

Rising Sophomore Summer Reading Assignment 2024

REQUIRED READING ASSIGNMENT

All 10th grade Language Arts students will be required to **READ AND ANNOTATE**** both selections listed below by the first day of school. All students should bring the annotated copies to class on the first day of school as part of the summer reading assignment grade. PDFs are linked below.

1. "[The Danger of A Single Story](#)" (2009). Speech by Chimamanda Adichie
 - a. A minimum **10 high-quality annotations***
2. "[Mother Tongue](#)" (1990). Short Story by Amy Tan
 - a. At least **10 high-quality annotations***

* **High Quality Annotations are NOTES** (not just highlights/underlines) on the text that show evidence of thinking. Follow the guidelines and examples in this document: [HOW TO ANNOTATE](#)

RECOMMENDED READING

Beyond the classroom, reading is a valuable life skill that also has social-emotional benefits, including stress relief. In addition to the required assignment above, we've put together a list of recommended summer books that 10th grade teachers love to give you some inspiration for reading. **These books are some of our favorites, but they are simply suggestions.** Find a book or two and dive in! See you in August!

- ***The Pearl* by John Steinbeck** (1947). A short novella about the dangers and evils of greed, set in southern California and Mexico.
- ***The Devil in the White City* by Erik Larson** (2003). A historical non-fiction book detailing the architectural endeavors required to bring the 1893 World's Fair to Chicago. Oh, and also, America's first serial killer, H.H. Holmes, is a central figure in the book, killing people and cremating them in a hotel basement.
- ***A Thousand Splendid Suns*** (2007) by Khaled Hosseini. Set in Afghanistan from the early 1960s to the early 2000s, the story follows two women with intertwining stories who meet and become a family in an unexpected way. This book pulls you in and has you cheering for the characters to overcome their circumstances throughout.
- ***In the Time of the Butterflies*** (1994) by Julia Alvarez. A work of historical fiction based on the lives of the four Mirabal sisters, who participated in underground efforts to topple Rafael Leonidas Trujillo's three-decade-long dictatorial regime in the Dominican Republic.
- ***I Am Not Your Perfect Mexican Daughter*** (2017) by Erika Sanchez. A poignant but often laugh-out-loud funny contemporary YA about losing a sister and finding yourself amid the pressures, expectations, and stereotypes of growing up in a Mexican-American home.