

Language Arts Division May eNews 2019

Author J.K. Rowling is quoted as saying, **“If you don’t like to read, you haven’t found the right book.”** The Wego Language Arts Division agrees. Because of that belief, the English faculty has created a list of summer reading books that are just “right.” Keep reading to find out which titles are featured this year. . .

Summer reading has become a tradition at WCCHS, and **ALL** students are required to read one (or more) book(s) based upon the course each student has enrolled in for the fall.

[Summer reading lists](#) are available on the language arts division home page and will be posted there all summer.



Incoming Freshmen - Class of 2023

Incoming freshmen from Benjamin Middle School and Winfield Middle School both received copies of the summer reading lists when they visited the high school in April, and Lemay Middle School and Winfield Middle School students will also receive summer reading lists when West Chicago English faculty visit the 8th graders at their schools on May 13th and May 21st respectively.

There are different summer reading assignments for students in **English 1** as opposed to students in **English 1 Honors**. However, each of the books on the freshman list examines the coming of age archetype and asks students to reflect on the challenges of the transition to young adulthood. The assignments for English 1 and English 1 Honors are linked above, and all summer reading assignments are available on the [language arts division home page](#).

Please check the website for details.

Contact language arts division chair, Mary Howard, at mhoward@d94.org with questions.

Rising Sophomores - Class of 2022

Rising sophomores, who completed their freshman year in May of 2019, also have summer reading assignments based upon their English classes for the fall.

English 2 students may choose one of four dystopian novels for summer reading. These students will begin the year with a Socratic Seminar, so it is important that each student read one of the novels on the list by August. The summer list is also available on the [language arts web page](#).

English 2 Enriched students will also investigate a dystopia - this time set on a fictional 21st century tech campus consumed by social media and corporate surveillance. English 2 Enriched students have an assigned summer reading book, *The Circle* by Dave Eggers, as well as two short nonfiction pieces available on the [website](#). Details are available [here](#).



English 2 Honors students will examine fallen worlds, as well, in two assigned texts, *1984* by George Orwell and *Columbine* by Dave Cullen, whose new book, *Parkland*, is on the choice book [list](#) for English 2 Honors. Students will also choose one of seven titles for a “beach read.” The list of options, in addition to the two assigned texts, is available on the [language arts web page](#). English 2 Honors students also have a brief excerpt from “Interrogating Texts: 6 Reading Habits to Develop in Your First Year at Harvard” about annotating, as well as a reading guide for *1984*, which should be completed by the first day of school.

Rising Juniors - Class of 2021

Summer reading for rising juniors, who completed their sophomore year in May of 2019, features canonical and contemporary titles, based upon the courses they chose: English 3, American Studies, English 3 Enriched, or AP Language.

English 3 and **American Studies** students can choose from eight books that address social justice, identity, and race. Titles as varied as *Dear Martin*, *In the Country We Love*, and *Poet X* are options. The complete [list](#) is available on the [language arts web page](#).



English 3 Enriched students . . .

English 3 Enriched students have an assigned title, a 2018 *New York Times* Bestseller, the psychological thriller, *The Woman in the Window*. Prior to reading the novel, students should read the assigned chapter from *How to Read Literature Like a Professor*, entitled “It’s More Than Just Rain or Snow,” [chapter ten, pages 72-81](#).

Juniors enrolled in **AP Language and Composition** should join the “AP Summer Reading Google Classroom” using code 0owb3l5. (The code begins with a “zero” and then an “o.”) Copies and [links](#) to materials are posted in Classroom. Please contact Nicole Osborne at nosborne@d94.org or Brian Turnbaugh at bturnbaugh@d94.org or Mary Howard at mhoward@d94.org with questions.

Please read **all four** assignments:

Into The Wild by Jon Krakauer

Non-Fiction Selections from NYT’s [The Privacy Project](#)

Chapter 1 from *The Sense of Style* by Steven Pinker (Please annotate.)

Chapters 2, 3, and 4 from *On Writing Well* by William Zinsser (Please annotate.)

Additional information is available [here](#).

Rising Seniors - Class of 2020

British World Literature and **Senior Electives**

Future Wego grads in the Class of 2020 have eight titles to consider. *New York Times* best sellers like *The Girl on a Train* and *Tuesdays with Morrie* are options, as well as fresh titles such as *Where the Crawdad Sings* and *From Every End of this Earth: 13 Families and the New Lives They Made in America*. Students are required to read one book from the list prior to returning to school in August.

Seniors enrolled in **AP Language and Composition** should join the “AP Summer Reading Google Classroom” using code 0owb3l5. (The code begins with a “zero” and then an “o.”) Copies and [links](#) to materials are posted in Classroom. Please contact Nicole Osborne at nosborne@d94.org or Brian Turnbaugh at bturnbaugh@d94.org or Mary Howard at mhoward@d94.org with questions.

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AP Literature and Composition

Seniors in AP literature read **two required texts**, *Catcher in the Rye* by J.D. Salinger **and** *On the Road* by Jack Kerouac **as well as** one Modernist and/or existential choice novel from the [AP Literature Summer Reading](#) list. Details about this assignment, as well as the choice book list are available in Google Classroom. Students should join the AP Literature Summer Reading Google Classroom: t3zblz.

Please contact Nicole Osborne at nosborne@d94.org or Mary Howard at mhoward@d94.org with questions.



Summer reading books are available for [pre-order](#) through Barnes and Noble on May 6th through May 14th. See Mrs. Leahy in the LRC or Mr. Begovich in room 217. Proceeds benefit Wego Drama. (Drama fans, support Advanced Drama students at their annual Showcase. *We Just Live Here* will be presented tonight, Friday, May 10th at 7 pm in the auditorium, and the annual Plays-in-a-Day Festival will be held Saturday, 5/18/19 also at 7 pm in the auditorium. Please support Wego Drama!)

Regardless of which course each **WILDCAT** has chosen for 2019-2020, Wego teachers wish students a restful, reading-full summer.

All “choice books” that students select from one of the reading lists (rather than assigned books for enriched, honors, or AP courses,) should be enjoyed as a “beach read.” These are popular titles that are best read for fun! Summer reading is about savoring books and developing an identity as a reader.

All assigned books that do NOT allow students a choice should be read academically and annotated appropriately.

Students are encouraged to buy their summer reading book(s) online, at half-priced book sellers, etc. Used books are great books - that have been well read! Students can also visit their local community library to check out a copy of a summer reading book: as Ron Weasley said in *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets*, **"When in doubt, go to the library."**