Rising 11th Grade Summer Reading

This summer, you will explore an important **person OR event in American history** through multiple perspectives. You will:

- Read **one full-length book (at least 200 pages)**
- Engage with **one additional source** (documentary, film, podcast, etc.)
- Create a final product that demonstrates your understanding and analysis (this will be completed during the first full week of school)

Your goal is to understand **how stories shape history—and how history shapes stories.**

Step 1: Choose a Topic

You may focus on:

- A historical figure
- A major event
- A movement or era

Your topic should be significant to American history and rich enough to explore from multiple angles.

Step 2: Select Your Sources

Required Source #1: Book

Choose ONE:

- Historical fiction
- Nonfiction history
- Biography or autobiography

Expectations:

- At least 200 pages
- Must be primarily focused on your chosen topic/person/event

Required Source #2: Additional Medium

Choose ONE:

- Documentary
- Movie (historical or biographical)
- Podcast series or episodes
- Interviews or speeches

Step 3: Track Your Thinking
As you read/watch/listen, keep a **Thinking Log** (can be handwritten or digital). Include:

- Key facts and details
- Important quotes or moments
- Questions you have
- Surprising or conflicting information between sources
- Connections between literature and history
- The completed log should be brought to school on the first full day of school

In addition to the above requirement, **11th Grade Honors English** students are required to read ONE of the following:

-Choose either *The Scarlet Letter* by Nathaniel Hawthorne or *The Crucible* by Arthur Miller. Students will complete the journal assignment (outlined below) as they read. Students should be prepared for a writing assignment over the text during the first full week of school.

Puritan Lens Journal
While reading the text, complete **6 entries total** (not every chapter/act). Each entry includes:

- A short quote
- What it reveals about Puritan beliefs (sin, guilt, gender roles, community, etc.)
- A brief personal reaction or modern-day connection

Possible categories to focus on:

- Sin & punishment
- Reputation vs. integrity
- Role of religion in government
- Gender expectations
- Individual vs. community

This journal will be due on the first full day of class.