

# Stratford High School

## 9th Grade Summer 2025 Reading List

Incoming 9th graders, please pick one of the following novels to read over the summer. AAC students are **required** to read one of the books on the English I AAC list. The assignment is **optional** for GL students.

### English I AAC

Read one of the following books, analyzing for characterization, plot, setting, author's purpose, and conflict(s). There will be an assessment at the start of school where you will be expected to identify key themes, ideas, plot, and points. Annotations (notes in the book) are encouraged as you will be able to use your novels on the assessments.

- *Pride and Prejudice* by Jane Austen
- *A Long Way Gone* by Ismael Beah
- *Ender's Game* by Orson Scott Card
- *Isaac's Storm* by Erik Larson

### English I GL

OPTIONAL: Read one of the following books, paying attention to characterization, plot, setting and conflict(s). Highly encouraged for incoming freshmen!

- *The Raft* by S. A. Bodeen
- *Dune* by Frank Hebert
- *A Monster Calls* by Patrick Ness
- *Ghost* by Jason Reynolds

#### Annotation tips:

- Make brief notes at the top of a page or on a sticky note to mark important plot events.
- If you have a question about something in the book, write it on the page when it first occurs to you.
- Don't mark *too* much. If you mark everything, nothing will stand out!
- Use brackets, checks, stars, bullets, asterisks, etc. to mark very important items or things you want to come back to later

#### Ideas of things to annotate:

- patterns, and/or symbols you notice
- relationships among characters
- characterization
- plot
- setting(s) as they relate to and/or dictate themes
- themes
- quotes you find interesting for whatever reason
- author's style including especially effective diction, figurative language, imagery, etc.