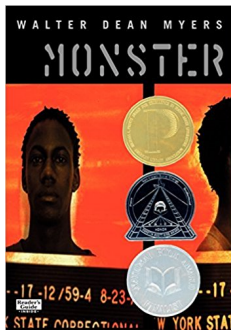


***The Art of Racing in the Rain* by Garth Stein**

**ISBN-10:** 0061537969

**ISBN-13:** 978-0061537967

Enzo knows he is different from other dogs: a philosopher with a nearly human soul (and an obsession with opposable thumbs), he has educated himself by watching television extensively, and by listening very closely to the words of his master, Denny Swift, an up-and-coming race car driver. A heart-wrenching but deeply funny and ultimately uplifting story of family, love, loyalty, and hope.

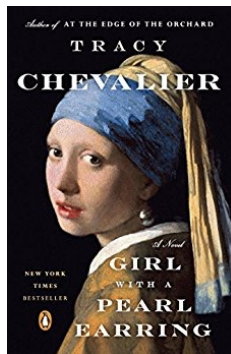


***Monster* by Walter Dean Myers**

**ISBN-10:** 0064407314

**ISBN-13:** 978-0064407311

*This New York Times* bestselling novel from acclaimed author Walter Dean Myers tells the story of Steve Harmon, a teenage boy in juvenile detention and on trial. Presented as a screenplay of Steve's own imagination, and peppered with journal entries, the book shows how one single decision can change our whole lives.

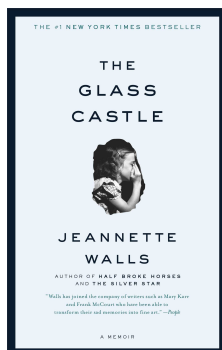


***Girl with the Pearl Earring* by Tracy Chevalier**

**ISBN-10:** 0452282152

**ISBN-13:** 978-0452282155

History and fiction merge seamlessly in this luminous novel about artistic vision and sensual awakening. *Girl with a Pearl Earring* tells the story of sixteen-year-old Griet, whose life is transformed by her brief encounter with genius . . . even as she herself is immortalized in canvas and oil.

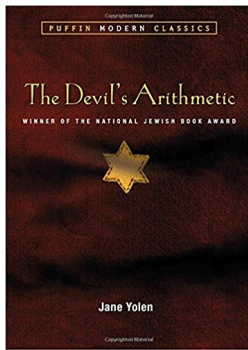


***The Glass Castle* by Jeannette Walls (NONFICTION)**

**ISBN-10:** 9780743247542

**ISBN-13:** 978-0743247542

*The Glass Castle* is a remarkable memoir of resilience and redemption, and a revelatory look into a family at once deeply dysfunctional and uniquely vibrant. When sober, Jeannette's brilliant and charismatic father captured his children's imagination, teaching them physics, geology, and how to embrace life fearlessly. But when he drank, he was dishonest and destructive. Her mother was a free spirit who abhorred the idea of domesticity and didn't want the responsibility of raising a family.

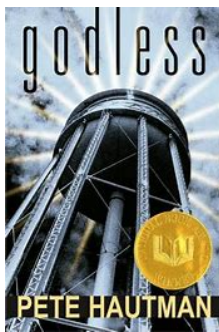


***The Devil's Arithmetic* by Jane Yolen**

**ISBN-10:** 0142401099

**ISBN-13:** 978-0142401095

Hannah dreads going to her family's Passover Seder—she's tired of hearing her relatives talk about the past. But when she opens the front door to symbolically welcome the prophet Elijah, she's transported to a Polish village in the year 1942. Why is she there, and who is this "Chaya" that everyone seems to think she is? Just as she begins to unravel the mystery, Nazi soldiers come to take everyone in the village away. And only Hannah knows the unspeakable horrors that await. A critically acclaimed novel from multi-award-winning author Jane Yolen.

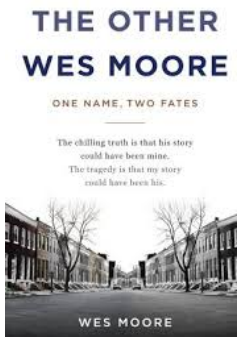


***Godless* by Pete Hautman**

**ISBN-10:** 9781416908166

**ISBN-13:** 978-1416908166

"Why mess around with Catholicism when you can have your own customized religion?" Fed up with his parents' boring old religion, agnostic-going-on-atheist Jason Bock invents a new god -- the town's water tower. He recruits an unlikely group of worshippers: his snail-farming best friend, Shin, cute-as-a-button (whatever that means) Magda Price, and the violent and unpredictable Henry Stagg. As their religion grows, it takes on a life of its own.

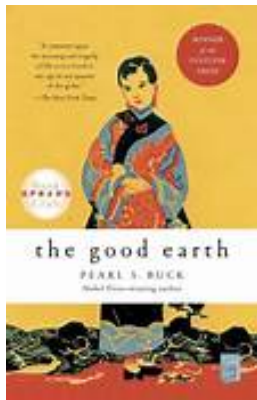


***The Other Wes Moore* by Wes Moore (NONFICTION)**

**ISBN-10:** 0385528205

**ISBN-13:** 978-0385528207

Two kids named Wes Moore were born blocks apart within a year of each other. Both grew up fatherless in similar Baltimore neighborhoods and had difficult childhoods; both hung out on street corners with their crews; both ran into trouble with the police. How, then, did one grow up to be a Rhodes Scholar, decorated veteran, White House Fellow, and business leader, while the other ended up a convicted murderer serving a life sentence? Wes Moore, the author of this fascinating book, sets out to answer this profound question.

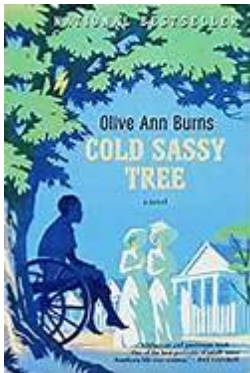


***The Good Earth* by Pearl S. Buck**

**ISBN-10:** 1982147172

**ISBN-13:** 978-1982147174

Travel to 1920s China, a time when the last emperor still ruled and the sweeping changes of the twentieth century were distant rumblings, with this timeless, evocative classic tale of the honest farmer Wang Lung and his family as they struggle to survive in the midst of vast political and social upheavals. Nobel Prize and Pulitzer Prize winner Pearl S. Buck traces the whole cycle of life: its terrors, its passions, its ambitions, and rewards. “A comment upon the meaning and tragedy of life as it is lived in any age in any quarter of the globe” (*The New York Times*), this brilliant novel—beloved by millions—is a universal tale of an ordinary family caught in the tide of history.



***Cold Sassy Tree* by Olive Ann Burns**

**ISBN-10:** 0618919716

**ISBN-13:** 978-0618919710

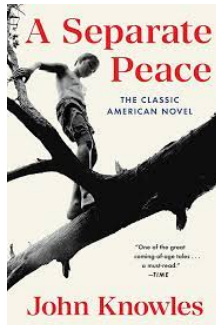
The one thing you can depend on in Cold Sassy, Georgia, is that word gets around—fast. When Grandpa E. Rucker Blakeslee announces one July morning in 1906 that he's aiming to marry the young and freckled milliner, Miss Love Simpson—a bare three weeks after Granny Blakeslee has gone to her reward—the news is served up all over town with that afternoon's dinner. And young Will Tweedy suddenly finds himself eyewitness to a major scandal.

**\* Book may contain potentially offensive language and/or disturbing subject matter  
(all summaries taken from [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com))**

## English II: The Ethics of Deciding (10th)

Students may use a physical book or an e-book. Students may also listen to the books, but they are required to have a copy of the book in some format, too.

### Required Book for All 10th Grade Students



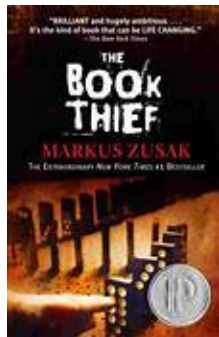
***A Separate Peace* by John Knowles**

**ISBN-10:** 0743253973

**ISBN-13:** 978-0743253970

An American classic and great bestseller for over thirty years, *A Separate Peace* is timeless in its description of adolescence during a period when the entire country was losing its innocence to World War II. Set at a boys' boarding school in New England during the early years of World War II, *A Separate Peace* is a harrowing and luminous parable of the dark side of adolescence. Gene is a lonely, introverted intellectual. Phineas is a handsome, taunting, daredevil athlete. What happens between the two friends one summer, like the war itself, banishes the innocence of these boys and their world.

### Choose ONE of the Following Eight Books

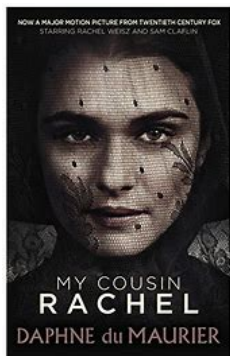


***The Book Thief* by Markus Zusak**

**ISBN-10:** 0375842209

**ISBN-13:** 978-0375842207

When Death has a story to tell, you listen. It is 1939. Nazi Germany. The country is holding its breath. Death has never been busier, and will become busier still. Liesel Meminger is a foster girl living outside of Munich, who scratches out a meager existence for herself by stealing when she encounters something she can't resist—books. With the help of her accordion-playing foster father, she learns to read and shares her stolen books with her neighbors during bombing raids as well as with the Jewish man hidden in her basement.

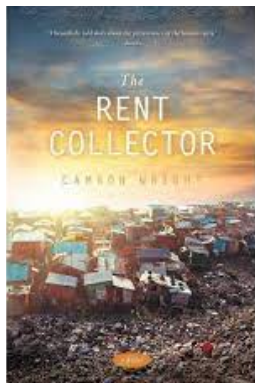


***My Cousin Rachel* by Daphne du Maurier**

**ISBN-10:** 9781402217098

**ISBN-13:** 978-1402217098

Orphaned at an early age, Philip Ashley is raised by his benevolent older cousin, Ambrose. Resolutely single, Ambrose delights in Philip as his heir, a man who will love his grand home as much as he does himself. But the cosy world the two construct is shattered when Ambrose sets off on a trip to Florence. There he falls in love and marries - and there he dies suddenly. Jealous of his marriage, racked by suspicion at the hints in Ambrose's letters, and grief-stricken by his death, Philip prepares to meet his cousin's widow with hatred in his heart. Despite himself, Philip is drawn to this beautiful, sophisticated, mysterious Rachel like a moth to the flame. And yet... might she have had a hand in Ambrose's death?

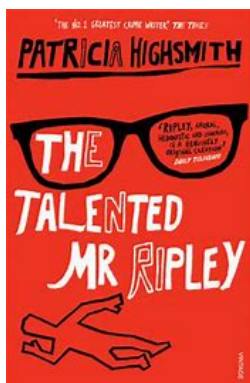


***The Rent Collector* by Camron Wright**

**ISBN-10:** 1609077059

**ISBN-13:** 978-1609077051

Survival for Ki Lim and Sang Ly is a daily battle at Stung Meanchey, the largest municipal waste dump in all of Cambodia. They make their living scavenging recyclables from the trash. Life would be hard enough without the worry for their chronically ill child, Nisay, and the added expense of medicines that are not working. Just when things seem worst, Sang Ly learns a secret about the ill-tempered rent collector who comes demanding money--a secret that sets in motion a tide that will change the life of everyone it sweeps past. *The Rent Collector* is a story of hope, of one woman's journey to save her son and another woman's chance at redemption. It demonstrates that even in a dump in Cambodia—perhaps especially in a dump in Cambodia--*everyone deserves a second chance.*

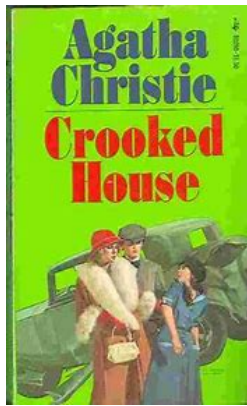


***The Talented Mr. Ripley* by Patricia Highsmith**

**ISBN-10:** 0393332144

**ISBN-13:** 978-0393332148

Since his debut in 1955, Tom Ripley has evolved into the ultimate bad boy sociopath. Here, in the first Ripley novel, we are introduced to suave Tom Ripley, a young striver, newly arrived in the heady world of Manhattan. A product of a broken home, branded a "sissy" by his dismissive Aunt Dottie, Ripley meets a wealthy industrialist who hires him to bring his playboy son, Dickie Greenleaf, back from gallivanting in Italy. Soon Ripley's fascination with Dickie's debonair lifestyle turns obsessive as he finds himself enraged by Dickie's ambivalent affections for Marge, a charming American dilettante.



***Crooked House* by Agatha Christie**

**ISBN-10:** 0062073532

**ISBN-13:** 978-0062073532

In the sprawling, half-timbered mansion in the affluent suburb of Swinly Dean, Aristide Leonides lies dead from barbiturate poisoning. An accident? Not likely. In fact, suspicion has already fallen on his luscious widow, a cunning beauty fifty years his junior, set to inherit a sizeable fortune, and rumored to be carrying on with a strapping young tutor comfortably ensconced in the family estate. But criminologist Charles Hayward is casting his own doubts on the innocence of the entire Leonides brood. He knows them intimately. And he's certain that in a crooked house such as Three Gables, no one's on the level...

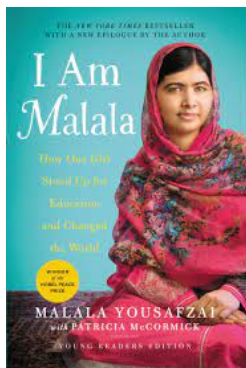


***Scythe* by Neal Shusterman**

**ISBN-10:** 144247243X

**ISBN-13:** 978-1442472433

A world with no hunger, no disease, no war, no misery: humanity has conquered all those things, and has even conquered death. Now Scythes are the only ones who can end life—and they are commanded to do so, in order to keep the size of the population under control. Citra and Rowan are chosen to apprentice to a scythe—a role that neither wants. These teens must master the “art” of taking life, knowing that the consequence of failure could mean losing their own. *Scythe* is the first novel of a thrilling new series by National Book Award–winning author Neal Shusterman in which Citra and Rowan learn that a perfect world comes only with a heavy price.

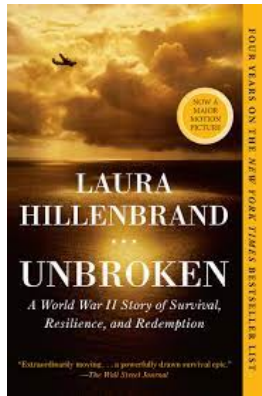


***I Am Malala* by Malala Yousafzai (NONFICTION)**

**ISBN-10:** 0316322423

**ISBN-13:** 978-0316322423

When the Taliban took control of the Swat Valley in Pakistan, one girl spoke out. Malala Yousafzai refused to be silenced and fought for her right to an education. On Tuesday, October 9, 2012, when she was fifteen, she almost paid the ultimate price. She was shot in the head at point-blank range while riding the bus home from school, and few expected her to survive. Instead, Malala's miraculous recovery has taken her on an extraordinary journey from a remote valley in northern Pakistan to the halls of the United Nations in New York. At sixteen, she became a global symbol of peaceful protest and the youngest nominee ever for the Nobel Peace Prize.



***Unbroken* by Laura Hillenbrand (NONFICTION)**

**ISBN-10:** 9780812974492

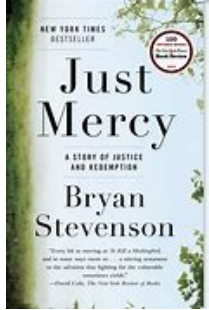
**ISBN-13:** 978-0812974492

In boyhood, Louis Zamperini was an incorrigible delinquent. As a teenager, he channeled his defiance into running, discovering a prodigious talent that had carried him to the Berlin Olympics. But when World War II began, the athlete became an airman, embarking on a journey that led to a doomed flight on a May afternoon in 1943. When his Army Air Forces bomber crashed into the Pacific Ocean, against all odds, Zamperini survived, adrift on a foundering life raft. Ahead of Zamperini lay thousands of miles of open ocean, leaping sharks, thirst and starvation, enemy aircraft, and, beyond, a trial even greater. Driven to the limits of endurance, Zamperini would answer desperation with ingenuity; suffering with hope, resolve, and humor; brutality with rebellion. His fate, whether triumph or tragedy, would be suspended on the fraying wire of his will.

## English III: Southern Ethos/Reimagining the Past (11th)

This course requires print versions of required texts.

### Required Books for all English III Students



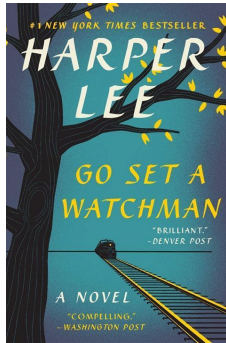
#### ***Just Mercy* by Bryan Stevenson (NONFICTION)**

**ISBN-10:** 9780812984965

**ISBN-13:** 978-0812984965

**ASIN:** 081298496X

**#1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER** • A powerful true story about the potential for mercy to redeem us, and a clarion call to fix our broken system of justice—from one of the most brilliant and influential lawyers of our time and founder of the Equal Justice Initiative in Montgomery, Alabama.



#### ***Go Set a Watchman* by Harper Lee**

**ISBN-10:** 0062409867

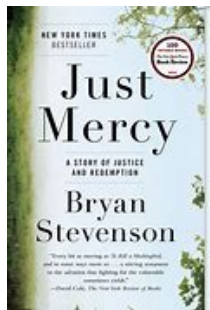
**ISBN-13:** 978-0062409867

Twenty-six-year-old Jean Louise Finch—"Scout"—returns home to Maycomb, Alabama from New York City to visit her aging father, Atticus. Set against the backdrop of the civil rights tensions and political turmoil that were transforming the South, Jean Louise's homecoming turns bittersweet when she learns disturbing truths about her close-knit family, the town, and the people dearest to her. Memories from her childhood flood back, and her values and assumptions are thrown into doubt. Featuring many of the iconic characters from *To Kill a Mockingbird*, *Go Set a Watchman* perfectly captures a young woman, and a world, in painful yet necessary transition out of the illusions of the past—a journey that can only be guided by one's own conscience.

## AP Language and Composition (11th)

This course requires print versions of required texts.

### Required Book for all AP Language and Composition Students



***Just Mercy* by Bryan Stevenson (NONFICTION)**

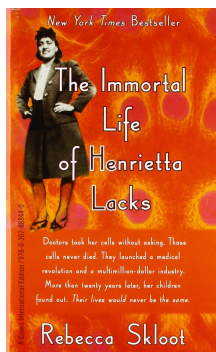
**ISBN-10:** 9780812984965

**ISBN-13:** 978-0812984965

**ASIN:** 081298496X

**#1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER** • A powerful true story about the potential for mercy to redeem us, and a clarion call to fix our broken system of justice—from one of the most brilliant and influential lawyers of our time and founder of the Equal Justice Initiative in Montgomery, Alabama.

### Choose TWO of the following **FOURTEEN** books

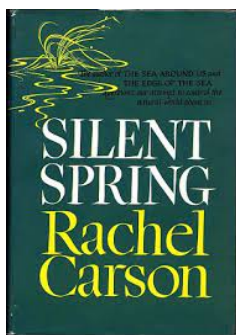


***The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* by Rebecca Skloot**

**ISBN-10:** 9781400052189

**ASIN:** 1400052181

She was a poor Southern tobacco farmer who worked the same land as her slave ancestors, yet her cells—taken without her knowledge—became one of the most important tools in medicine: The first “immortal” human cells grown in culture, which are still alive today, though she has been dead for more than sixty years. HeLa cells were vital for developing the polio vaccine; uncovered secrets of cancer, viruses, and the atom bomb’s effects; helped lead to important advances like in vitro fertilization, cloning, and gene mapping; and have been bought and sold by the billions. Yet Henrietta Lacks remains virtually unknown, buried in an unmarked grave.

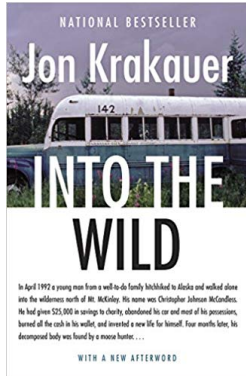


***Silent Spring* by Rachel Carson**

**ISBN-10:** 978-0393317558

**ISBN-13:** 978-0618249060

First published by Houghton Mifflin in 1962, *Silent Spring* alerted a large audience to the environmental and human dangers of indiscriminate use of pesticides, spurring revolutionary changes in the laws affecting our air, land, and water. “*Silent Spring* became a runaway bestseller, with international reverberations . . . [It is] well crafted, fearless and succinct . . . Even if she had not inspired a generation of activists, Carson would prevail as one of the greatest nature writers in American letters.”



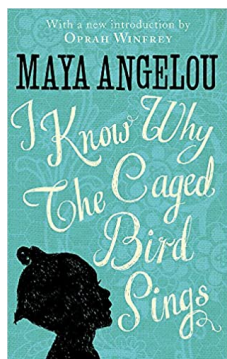
***Into the Wild* by Jon Krakauer**

**ISBN-10:** 9780385486804

**ISBN-13:** 978-0385486804

**ASIN:** 0385486804

In April 1992 a young man from a well-to-do family hitchhiked to Alaska and walked alone into the wilderness north of Mt. McKinley. His name was Christopher Johnson McCandless. He had given \$25,000 in savings to charity, abandoned his car and most of his possessions, burned all the cash in his wallet, and invented a new life for himself. Four months later, his decomposed body was found by a moose hunter. How McCandless came to die is the unforgettable story of *Into the Wild*.

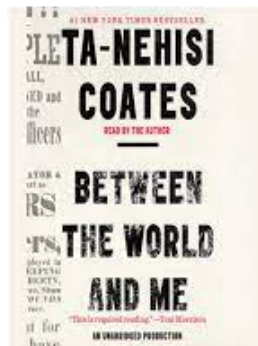


***I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings* by Maya Angelou**

**ISBN-10:** 0345514408

**ISBN-13:** 978-0345514400

Here is a book as joyous and painful, as mysterious and memorable, as childhood itself. *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings* captures the longing of lonely children, the brute insult of bigotry, and the wonder of words that can make the world right. Maya Angelou's debut memoir is a modern American classic beloved worldwide.



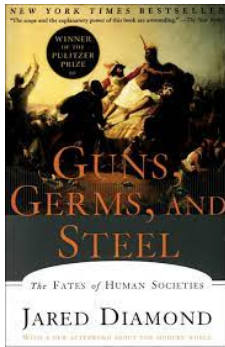
***Between the World and Me* by Ta-Nehisi Coates**

**ISBN-10:** 0525510303

**ISBN-13:** 978-0525510307

In a profound work that pivots from the biggest questions about American history and ideals to the most intimate concerns of a father for his son, Ta-Nehisi Coates offers a powerful new framework for understanding our nation's history and current crisis. Americans have built an empire on the idea of "race," a falsehood that damages us all but falls most heavily on the bodies of black women and men—bodies exploited through slavery and segregation, and, today, threatened, locked up, and murdered out of all proportion. What is it like to inhabit a black body and find a way to live within it? And how can we all honestly

reckon with this fraught history and free ourselves from its burden? *Between the World and Me* is Ta-Nehisi Coates's attempt to answer these questions in a letter to his adolescent son.



***Guns, Germs, and Steel: The Fate of Human Societies* by Jared Diamond**

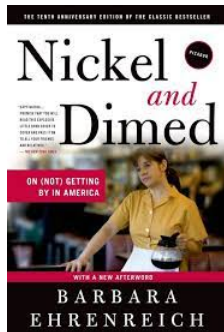
**ISBN-10:** 0393317552

**ISBN-13:** 978-0393317558

**ASIN:** B004JLTPTI

In this "artful, informative, and delightful" (William H. McNeill, *New York Review of Books*) book, Jared Diamond convincingly argues that geographical and environmental factors shaped the modern world. Societies that had had a head start in food production advanced beyond the hunter-gatherer stage, and then developed religion --as well as nasty germs and potent weapons of war --and ventured on sea and land to conquer and decimate preliterate cultures. A major advance in our

understanding of human societies, *Guns, Germs, and Steel* chronicles the way that the modern world came to be and stunningly dismantles racially based theories of human history. Winner of the Pulitzer Prize, the Phi Beta Kappa Award in Science, the Rhone-Poulenc Prize, and the Commonwealth club of California's Gold Medal.



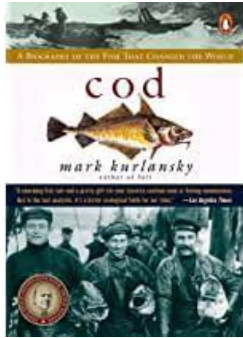
***Nickel and Dimed: On (Not) Getting By in America* by Barbara Ehrenreich**

**ISBN-10:** 1250808316

**ISBN-13:** 978-1250808318

Millions of Americans work full time, year round, for poverty-level wages. In 1998, Barbara Ehrenreich decided to join them. She was inspired in part by the rhetoric surrounding welfare reform, which promised that a job—any job—can be the ticket to a better life. But how does anyone survive, let alone prosper, on \$6 an hour? To find out, Ehrenreich left her home, took the cheapest lodgings she could find, and accepted whatever jobs she was offered. *Nickel and Dimed* reveals low-rent America in all its tenacity,

anxiety, and surprising generosity—a land of Big Boxes, fast food, and a thousand desperate stratagems for survival. Read it for the smoldering clarity of Ehrenreich's perspective and for a rare view of how "prosperity" looks from the bottom.



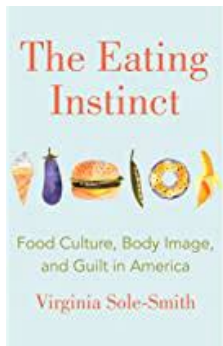
***Cod: The Biography of the Fish that Changed the World* by Mark Kurlansky**

**ISBN-10:** 0140275010

**ISBN-13:** 978-0140275018

*Cod*, Mark Kurlansky's third work of nonfiction and winner of the 1999 James Beard Award, is the biography of a single species of fish, but it may as well be a world history with this humble fish as its recurring main character. Cod, it turns out, is the reason Europeans set sail across the Atlantic, and it is the only reason they could. What did the Vikings eat in icy Greenland and on the five expeditions to America recorded in the

Icelandic sagas? Cod, frozen and dried in the frosty air, then broken into pieces and eaten like hardtack. What was the staple of the medieval diet? Cod again, sold salted by the Basques, an enigmatic people with a mysterious, unlimited supply of cod. As we make our way through the centuries of cod history, we also find a delicious legacy of recipes, and the tragic story of environmental failure, of depleted fishing stocks where once their numbers were legendary.

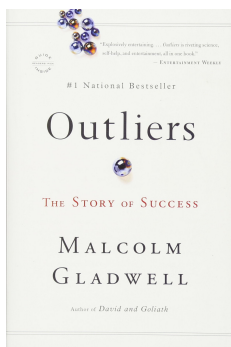


***The Eating Instinct: Food Culture, Body Image, and Guilt in America* by Virginia Sole-Smith**

**ISBN-10:** 1250234557

**ISBN-13:** 978-1250234551

Food is supposed to sustain and nourish us. Eating well, any doctor will tell you, is the best way to take care of yourself. Feeding well, any human will tell you, is the most important job a mother has. But for too many of us, food now feels dangerous. We parse every bite we eat as good or bad, and judge our own worth accordingly. When her newborn daughter stopped eating after a medical crisis, Virginia Sole-Smith spent two years teaching her how to feel safe around food again — and in the process, realized just how many of us are struggling to do the same thing.

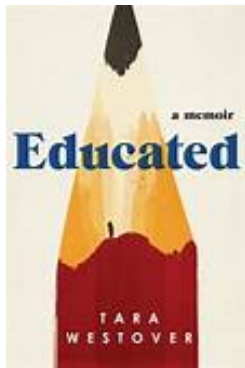


***Outliers* by Malcolm Gladwell**

**ISBN-10:** 0316017930

**ISBN-13:** 978-0316017930

In this stunning new book, Malcolm Gladwell takes us on an intellectual journey through the world of "outliers"--the best and the brightest, the most famous and the most successful. He asks the question: what makes high-achievers different? His answer is that we pay too much attention to what successful people are like, and too little attention to where they are from: that is, their culture, their family, their generation, and the idiosyncratic experiences of their upbringing.

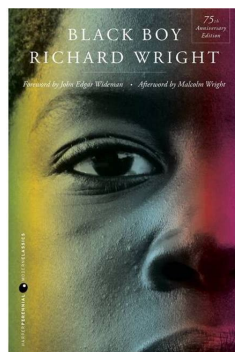


***Educated* by Tara Westover**

**ISBN-10:** 0399590528

**ISBN-13:** 978-0399590528

Born to survivalists in the mountains of Idaho, Tara Westover was seventeen the first time she set foot in a classroom. Her family was so isolated from mainstream society that there was no one to ensure the children received an education, and no one to intervene when one of Tara's older brothers became violent. When another brother got himself into college, Tara decided to try a new kind of life. Her quest for knowledge transformed her, taking her over oceans and across continents, to Harvard and to Cambridge University. Only then would she wonder if she'd traveled too far, if there was still a way home.

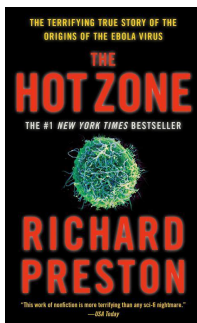


***Black Boy* by Richard Wright**

**ISBN-10:** 1784876135

**ISBN-13:** 978-1784876135

At four years old, Richard Wright set fire to his home in a moment of boredom; at five his father deserted the family; by six Richard was - temporarily - an alcoholic. It was in saloons, railroad yards and streets that he learned the facts about life, about fear, hunger and hatred, while his mother's long illness taught him about suffering. In a world of white hostility and subjugation it would be his love of books and pursuit of knowledge that would propel him to follow his dream of justice and opportunity in the north. A chronicle of coming of age under the racial prejudices of the American south, as much the story of a writer finding his voice, *Black Boy* remains one of the great, impassioned memoirs of the twentieth century.

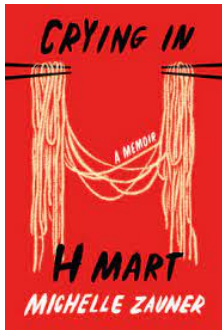


***The Hot Zone* by Richard Preston**

**ISBN-10 :** 0385495226

**ISBN-13 :** 978-0385495226

A highly infectious, deadly virus from the central African rain forest suddenly appears in the suburbs of Washington, D.C. There is no cure. In a few days 90 percent of its victims are dead. A secret military SWAT team of soldiers and scientists is mobilized to stop the outbreak of this exotic "hot" virus. *The Hot Zone* tells this dramatic story, giving a hair-raising account of the appearance of rare and lethal viruses and their "crashes" into the human race. Shocking, frightening, and impossible to ignore, *The Hot Zone* proves that truth really is scarier than fiction.



***Crying in H-Mart: A Memoir* by Michelle Zauner**

**ISBN-10:** 1984898957

**ISBN-13:** 978-1984898951

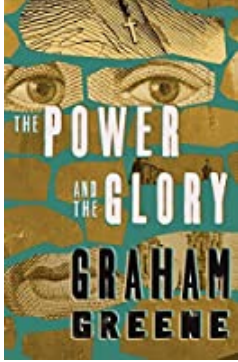
In this exquisite story of family, food, grief, and endurance, Michelle Zauner proves herself far more than a dazzling singer, songwriter, and guitarist. With humor and heart, she tells of growing up one of the few Asian American kids at her school in Eugene, Oregon; of struggling with her mother's particular, high expectations of her; of a painful adolescence; of treasured months spent in her grandmother's tiny apartment in Seoul, where she and her mother would bond, late at night, over heaping plates of food. As she grew up, moving to the East Coast for college, finding work in the restaurant industry, and performing gigs with her fledgling band--and meeting the man who would become her husband--her Koreanness began to feel ever more distant, even as she found the life she wanted to live. It was her mother's diagnosis of terminal cancer, when Michelle was twenty-five, that forced a reckoning with her identity and brought her to reclaim the gifts of taste, language, and history her mother had given her.

**(all summaries taken from [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com))**

## English IV: The Archetypal Family/*Brave New Worlds* (12th)

Students may read electronic or print versions of these books. English IV students should have access to the assigned movie as well.

### Choose **TWO** of the Following Three Books

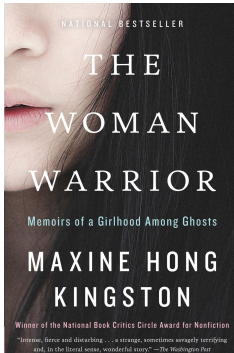


#### ***The Power and the Glory* by Graham Greene**

ISBN-10: 0143107550

ISBN-13: 978-0143107552

Centering on a renegade Roman Catholic priest known as a “whiskey priest” for his moral failings, the story takes place in the Mexican state of Tabasco during the 1930s, when the Mexican government was attempting to suppress the spread of the Catholic Church. These events led to the Cristero War. *The Power and the Glory* explores themes of faith, freedom, penance, and the human quest for dignity. It is based on Greene’s experiences in Mexico during the time periods where he saw the repressive atmosphere first-hand. Controversial and condemned by the Roman Catholic Church at the time, it went on to become one of Greene’s most enduring works. ([supersummary.com](http://supersummary.com))

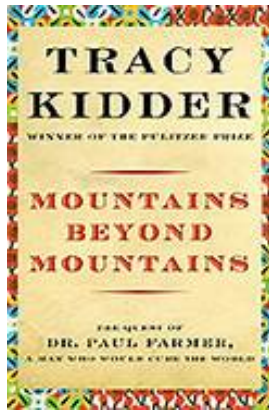


#### ***The Woman Warrior: Memoirs of a Girlhood Among Ghosts* by Maxine Hong Kingston (NONFICTION)**

ISBN-10: 0679721886

ISBN-13: 978-0679721888

As a girl, Kingston lives in two confounding worlds: the California to which her parents have immigrated and the China of her mother’s “talk stories.” The fierce and wily women warriors of her mother’s tales clash jarringly with the harsh reality of female oppression out of which they come. Kingston’s sense of self emerges in the mystifying gaps in these stories, which she learns to fill with stories of her own. A warrior of words, she forges fractured myths and memories into an incandescent whole, achieving a new understanding of her family’s past and her own present. ([amazon.com](http://amazon.com))



***Mountains Beyond Mountains* by Tracy Kidder**  
(most readily available as an eBook) (**NONFICTION**)  
**ISBN: B01FODFT00**

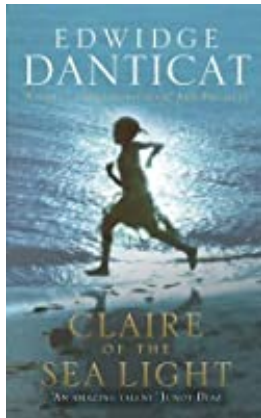
In medical school, Paul Farmer found his life's calling: to cure infectious diseases and to bring the lifesaving tools of modern medicine to those who need them most. Tracy Kidder's magnificent account shows how one person can make a difference in solving global health problems through a clear-eyed understanding of the interaction of politics, wealth, social systems, and disease. Profound and powerful, *Mountains Beyond Mountains* takes us from Harvard to Haiti, Peru, Cuba, and Russia as Farmer changes people's minds through his dedication to the philosophy that "the only real nation is humanity."



## AP Literature and Composition (12th)

Students may read electronic or print versions of these books.

### Required Books for All AP 12 Students

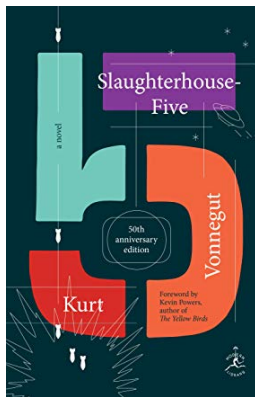


***Claire of the Sea Light* by Edwidge Danticat**

**ISBN-10:** 0307472272

**ISBN-13:** 978-0307472274

Just as her father makes the wrenching decision to send her away for a chance at a better life, Claire Limyè Lanmè—Claire of the Sea Light—suddenly disappears. As the people of the Haitian seaside community of Ville Rose search for her, painful secrets, haunting memories, and startling truths are unearthed. In this stunning novel about intertwined lives, Edwidge Danticat crafts a tightly woven, breathtaking tapestry that explores the mysterious bonds we share—with the natural world and with one another. ([amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com/Claire-of-the-Sea-Light-Edwidge-Danticat/dp/0307472272)).



***Slaughterhouse-Five* by Kurt Vonnegut, Jr.**

**ISBN-13:** 978-0812988529

*Slaughterhouse-Five*, an American classic, is one of the world's great antiwar books. Centering on the infamous World War II firebombing of Dresden, the novel is the result of what Kurt Vonnegut described as a twenty-three-year struggle to write a book about what he had witnessed as an American prisoner of war. It combines historical fiction, science fiction, autobiography, and satire in an account of the life of Billy Pilgrim, a barber's son turned draftee turned optometrist turned alien abductee. As Vonnegut had, Billy experiences the destruction of Dresden as a POW. Unlike Vonnegut, he experiences time travel, or coming "unstuck in time." ([amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com/Slaughterhouse-Five-Kurt-Vonnegut-Jr/dp/0812988529)).

**Read widely,  
Read imaginatively,  
Read deeply,  
Read passionately,  
Above all, read as if your life depends on it  
(In so many ways, it does)**

**p.s.  
have fun, too!**