



**9th Grade English
Summer Reading
2026**

Upper School Community Summer Read
Required of All Students

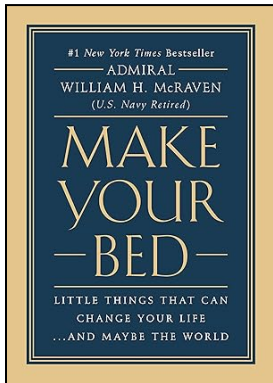
Title: *Make Your Bed: Little Things That Can Change
Your Life... and Maybe the World*

Author: Admiral William H. McRaven

ISBN: 978-1455570249

Please note that the required reading is Admiral McRaven's book *Make Your Bed*, not the original speech or the companion piece, *Make Your Bed: A Daily Journal*.

9th graders should arrive on the first day of school with responses to the discussion questions below. Responses may be informal—bullet points and short reflections are encouraged.



9th Grade Discussion Questions

1. Which lesson or chapter stood out to you the most, and why?
2. What is one lesson from the book that you would like to apply to your own life this year?
3. Which story or example from the book did you find most memorable or surprising?
4. What does McRaven suggest about the relationship between small habits and larger success? Do you agree?
5. McRaven emphasizes perseverance during difficult moments. Describe a time when you had to persevere through a challenge.
6. What qualities make someone a strong leader according to the book?
7. Which piece of advice from the book do you think is most relevant for high school students?
8. Did you disagree with any of McRaven's ideas or perspectives? Explain.
9. How does the title *Make Your Bed* connect to the larger message of the book?
10. Come prepared to share one meaningful quotation from the book and explain why you chose it.