Summer Reading Assignment - English IV



Welcome to English IV! We will start with a Hero's Journey, and a primary focus in the course is the journey through life and the experiences that add depth and meaning along the way. Our course invites you to consider a variety of others' perspectives and ways that authors tell their stories to help you craft your own experiences and viewpoints in your own authentic writing.

Your summer reading assignment is to choose at least one physical, audio, or digital book -fiction or nonfiction- and read it! The more you read, the better, though. Since English IV is traditionally a British Literature course, we encourage you to read authors that are not American, but that is not mandatory.

As you read, consider:

- Storytelling and perspective
- Journeys (physical, psychological, and/or spiritual)
- Conflicts, challenges, and overcoming obstacles
- Writing styles and linguistic variations
- Literary devices, including figurative language

ASSESSMENT/Assignments

Within the **first full week** of school (*i.e.* not the first 3 days), you will be expected to do a variety of things with and about your summer reading. Bring a copy with you or be ready to have access to it at the beginning of the school year.

1. READ with a "pencil in hand," meaning:

- highlight/underline/sticky-note/bookmark examples of growth, change, & journeys
- highlight/underline/sticky-note/bookmark specific parts that stand out to you
- save/keep track of quotes that speak to you (page #, line, timestamp, etc.)
- note what makes the author's style distinctive
- make notes in the margins (or on sticky notes) about something you might want to comment on later - what seems interesting? unusual? funny? surprising?

2. THINK about how you might want to answer these questions:

- Did you enjoy the book? Why or why not?
- How would you describe the style of the book? Its genre?
- How would you tell someone else about the book -without telling it all?
- How does this book compare with others you have read?
- How does this book compare with its movie or tv series (if it has one)?
- Would you recommend this book? For anyone or for a particular group?

Most importantly, we are hoping that you try to read for the sheer joy of reading, and, if you have lost that in your race through high school, try to regain some of it with a good book this summer. We look forward to meeting you in August!

QUESTIONS? Contact an English IV teacher: Mr. Barkley, Mrs. Cannon, & Mrs. Klick

SOME TITLES TO CONSIDER

These are suggestions, and this is not an exhaustive list. You are not required to read one of the books on this list, but it is a list of books by major British, European, and World Literature authors with suggestions from the traditional literary canon as well as the more modern and expanded canon. We picked a variety of authors, subjects, time periods, etc. so hopefully there is something for everyone on this list. A librarian, your current English teacher, or the folks at Book People (or other stores) could also help you find something you might enjoy too.

Please keep your personal and family values in mind as you choose what to read.

The Buried Giant by Kazuo Ishiguro
Never Let Me Go by Kazuo Ishiguro
**The Graveyard Book* by Neil Gaiman
All The Light We Cannot See by Anthony Doerr
Warlight by Michael Ondaatje
The Golden Notebook by Doris Lessing
Life of Pi by Yann Martel
The Conservationist by Nadine Gordimer
Midnight's Children by Salman Rushdie
The Sense of an Ending by Julian Barnes
The God of Small Things by Arundhati Roy
Disgrace by J.M. Coetzee
Atonement by Ian McEwan
The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time by Mark Haddon
The Namesake by Jhumpa Lahiri
A Bend in the River by V. S. Naipaul
The Glass Palace by Amitav Ghosh
Love in the Time of Cholera by Gabriel Garcia Marquez
Fly by Night by Frances Hardinge
I am Thunder by Muhammad Khan
The Girl in the Broken Mirror by Sarita Kalhan
The Mayor of Casterbridge by Thomas Hardy
Jude the Obscure by Thomas Hardy
**Pride & Prejudice* by Jane Austen
**Pride & Prejudice & Zombies* by Seth Grahame-Smith
Emma by Jane Austen
**Wuthering Heights* by Emily Bronte
**Jane Eyre* by Charlotte Bronte
Wide Sargasso Sea by Jean Rhys
Tom's Midnight Garden by Phillippa Pearce
Middlemarch by George Eliot/Mary Anne Evans
Howard's End by EM Forster

**The Alchemist* by Paulo Coelho
**The Picture of Dorian Gray* by Oscar Wilde
Great Expectations by Charles Dickens
*The Hobbit / *Lord of the Rings* by J.R.R. Tolkien
Around the World in 80 Days by Jules Verne
1984 by Goerge Orwell
**Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy,* Doug Adams
Siddhartha by Hermann Hesse
Things Fall Apart by Chinua Achebe
Way of the Peaceful Warrior by Dan Millman
Heart of Darkness by Joseph Conrad
Don Quixote by Miguel de Cervantes
Le Morte d'Arthur by Sir Thomas Mallory (link)
The Divine Comedy by Dante Alighieri (link)
All Quiet… Western Front Erich Maria Remarque
To Your Scattered Bodies Go Philip Jose Farmer
I Was Told to Come Alone: My Journey Behind Lines of Jihad by Souad Mekhennet
Hello World: How to Be Human in the Age of the Machine by Hannah Fry
The Iceberg: A Memoir by Marion Coutts
Everest: The First Ascent by Harriet Tuckey
White Teeth by Zadie Smith
**Mrs. Dalloway* by Virginia Woolf
To the Lighthouse by Virginia Woolf
Angela's Ashes: A Memoir by Frank McCourt
Jonathan Strange… by Susana Clarke
Early Works; A Novel by Andrew Martin
Naive. Super by Erlend Loe
Death with Interruptions by Jose Saramago
Eats, Shoots and Leaves by Lynne Truss
A Thousand Splendid Suns by Khaled Hosseini
His Dark Materials by Philip Pullman
Born a Crime by Trevor Noah

*Spring novel option: you can't pick it for class if you read it over the summer (no repeats)