2026 High School Summer Reading List

High School Summer Reading Recommendations

All rising freshmen, sophomores, juniors, and seniors are encouraged to read one book from the grade-level list provided below.

These books offer a variety of perspectives and are grade-level appropriate. Reading one of these selections is a meaningful way for students to engage with literature over the summer, keep their reading lives active, and prepare for the next school year.

9th Grade

Title	Author
The House on Mango Street	Sandra Cisneros
My Stroke of Insight: A Brain Scientist's Personal Journey	Jill Bolte Taylor
Arabian Nights: The Marvels and Wonders of the Thousand and One Nights	Richard F. Burton; adapted/edited by Jack Zipes
All Quiet on the Western Front	Erich Maria Remarque
Crick Crack, Monkey	Merle Hodge
The War of the Worlds	H. G. Wells
The Bean Trees	Barbara Kingsolver
Murder on the Orient Express	Agatha Christie
Reaching for the Moon: The Autobiography of NASA Mathematician Katherine Johnson	Katherine Johnson
Fahrenheit 451	Ray Bradbury

10th Grade

Title	Author
Invisible Man	Ralph Ellison
The Portable Edgar Allan Poe	Edgar Allan Poe
The Hate U Give	Angie Thomas
The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde	Robert Louis Stevenson
1984	George Orwell
The Alchemist	Paulo Coelho

11th Grade

Title	Author
My Ántonia	Willa Cather
A Lesson Before Dying	Ernest J. Gaines
Things Fall Apart	Chinua Achebe
Out of Africa	Karen Blixen
Into Thin Air: A Personal Account of the Mt. Everest Disaster	Jon Krakauer
Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, an American Slave	Frederick Douglass
The Woman Warrior: Memoirs of a Girlhood Among Ghosts	Maxine Hong Kingston
The Words in My Hands	Asphyxia

12th Grade

Title	Author
A Room with a View	E. M. Forster
This Side of Paradise	F. Scott Fitzgerald
The Remains of the Day	Kazuo Ishiguro
Pride and Prejudice	Jane Austen