Great Neck North High School Summer Reading 2025

Students Entering English 9, ENL 9, English 10, ENL 10, English 11, and All 12th Grade Half-Year Courses.

Students will select a memoir of their own choosing to read. A memoir is a true story about a person's life, and the author is whom the book is about. This differs from a biography, in which the author writes about someone else. A memoir is a form of autobiography in which authors describe their own life experiences – their successes, setbacks, and lessons learned. Memoirs are often written by renowned people with unique, important stories to tell. Some memoirs are light-hearted, some comical, and some quite moving. Select a text that you are interested in and will benefit from learning about the author's writing choices. Maybe it's one written by your favorite writer, athlete, comedian, actor, or musician. Maybe it's one in your favorite form such as graphic literature or personal essays. **The following titles are examples of memoirs, though you're welcome to select a text outside of these examples:** *Teacher Man* by Frank McCourt, *Crying in H-Mart* by Michelle Zauner, *The Color of Water* by James McBride, *The Glass Castle* by Jeannette Walls, *Rafa: My Life* by Rafael Nadal, *The Closer* by Mariano Rivera, *First Time for Everything* by Dan Santat, *Is Everyone Hanging Out Without Me?* by Mindy Kaling, *Bird by Bird* by Anne Lamott, and *Farewell, My Subaru* by Doug Fein.

Expectations

- Choose a full-length text of roughly 200 pages or longer that genuinely interests you **and one that you haven't already read** (i.e. *Night*, *Persepolis*, or anything you read in middle school).
- It is suggested that you choose a text that reflects your grade level in terms of reading level, maturity, and length.
- Read the full text and take notes on the author's lessons and the sections that you found to be effective writing – passages that were especially descriptive or powerful. **Expect a written assessment at the start of the school year.**
- Our English department, our school library, and your local library can assist with questions about titles and how to access them. Students are welcome to check out our school library's memoir offerings in digital or print form. For free access to a number of memoirs on Actively Learn, join the Summer Reading class on ActivelyLearn.com by clicking "Join My Class" and entering the code **au3vr**. Reach out to our English or library departments for any questions.

See the next page for directions on other English courses ⟹

Students Entering English 10 Honors

Read a memoir of your choosing AND Ernest Hemingway's *The Old Man and the Sea*.

Students Entering English 11AP

Read John Steinbeck's *The Grapes of Wrath*. The full assignment, which will consist of an essay, will be posted on the English department website. Students are advised to check this information early in the summer to effectively plan their approach to the work.

Students Entering English 12AP

Read Kate Chopin's *The Awakening* and Jay McInerney's *Bright Lights, Big City.* The full assignment, which will consist of an essay, will be posted on the English department website. Students are advised to check this information early in the summer to effectively plan their approach to the work.

Students Entering History Through Literature

Read *I Am Malala* by Malala Yousafzai.

Community School

All students will read *The World According to Garp* by John Irving. The second title and additional handouts will be distributed at the CS barbeque and/or via email.