



2026 Summer Reading for Students Entering Twelfth Grade Dual-Enrollment English

You are required to read **TWO books**: one is a whole-class novel, and the other you may choose from the list provided below. There is no required written assignment to complete. We will, however, be using your summer reading books as our jumping-off point for discussion and writing activities during the first quarter of 12th grade dual-enrollment English class, so **be sure to complete both your selected books before the first day of school.**

Whole Class Required Text: *The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald

REQUIRED TEXT #2: You may select ANY BOOK from the list below to satisfy the second half of your summer reading requirement, as long as it is a book you have NOT previously read:

- *A Gathering of Old Men* by Ernest J. Gaines
- *All American Boys* by Jason Reynolds
- *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn* by Betty Smith
- *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* by Mark Hadden
- *Firekeeper's Daughter* by Angeline Boulley
- *The Hate You Give* by Angie Thomas
- *I Am Not Your Perfect Mexican Daughter* by Erika Sánchez
- *The Invention of Wings* by Sue Monk Kidd
- *Lessons in Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus
- *The Namesake* by Jhumpa Lahiri
- *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* by Ken Kesey
- *Parable of the Sower* by Octavia E. Butler
- *The Power of One* by Bryce Courtenay
- *Slaughterhouse Five* by Kurt Vonnegut
- *Watchmen* (graphic novel) by Alan Moore

READING HELP: It is essential that you remember and are able to discuss and respond to these books, so please do something to help you process deeply what you are reading. Again, you are not required to complete a written assignment during the summer, but you may enjoy and find it helpful to complete one of the following activities as you read. **These activities will NOT be collected or graded!!**

- Make annotations about what a character is like at the beginning of the book, key events that cause the character to develop or change, and important changes you see in the character. Note questions or challenges the character raises for you as a reader—what does their journey make you think about?
- Create a one-pager of words and images that identify 5 key events described in the book and the significance of those events.
- Keep an informal journal of your thoughts as you read, writing down page numbers where key events/quotes appear and your questions/responses to those things.