Taipei American School Upper School English Department
Course Texts 2026-2027

"We cannot help but be interested in the stories of people that history pushes aside so thoughtlessly"-Min Jin Lee
"You don't have anything if you don't have stories"-Leslie Marmon Silko

Storytelling is an art that has long brought people together, within communities and across cultures. The Taipei American School English Department believes in the power of stories to transform readers. Our reading lists are developed with a focus on providing a diverse selection of voices and perspectives from around the world. We hope our students will be enriched by and find pleasure in the books they read, and the titles listed for each course have been selected for that purpose.

ALL STUDENTS:

Students must purchase their books. **Please make sure to purchase the specific edition listed of each text.** All books should be obtained as soon as possible, ideally by the beginning of the school year. Students should allot the appropriate amount of time for a book shipment to arrive and should not rely on last-minute purchases at local bookstores.
Texts highlighted in red will be provided by the teacher and do not need to be purchased.

SUMMER READING

Please note that **AP, IB, and Honors courses include a summer reading text**. Students enrolled in those courses are expected to have read the assigned text prior to the start of the school year and will need a physical copy of the text in class**.** Students should expect that their summer reading will either be evaluated through an in-class assessment or that the text will be integrated directly into the course curriculum. All other courses do not require summer reading.

NEW STUDENTS:

If you are considering enrolling in an AP, IB, or Honors course, please select the summer reading text for what you anticipate will most likely be your course. For instance, if you are entering grade 11 but you are uncertain whether you will take Honors World Literature or Honors Asian Literature, choose the one that is most likely. When classes begin, your teachers will arrange assessment of the summer text you read as needed. If possible, get the correct edition of the summer reading text; however, teachers can be flexible with text editions for new students. Unless you are entering Grade 9, most students will not know their English class placement until school begins in August–please wait until you know what course you are taking before purchasing the remaining books for the year.

KINDLES/E-READERS

Unless specifically noted on a particular course page, physical copies of all texts are required. If a course permits digital copies of any texts, those must be read on an e-reader such as a Kindle–students are not permitted to use e-texts on their laptops, tablets, or phones in the classroom.

STUDENTS with TWO ENGLISH COURSES:

Students who have two English classes with summer reading (AP, IB, Honors) must read the summer texts for both courses.

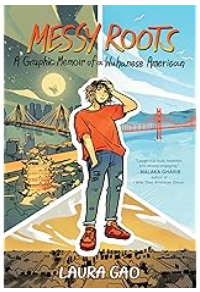
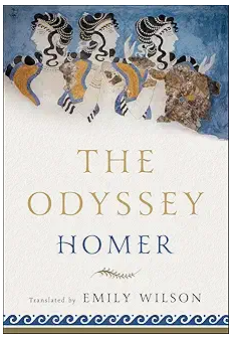
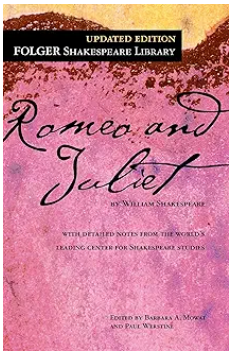
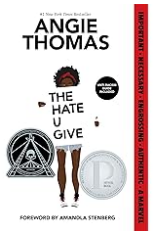
ENGLISH ELECTIVES (CREATIVE WRITING/JOURNALISM):

Please note that no texts need to be purchased in advance for any of the Creative Writing or Journalism courses.

English 9

Please purchase the specific edition listed for the pagination, critical material, and explanatory notes included. Do not purchase other paper or electronic editions. All books are paperback editions unless otherwise noted.

There is no summer reading for this course.

Text	Author/Writer	Edition	Amazon ISBN	Cover Image
Messy Roots	Laura Gao	Harper Alley	978-0063067769	
The Odyssey	Homer, translated by Emily Wilson	Norton	978-0393356250	
Romeo and Juliet	William Shakespeare	Folger Shakespeare Library	978-1451621709	
The Hate U Give	Angie Thomas	Clarion Books	978-0062498540	
Creative Nonfiction Reader	Various	Provided by teacher	N/A	

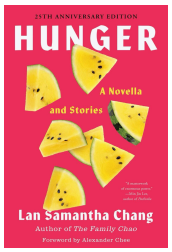
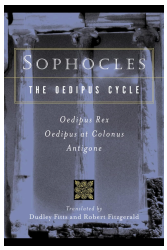
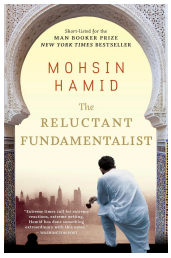
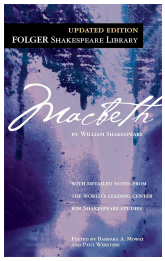
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- Text provided by the teacher–does not need to be purchased

English 10

Please purchase the specific edition listed for the pagination, critical material, and explanatory notes included. Do not purchase other paper or electronic editions. All books are paperback editions unless otherwise noted.

There is no summer reading for this course.

Text	Author/Writer	Edition	Amazon ISBN	Cover Image
Hunger: A Novella and Short Stories	Lan Samantha Chang	W.W. Norton & Company	978-1324064565	
The Oedipus Cycle	Sophocles	Mariner Books Classics	978-0156027649	
The Reluctant Fundamentalist	Mohsin Hamid	Harper Perennial	978-0156034029	
Macbeth	William Shakespeare	Simon & Schuster	978-0743477109	
Macbeth (film)	Joel Coen	Screened in class; Reader provided by teacher	N/A	
Poetry Reader	Various	Provided by teacher	N/A	

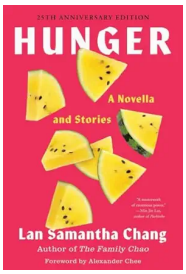
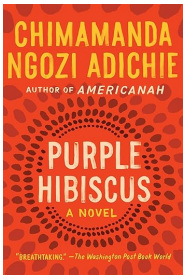
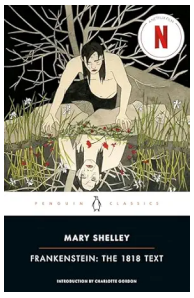
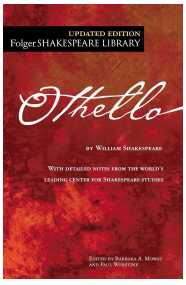
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Honors English 10

Please purchase the specific edition listed for the pagination, critical material, and explanatory notes included. Do not purchase other paper or electronic editions. All books are paperback editions unless otherwise noted.

Please complete the summer reading prior to the start of class in August.

Text	Author/Writer	Edition	Amazon ISBN	Cover Image
Hunger: A Novella and Short Stories	Lan Samantha Chang	W.W. Norton	978-1324064565	
Purple Hibiscus	Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie	Algonquin Books	978-1616202415	
Frankenstein: the 1818 Text	Mary Shelley	Penguin Classics	978-0143131847	
Othello	William Shakespeare	Folger (Simon & Schuster)	978-1501146299	
Short Prose Selections	Various	Provided by teacher	N/A	
Poetry Selections	Various	Provided by teacher	N/A	
Nightcrawler (film)	Dan Gilroy	Screened in class	N/A	

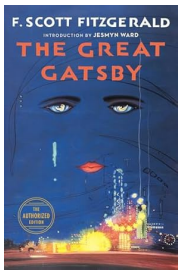
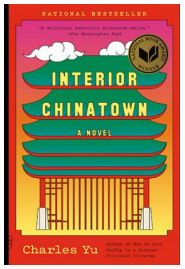
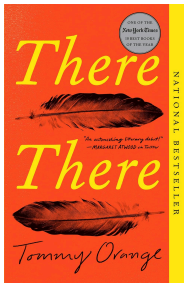
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- SUMMER READING–this text should be read prior to the first class of the year in August
- Text provided by the teacher–does not need to be purchased

American Literature

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There is no summer reading for this course.

Text	Author/Writer	Edition	Amazon ISBN	Cover Image
The Great Gatsby	F. Scott Fitzgerald	Scribner	978-0743273565	
Interior Chinatown	Charles Yu	Knopf Doubleday	978-0307948472	
There There	Tommy Orange	Vintage	978-0525436140	
James Baldwin reader	James Baldwin	Provided by teacher	N/A	
Essay reader	Various	Provided by teacher	N/A	
Short story reader	Various	Provided by teacher	N/A	

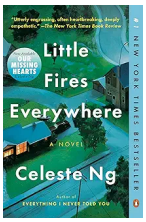
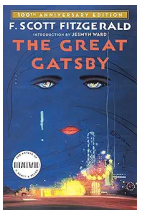
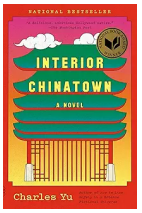
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Honors American Literature

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Please complete the summer reading prior to the start of class in August.

Text	Author/Writer	Edition	Amazon ISBN	Cover Image
Little Fires Everywhere	Celeste Ng	Penguin Books	978-0735224315	
The Great Gatsby	F. Scott Fitzgerald	Scribner	978-0743273565	
A Raisin in the Sun	Lorraine Hansberry	Vintage	978-0679755333	
Interior Chinatown	Charles Yu	Knopf Doubleday	978-0307948472	
Hamilton: An American Musical	Lin-Manuel Miranda	Screened in class; Reader provided by teacher	N/A	
American Short Stories and Poetry Reader	Various	Provided by teacher	N/A	
Everything Everywhere All at Once (film)	Daniel Kwan and Daniel Scheinert	Screened in class; Reader provided by teacher	N/A	
Get Out (film)	Jordan Peele	Screened in class; Reader provided by teacher	N/A	

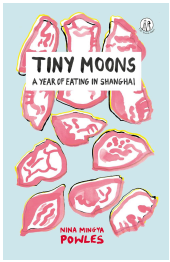
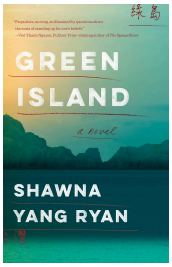
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Asian Literature

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There is no summer reading for this course.

Text	Author/Writer	Edition	Amazon ISBN	Cover Image
Almond: A Novel	Won-pyung Sohn	HarperVia	978-0062961389	
Tiny Moons: A Year of Eating in Shanghai	Nina Mingya Powles	The Emma Press	978-1912915347	
Green Island	Shawna Yang Ryan	Vintage	978-1101872369	
Stay True	Hua Hsu	Vintage	978-0593315200	
Ted Chiang Reader (stories and essays)	Ted Chiang	Provided by teacher	N/A	
Wawa no Cidal (film) & Apyang Imiq Reader	Apyang Imiq	Provided by teacher	N/A	
Food & Identity Reader	Various	Provided by teacher	N/A	

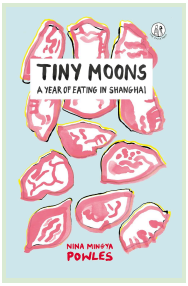
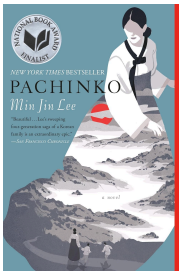
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Honors Asian Literature

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Please complete the summer reading prior to the start of class in August.

Text	Author/Writer	Edition	Amazon ISBN	Cover Image
Tiny Moons: A Year of Eating in Shanghai	Nina Mingya Powles	The Emma Press	978-1912915347	
Pachinko	Min Jin Lee	Grand Central Publishing	978-1455563920	
Almond: A Novel	Won-pyung Sohn	HarperVia	978-0062961389	
Raise the Red Lantern (novella)	Su Tong	Provided by teacher	N/A	
Parasite (film)	Bong Joon Ho	Screened in class; Reader provided by teacher	N/A	
Taiwanese Indigenous Voices Reader	Various	Provided by teacher	N/A	
Food & Identity Reader	Various	Provided by teacher	N/A	

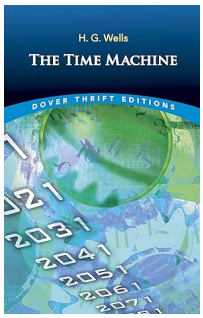
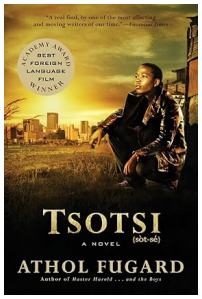
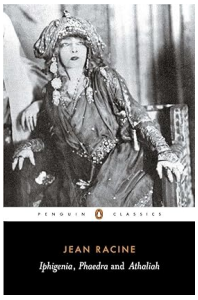
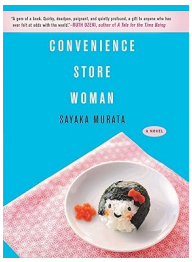
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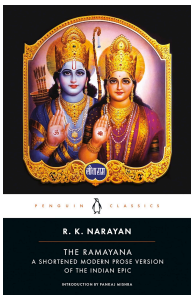
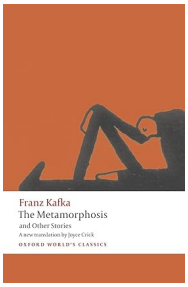
- SUMMER READING–this text should be read prior to the first class of the year in August
- Text provided by the teacher–does not need to be purchased

World Literature

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There is no summer reading for this course.

Text	Author/Writer	Edition	Amazon ISBN	Cover Image
The Time Machine	H.G. Wells	Dover Thrift	978-0486284729	
Tsotsi	Athol Fugard	Grove	978-0802142689	
Iphigenia, Phaedra, Athaliah	Jean Racine	Penguin Classic	978-0140441222	
Convenience Store Woman	Sayaka Murata	Grove	978-0802129628	

Ramayana	R.K. Narayan	Penguin Classic	978-0143039679	
The Metamorphosis and Other Stories	Franz Kafka	OUP	978–0199238552	

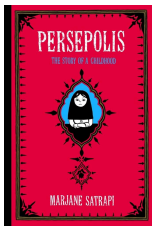
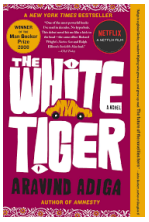
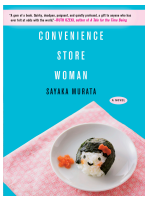
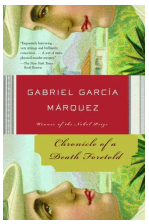
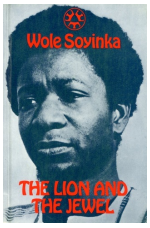
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Honors World Literature

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Please complete the summer reading prior to the start of class in August.

Text	Author/Writer	Edition	Amazon ISBN	Cover Image
Persepolis	Marjane Satrapi	Pantheon	9780375714573	
The White Tiger	Aravind Adiga	Free Press	978-1416562603	
Convenience Store Woman	Sayaka Murata	Grove Press	978-0802129628	
Chronicle of a Death Foretold	Gabriel García Márquez	Vintage	978-1400034710	
The Lion and the Jewel	Wole Soyinka	Oxford University Press	978-0199110834	
Selected Poems	Wisława Szymborska	Provided by teacher	N/A	
Selected Short Stories	Various	Provided by teacher	N/A	

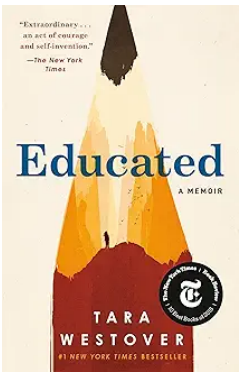
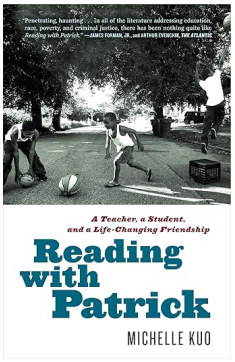
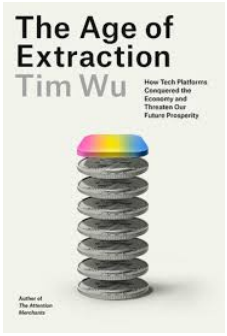
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AP Language and Composition

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Please complete the summer reading prior to the start of class in August.

Text	Author/Writer	Edition	Amazon ISBN	Cover Image
Educated	Tara Westover	Random House Trade Paperbacks	978-0399590528	
Reading with Patrick: A Teacher, a Student and the Life-Changing Power of Books	Michelle Kuo	Random House	978-0812987140	
Age of Extraction	Tim Wu	Knopf	978-0593321249	
Social Change Reader	Various	Provided by teacher	N/A	
Essay and article selections	Various	Provided by teacher	N/A	

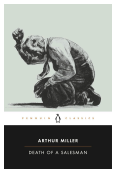
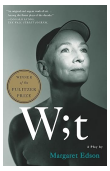
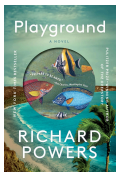
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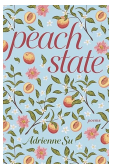
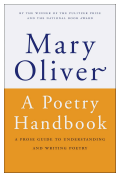
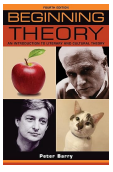
- SUMMER READING–this text should be read prior to the first class of the year in August
- Text provided by the teacher–does not need to be purchased

AP Literature and Composition

Please purchase the specific edition listed for the pagination, critical material, and explanatory notes included. Do not purchase other paper or electronic editions. All books are paperback editions unless otherwise noted.

Please complete the summer reading prior to the start of class in August.

Text	Author/Writer	Edition	Amazon ISBN	Cover Image
Jane Eyre	Charlotte Brontë	W.W. Norton & Company (3rd Edition)	978-0393264876	
Things Fall Apart	Chinua Achebe	Penguin Books	978-0385474542	
Death of a Salesman	Arthur Miller	Penguin Classics	978-0141180977	
Sweat	Lynn Nottage	TCG	978-1559365321	
Interior Chinatown	Charles Yu	Vintage	978-0307948472	
W;t: A Play	Margaret Edson	Farrar, Straus and Giroux	978-0571198771	
Playground	Richard Powers	W.W. Norton & Company	978-1324123736	

Exit West: A Novel	Mohsin Hamid	Riverhead Books	978-0735212206	
Assembly	Natasha Brown	Little Brown	978-0316268363	
Oculus	Sally Wen Mao	Graywolf Press	978-1555978259	
Peach State: Poems (Pitt Poetry Series)	Adrienne Su	University of Pittsburgh Press	978-0822966562	
Habitat Threshold	Craig Santos Perez	Omnidawn	978-1632430809	
A Poetry Handbook	Mary Oliver	Ecco	978-0156724005	
Beginning Theory: An Introduction to Literary and Cultural Theory	Peter Barry	Manchester University Press	978-1526121790	
Postcolonial Literature and Theory Reader • Includes the full text of The Importance of Being Earnest	Various	Provided by teacher	N/A	
Poetry Reader	Various	Provided by teacher	N/A	

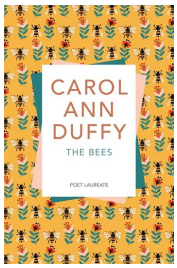
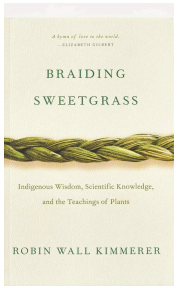
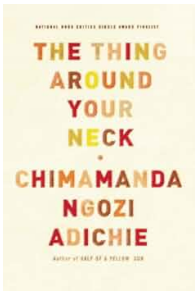
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IB Language and Literature Year 1 (HL and SL)

Please purchase the specific edition listed for the pagination, critical material, and explanatory notes included. Do not purchase other paper or electronic editions. All books are paperback editions unless otherwise noted.

Please complete the summer reading prior to the start of class in August.

Text	Author/Writer	Edition	Amazon ISBN	Cover Image
Circe	Madeline Miller	Little, Brown and Company	978-0316556347	
The Bees	Carol Ann Duffy	Pan Macmillan/Picador	978-1509852925	
Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge and the Teachings of Plants	Robin Wall Kimmerer	Milkweed Editions	978-1571313560	
The Thing Around Your Neck	Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie	Anchor Books	978-0307455918	
Get Out: The Complete Annotated Screenplay	Jordan Peele	Inventory Press	978-1941753286	

The World's Wife	Carol Ann Duffy	Provided by teacher	N/A	
Wawa no Cidal (film)	Lekal Sumi, Yu-chieh Cheng	Screened in class; Reader provided by teacher	N/A	
Non-literary works	Various	Provided by teacher	N/A	

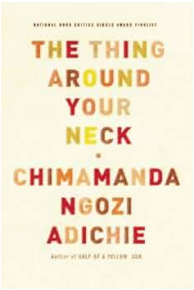
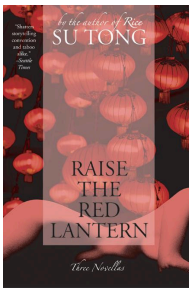
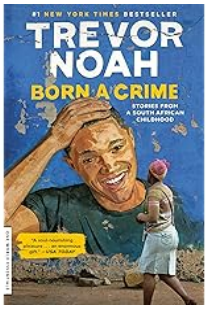
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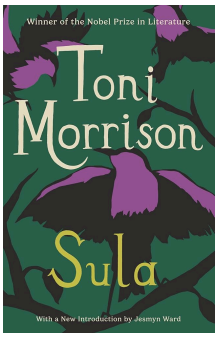
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IB Literature Year 1 (HL and SL)

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Please complete the summer reading prior to the start of class in August.

Text	Author/Writer	Edition	Amazon ISBN	Cover Image
Taiwan Travelogue	Yang Shuang-zi	Graywolf Press	978-1644453155	
The Thing Around Your Neck	Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie	Anchor Books	978-0307455918	
Raise the Red Lantern: Three Novellas	Su Tong	William Morrow	978-0060596330	
Born a Crime	Trevor Noah	One World	978-0399588198	

Sula	Toni Morrison	Vintage	978-1400033430	
Small Things Like These	Claire Keegan	Faber and Faber	978-0571368709	
Selected Poems	Wislawa Szymborska	Reader provided by teacher	N/A	

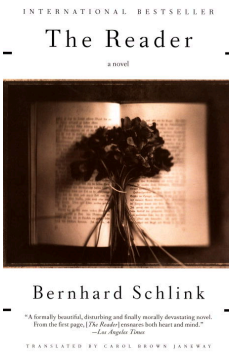
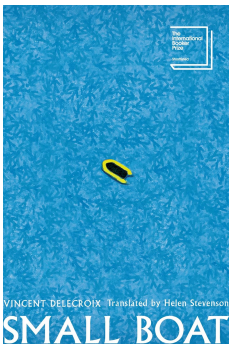
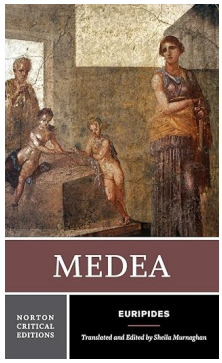
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IB Language and Literature Year 2 (HL and SL)

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HL STUDENTS ONLY: Please complete the summer reading prior to the start of class in August.

Text	Author/Writer	Edition	Amazon ISBN	Cover Image
Taiwan Travelogue	Yang Shuang-zi	Graywolf Press	978-1644453155	
The Reader	Bernhard Schlink	Vintage	978-0375707971	
Small Boat	Vincent Delecroix	Mariner Books	978-0063491694	
Medea	Euripides	Norton Critical Editions	978-0393265453	

Denial (film)	Mick Jackson	Screened in class; Reader provided by teacher	N/A	
Flee (film)	Johan Poher Rasmussen	Screened in class; Reader provided by teacher	N/A	
The Scarlet Letter	Nathaniel Hawthorne	Provided by teacher	N/A	

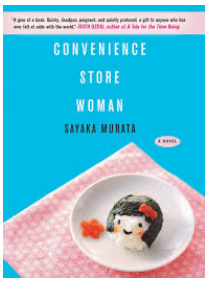
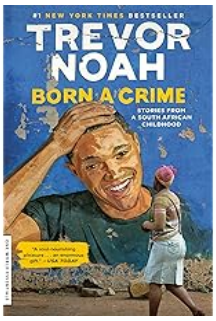
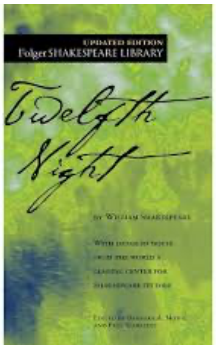
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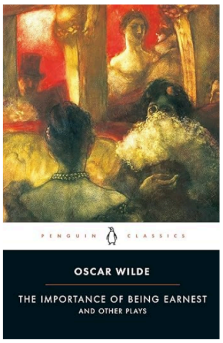
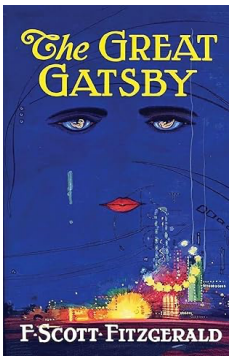
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IB Literature Year 2 (HL and SL)

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Text	Author/Writer	Edition	Amazon ISBN	Cover Image
Convenience Store Woman	Sayaka Murata translated by Ginny Tapley Takemori	Grove Press	978-0802129628	
Born a Crime	Trevor Noah	One World	978-0399588198	
Ceremony	Leslie Marmon Silko	Penguin Classic Deluxe Edition	978-0143104919	
Twelfth Night	William Shakespeare	Folger Shakespeare Library	978-0743482776	

Importance of Being Earnest	Oscar Wilde	Penguin Classics	978-0140436068	
The Great Gatsby	F. Scott Fitzgerald	Scribner	978-0743273565	

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