

NHRHS

9-12

ELA Summer
Enrichment 2026





English 9

Ms. Crysler



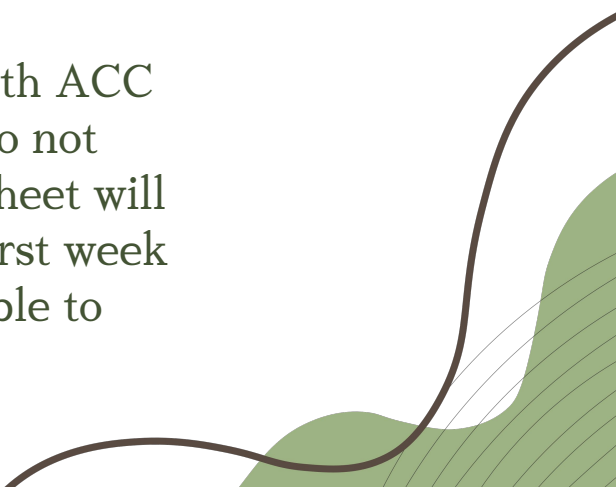
me when I have a week to do my
summer reading





Copies of summer reading books (for both ACC and Academic English 9) can be borrowed from the high school library - we do have a limited supply, so first come first served!

When you return in the fall, your summer reading assignment will be based on a literary device of your choosing. The following slide features a list of the literary devices and their definitions.



There will be a required note sheet for both ACC and Academic English. Students who do not complete their summer reading and note sheet will be provided time after school during our first week of classes in order to ensure they are able to participate in this first mini unit.

- **THEME** - The message or lesson of a story/ what the 'big takeaway' is
- **CHARACTERIZATION** - What type of person is your focus character? You can support your opinion by identifying direct characterization (the author tells you who this person is deep down) or indirect characterization (you decide who they are through clues in the text)
- **CONFLICT** - Conflict can be internal (inside the character's mind) or external (between a character and others), but describes a challenge a character is facing
- **PLOT** - Plot covers the five main phases of a story: **Exposition** (the beginning, when we learn about who the story involves and where it is set), **Rising Action** (the story starts to pick up, and the action starts to happen), **Climax** (the peak of the story, where a decision is made/ an event happens that the character can't undo - they need to find a way to move forward), **Falling Action** (the character finds a new solution/ new way forward), and **Resolution** (the story's loose ends are tied up)
- **POINT OF VIEW** - The story is narrated by a character (first person) or by a narrative voice (third person)
- **STYLE** - The author writes in a unique way that makes their work easily identifiable
- **TONE** - The author's attitude or feelings towards someone or something in the story (bitter, angry, happy, appreciative, suspicious, etc.)

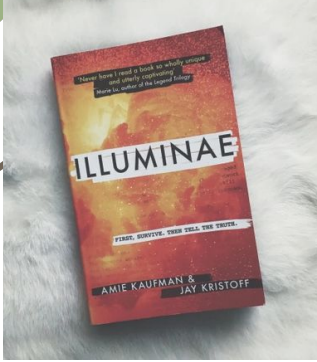
Academic 9

If you are enrolled in Academic ELA for next year, you are welcome to read any book over the summer! For those who aren't big readers or don't know where to start in terms of choosing a piece, our ELA team has selected five Nutmeg books that we recommend.

Please make sure you read at least ONE book this summer OR view/ listen to the suggested media, as our first assignment of your 9th grade year will be an assignment based on your chosen text!

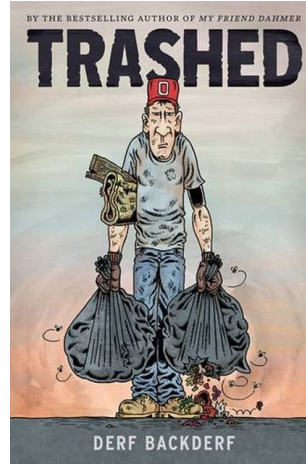


Academic Book Recommendations

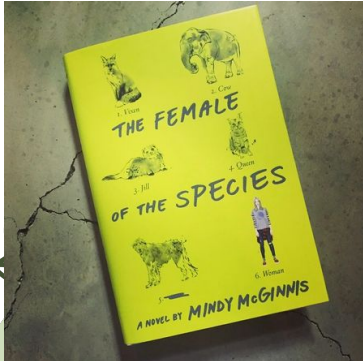


Illuminae by Amie Kaufman and Jay Kristoff

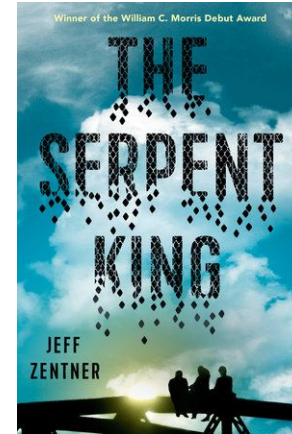
Trashed by Derf Backderf



The Female of the Species by Mindy McGinnis



The Serpent King by Jeff Zentner



This Is Our Story by Ashley Elston



Academic Book Recommendations

Set in the year 2575, *Illuminae* tells the story of teenagers Kady and Ezra, who have escaped their home planet after an illegal tech. company launches an attack.

BeiTech, refusing to retreat, sends an attack ship to pursue this band of refugees. As the enemy ship gains ground, Kady and Ezra face an unknown biological weapon, as well as military interference and devious AI system, all while trying to reunite. Told through emails, classified reports, and interviews, this story is sure to capture the attention of all science-fiction lovers!



Academic Book Recommendations

In the graphic novel *Trashed*, a group of three friends in their twenties have the unpleasant task of collecting the world's garbage. Alongside tales of icy cold and suffocatingly hot weather, the gang also encounters agitating local business owners and strange townspeople. Nestled between these humorous stories are scientific asides to help readers understand planet Earth, the home we all need to protect.



Academic Book Recommendations

In the mystery *This Is Our Story*, teenage intern Kate becomes entangled in a local death due to her internship at the River Point DA's Office. Five schoolmates left on a hunting trip, and only four returned alive. Now known as the River Point Boys, the political leaders in town are eager to sweep their story under the rug to please their well-connected families. Kate won't drop the issue until she discovers the truth, and ends up jeopardizing more lives than just hers as she uncovers secret after secret in her quest for justice.



Academic Book Recommendations

The thriller *The Female of the Species* tells the story of Alex, who, three years later, is still struggling with her older sister's murder – not to mention the fact that the killer walked free. As Alex's senior year of high school unfolds, she struggles to control the anger she feels at the injustice of the situation, and her own inner desire for violent revenge. With a new budding friendship and a powerful attraction to star athlete Jack, she struggles to keep the balance between letting others in and dishing out what she knows the evil-doers of the world deserve.



Academic Book Recommendations

The coming-of-age story *The Serpent King* tells the story of outcast Dill, whose family consists of his exiled father, a Pentecostal minister who handles venomous snakes, and urges Dill to do the same. Luckily, Dill has Travis and Lydia, his close friends and fellow misfits. As Travis and Lydia prepare for hopeful futures at the end of their senior year, Dill struggles with his own future plans. When tragedy strikes, Dill is forced to pick up the pieces, and find his future in the wreckage of his past.



Academic Podcast Recommendation

The podcast series “This Teenage Life” focuses on multiple different topics, from climate change anxiety to gaining independence and academic pressure. Episodes range from 20 to 30 minutes in length, so for this option, a minimum of 5 episodes would be required to count towards your summer assignment.

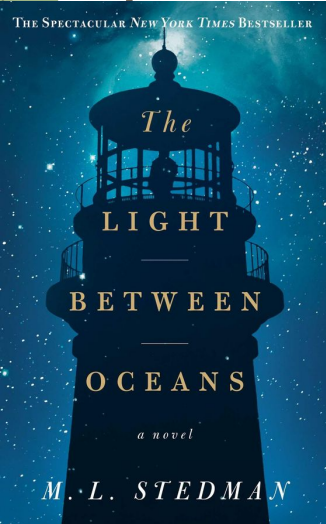


Accelerated 9

If you are enrolled in Accelerated ELA for next year, you will have a choice of four summer reading books. You must choose one of these books to read in preparation for your summer reading project, which will be our first assignment of the year!

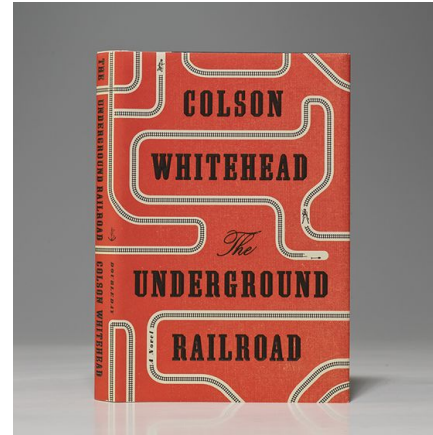


ACC Book Options

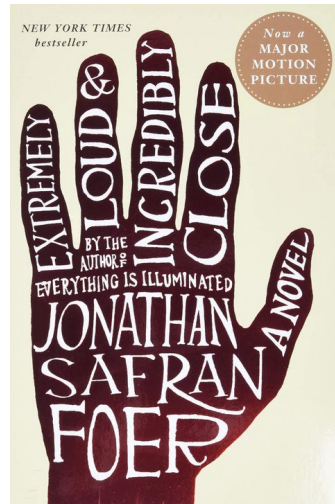


*The Light Between
Oceans by M.L.
Stedman*

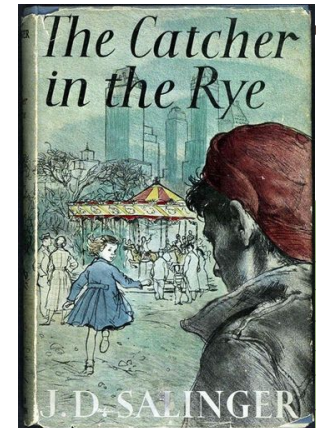
*The Underground Railroad by
Colson Whitehead*



*Extremely Loud and
Incredibly Close by
Jonathan Safran Foer*



*The Catcher in the
Rye by J.D.
Salinger*



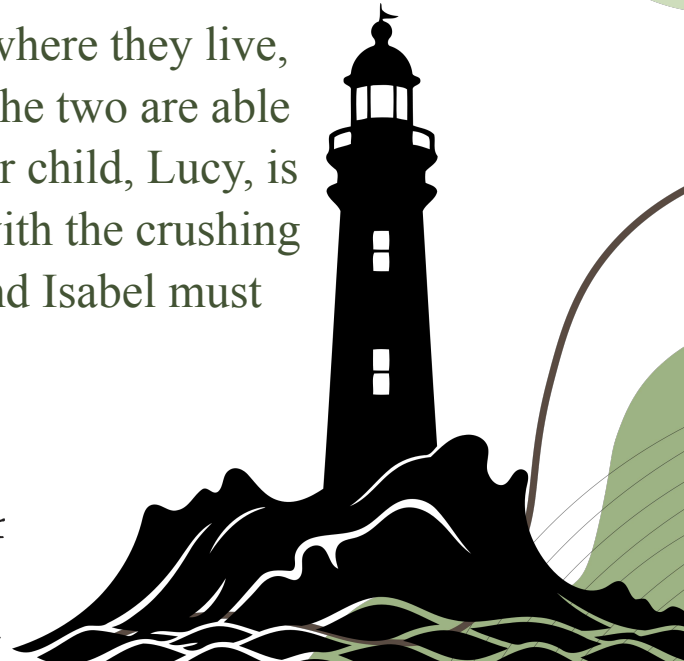
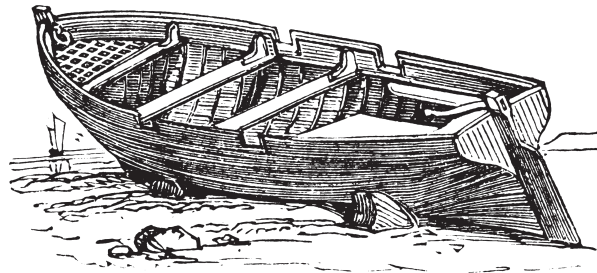
ACC Book Options

The literary classic *The Catcher in the Rye* tells the story of teenager Holden Caulfield, who has a reputation for not living up to his potential. After being kicked out of a string of boarding schools for failing class after class, he finds himself out on the streets of 1950s New York City just a few days before he is supposed to return home for his winter break. Determined to keep his parents from finding out that he is once again being expelled, Holden wanders the city, encountering all sorts of people. As his mind begins to spiral, Holden quickly loses his grip on the reality of the world around him.



ACC Book Options

The Light Between Oceans tells the story of 1920s Australian lighthouse keeper Tom, and his wife, Isabel. The two have repeatedly tried to have children, with nothing but loss and disappointment. When a rowboat containing a dead man and a living baby washes up on the isolated Janus Rock where they live, the couple decides to raise the child as their own. The two are able to avoid the consequences of this decision until their child, Lucy, is two, and they return to the mainland. When faced with the crushing loss they have inflicted on another family, Tom and Isabel must reevaluate their choice.



ACC Book Options

Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close tells the story of nine-year-old Oskar, who lost his father during the 9/11 terrorist attack on the World Trade Center. Since the attack, Oskar has struggled with depression and insomnia, and has grown apart from his mother and her new boyfriend.

After finding a mysterious key in his father's closet one day, Oskar becomes determined to discover where it leads. With the help of an elderly neighbor, Oskar meets several people who may or may not share a connection to his father. Narrated alongside a series of letters written from Oskar's grandfather to his father, this story delves into Oskar's family history, as well as his complicated journey towards finding peace and closure.



ACC Book Options

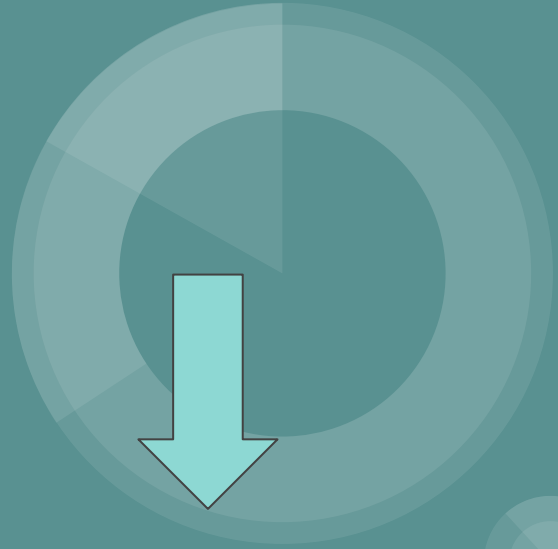
Colson Whitehead takes a creative spin on history with *The Underground Railroad*, in which the railroad is not just a metaphor, but an actual underground train system that carries slaves to freedom. Cora, an outcast on her Georgia plantation, meets newcomer Caesar, who informs Cora of this rail system.

The two decide to risk an escape, facing unimaginable challenges along the way. This story creates a powerful retelling of the true horrors and violence of slavery, as well as our shared history of these events.



Sophomore English Summer Enrichment

Mrs. Perry



There are instructions for
academic-level AND **accelerated-level**
in this slideshow—make sure you're
looking at the right one!

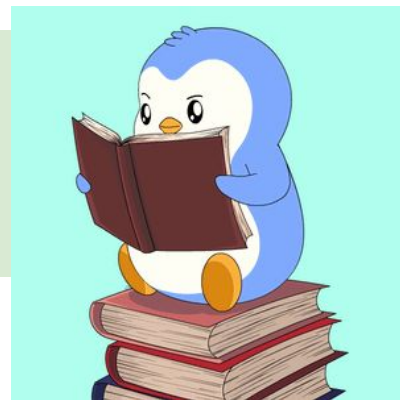
Sophomore English (Academic-Level)

Step #1: Read (or listen to!) a book

Step #2: Choose 5 important quotes

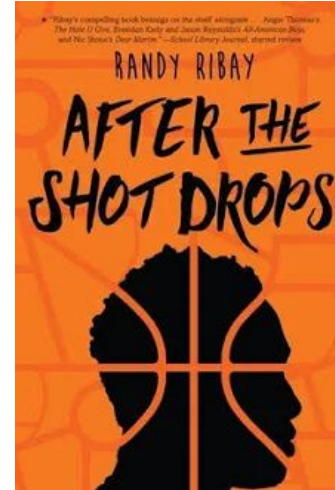
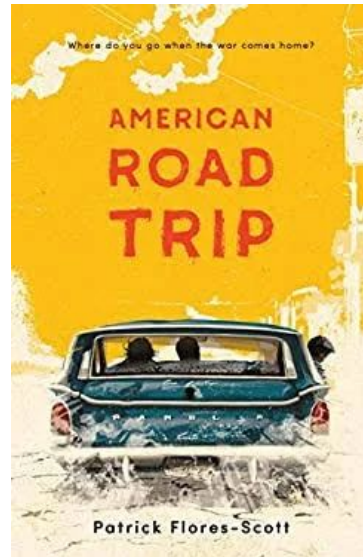
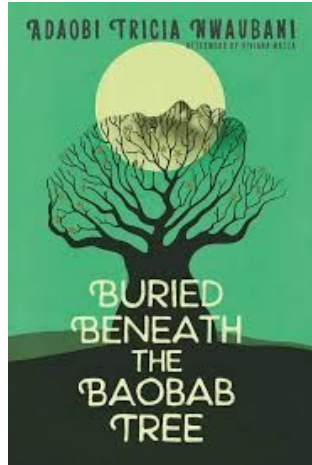
Step #3: Write double-entry notes for each quote

Click [here](#) to see book recommendations and notes template.



Recommended Books

(in our school library!)



What are Double-Entry Notes?

EXAMPLE (based on a quote from <i>The Things They Carried</i> by Tim O'Brien)		
What the text says...	Page #	What I think...
"First Lieutenant Jimmy Cross carried letters from a girl named Martha, a junior at Mount Sebastian College in New Jersey. They were not love letters, but Lieutenant Cross was hoping, so he kept them folded in plastic at the bottom of his rucksack".	1	What is a First Lieutenant? Why is Martha writing to him if she isn't in love with him? I think Martha is a girl friend or maybe just a girl who feels pressured into supporting a soldier during the war. I wonder if they will get together later in the story, or if Jimmy will find someone else? 58 words

Be Prepared & Start Strong!

-Double-entry Notes are due on the 2nd day of class.

-You will complete a multiple-choice quiz AND a writing sample based on your book during the first full week of school.





Sophomore English (Accelerated-Level)

Step #1: Read (or listen to!) a book from the list

Step #2: Choose 7 important quotes

Step #3: Write double-entry notes for each quote

Click [here](#) to see list of books to choose from and notes template.

1. Junior English
2. Accelerated Junior English

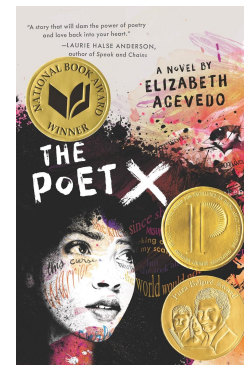
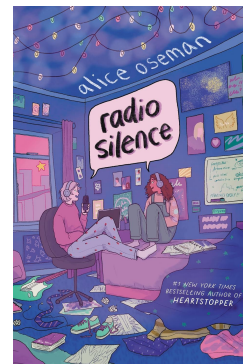
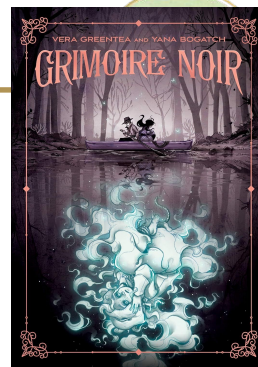
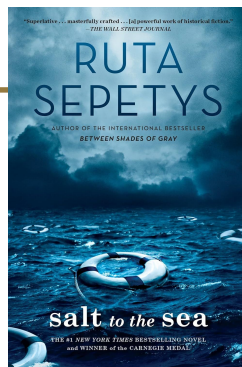
~ Mrs. Dedman



Academic Junior English Suggested Titles* (in our school library!)

1. *Salt to the Sea*
2. *Grimoire Noir* (Graphic Novel)
3. *The Poet X*
4. *The Midnight Library*
5. *Radio Silence*

*Or any other book that interests you and fits your reading level that you haven't read before (confirm with your ELA teacher).



Salt to the Sea ~ Winter 1945. WWII. Four refugees. Four stories. Each one born of a different homeland; each one hunted, and haunted, by tragedy, lies, war. As thousands desperately flock to the coast in the midst of a Soviet advance, four paths converge, vying for passage aboard the *Wilhelm Gustloff*, a ship that promises safety and freedom. But not all promises can be kept . . .

Grimoire Noir ~ Beautiful, spooky, and utterly enchanting, Vera Greentea and Yana Bogatch's *Grimoire Noir* is a charming graphic novel about coming to terms with your own flaws and working past them to protect those dear to you.

The Poet X ~ A novel about finding your voice and standing up for what you believe in, no matter how hard it is to say. Brave, bold and beautifully written – dealing with issues of race, feminism and faith.

The Midnight Library ~ Beyond the edge of the universe there is a library that contains an infinite number of books, each one the story of another reality. One tells the story of your life as it is, along with another book for the other life you could have lived if you had made a different choice at any point in your life. What if you had the chance to go to the library and see for yourself?

Radio Silence ~ When Frances meets Aled, the shy genius behind her favorite podcast, she discovers a new freedom. He unlocks the door to Real Frances and for the first time she experiences true friendship, unafraid to be herself. When the podcast goes viral, Frances's dreams come crashing down.

Academic Junior English

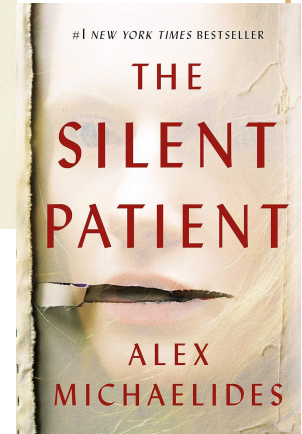
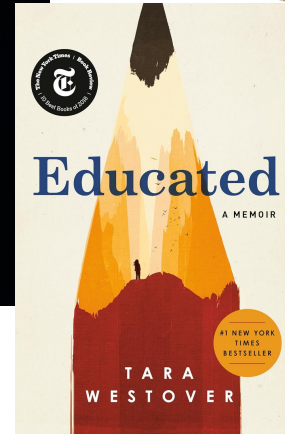
Podcast Options

Listen to 3-4 Episodes from one of the following (Spotify/Youtube)

- "Myths & Legends"
- "Ted Talks Daily"
- "This American Life"
- "The Happiness Lab"
- "Radiolab"
- "Shakespeare Unlimited"

Accelerated Junior English Reading Choices

1. *The Things They Carried*
2. *Educated*
3. *The Silent Patient*



The Things They Carried ~ A classic work of American literature that has not stopped changing minds and lives since it burst onto the literary scene, *The Things They Carried* is a ground-breaking work of Vietnam War fiction and a meditation on war, memory, imagination, and the redemptive power of storytelling.

Educated ~ Born to survivalists in the mountains of Idaho, Tara Westover was seventeen the first time she set foot in a classroom. Her family was so isolated from mainstream society that there was no one to ensure the children received an education, and no one to intervene when one of Tara's homelife became violent. Despite the odds, Tara decided to try a new kind of life, taking her over oceans and across continents, to Harvard and to Cambridge University.

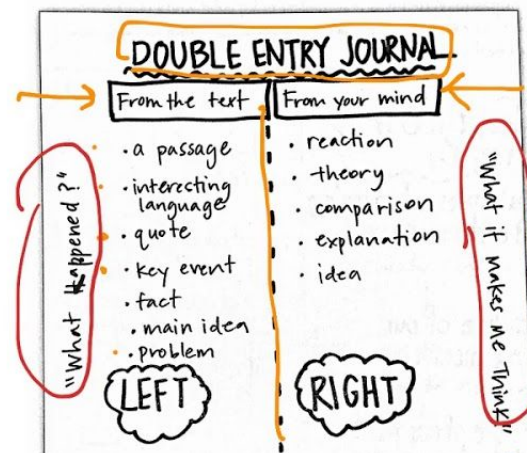
The Silent Patient ~ Alicia Berenson's life is seemingly perfect. A famous painter married to an in-demand fashion photographer, she lives in a grand house with big windows overlooking a park in one of London's most desirable areas. One evening her husband Gabriel returns home late from a fashion shoot, and Alicia shoots him five times in the face, and then never speaks another word.

Summer Expectations: Academic & Accelerated

Copies of summer reading selections can be borrowed from the high school library - we have a limited supply, so first come first served!

Read/listen to your selection. Record notes in a Double Entry Journal format (handwritten or digital).

Please refer to the digital version of this assignment Double Entry Journal as well as the image on the right to guide your work.

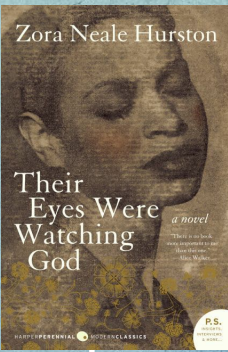


First Week of School Expectations: Academic & Accelerated

1. Double Entry Journals due [Link to Double Entry Journal](#)
2. Writing Sample based upon a choice of 5 prompts (in-class assignment)
3. Padlet/Blog: Generate original commentary and responses to other students' summer enrichment work (in-class assignment)

Note: Students who do not complete Summer Enrichment will be given time after school to ensure they are able to participate in this first mini unit.

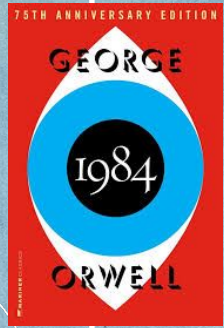




AP Literature & Composition

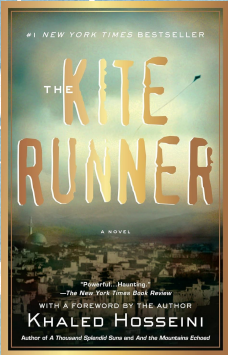
Their Eyes Were Watching God by Zora Neale Hurston

The epic tale of Janie Crawford, whose quest for selfhood takes her on a journey during which she learns about love, experiences life's joys and sorrows, and returns home a transformed woman. A classic work of African American literature.



1984 by George Orwell

Orwell's classic novel examines the consequences of totalitarianism, mass surveillance, and repressive regimentation of people and behaviors within society and contributed new words to the English language such as Big Brother, doublethink, newspeak, and thoughtcrime.



The Kite Runner by Khaled Hosseini

Taking readers from Afghanistan in the final days of the monarchy to the present, it is an unforgettable and beautifully told story of the friendship between two boys growing up in Kabul. *The Kite Runner* examines the price of betrayal, father-son relationships, and the possibility of redemption.

AP Literature & Composition

Summer Expectations

Read three assigned novels. Pick them up in Mrs. Dedman's classroom.

Record notes in a Double Entry Journal Format (digital or handwritten). [Link to AP Double Entry Journal](#)

First Week of School

Multiple Choice Assessment regarding all three novels

Blog-style Padlet Post: students post original commentary and offer insights regarding other students' post commentary

First Month of School

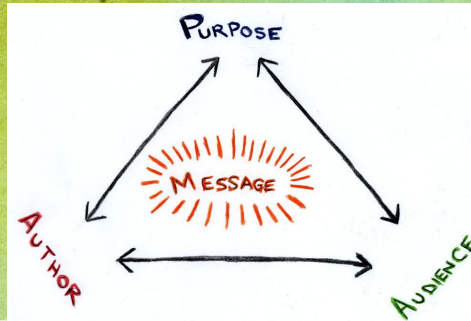
Students engage in collaborative and independent analyses of these works.



AP Language & Composition

- Read 3 Non-Fiction Texts (2 speeches and 1 NON-speech)
- Complete written assignment for each & be prepared for oral presentation in the Fall!

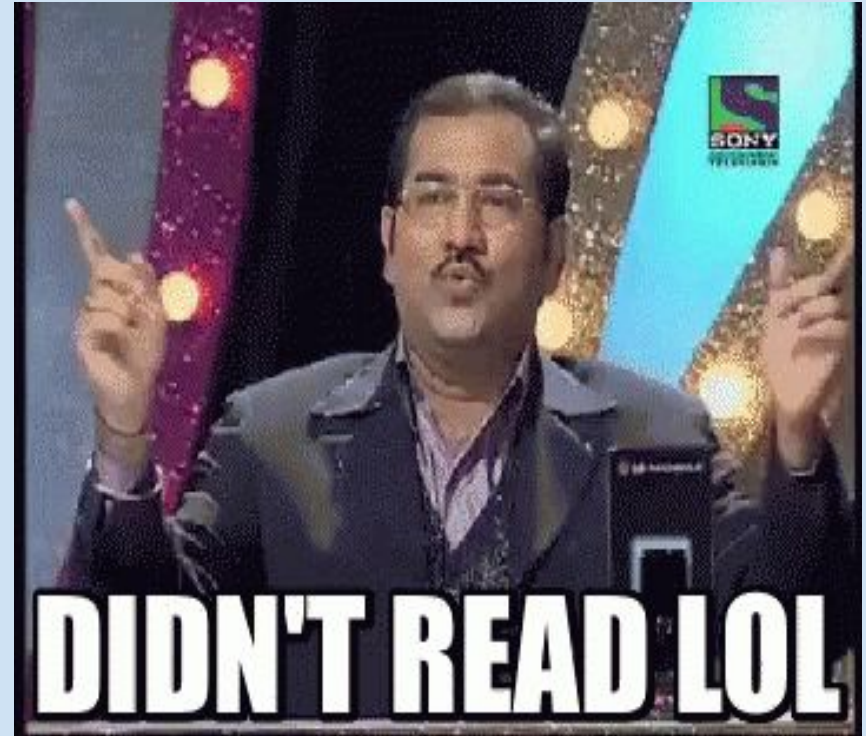
****CLICK [HERE](#) FOR SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS & DETAILS**



A photograph of a library shelf. On the left, a book with an orange spine is titled 'LANGUAGE VISUAL DICTIONARY'. Next to it is a book with a red spine titled 'DANGEROUS CROOKED SCOUNDRELS'. To the right of these books is a metal shelving unit. On the right side of the shelving unit, there is a blue sign with white text that reads 'We Are All Stardust' and 'on Klein'. The background shows more books on shelves.

Senior English

BE THIS GUY...



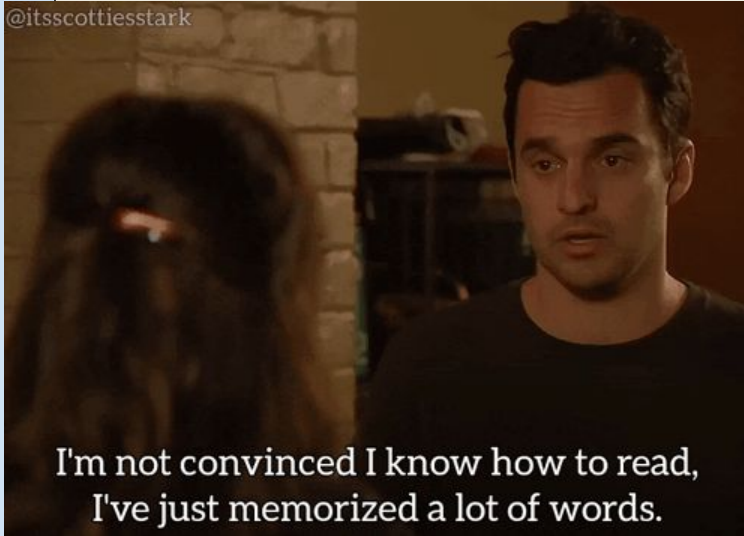
NOT THIS GUY...

Book Choices

Accelerated

1. *The Lost City of Z* by David Grann
2. *Animal Farm* by George Orwell

@itsscottiesstark



I'm not convinced I know how to read,
I've just memorized a lot of words.

Academic

1. *All Eyes on Her* by L.E. Flynn
2. *Goodbye Days* by Jeff Zentner
3. *The Inheritance Games* by Jennifer Lynn Barnes
4. *The House in the Cerulean Sea* by T. J. Klune
5. *Limetown* - Podcast Option: Spotify

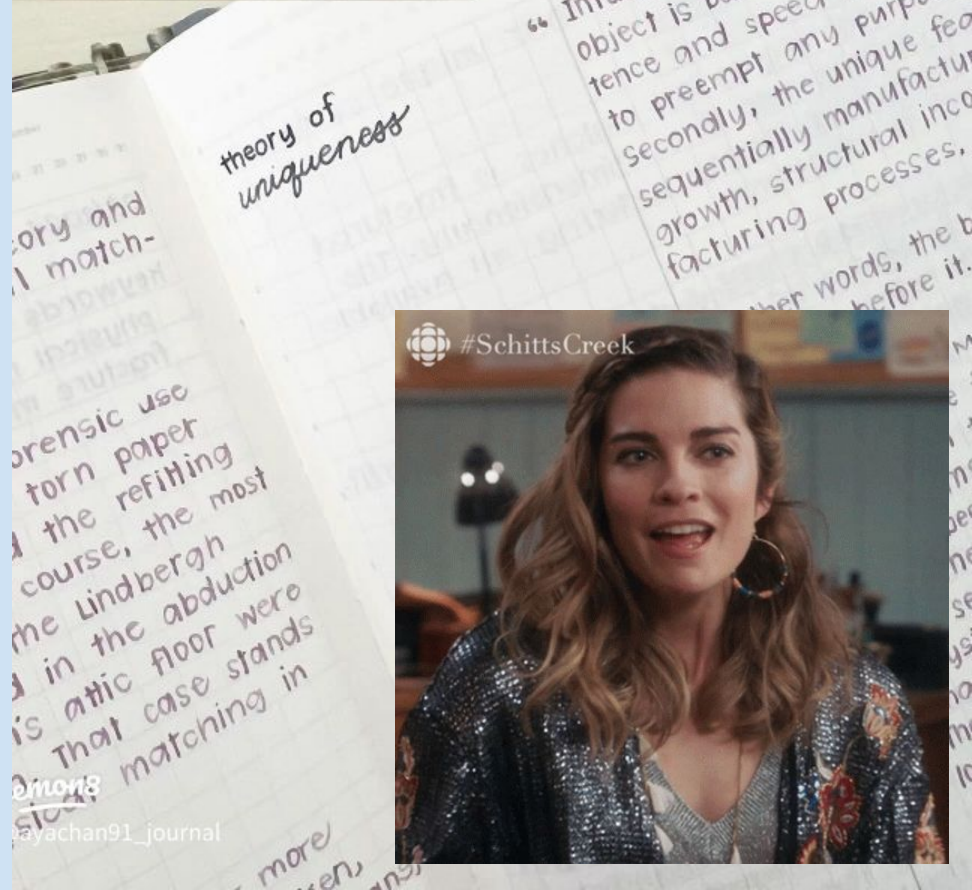
DOUBLE ENTRY JOURNAL

Assignment Details: Students should read their selected novel and complete the double entry journal assignment to be **due on the 2nd day of class**. While reading, complete the double entry journal following the instructions within the chart below.

Academic: 4 quotes and explanations

Accelerated: 8 quotes and explanations

Margin Notes



Double Entry Journal Example

Quote from the text	Reflection and Analysis
“Quote quote quote” (Last Name pg #) Suggestions for quote choices: ● Phrases or sentences that suggest meaning or are likeable to you ● Phrases that demonstrate literary significance or literary devices ● Phrases you find challenging or different ● Phrases you don’t understand and want to discuss	Personal Analysis: ● Comment on the direct quote - explain its significance to you ○ This is realistic/unrealistic... ○ I agree/disagree with the author... ○ I found this section to be... Literary Analysis: ● Comment on the structure/ devices/ writing strategies ○ The author used (____) to convey how... ○ The author develops character by... ○ Explain why you found something challenging or different. Analyze it. (This quote was confusing because.... However, I think it means... It is trying to..)

THE WRITING SAMPLE

Prompts

1. Discuss the author's purpose for writing your chosen text. Identify specific passages or scenes where the author's intent is most evident, and explain how these moments contribute to the overall message or purpose of the text.
2. Select one major theme from the book and analyze how it is developed throughout the story. Use examples from the text to show how the theme is revealed through characters, plot, or setting.
3. In what ways, do the characters evolve throughout the story? Support your analysis with specific examples from the text that illustrate key moments in the character's development. Consider what these changes reveal about the character's personality or the novel's message.
4. Identify and analyze at least two literary devices that the author uses in the book. Provide specific examples from the text and explain how these devices enhance the reader's understanding or experience of the story.
5. After reading the book, what is your overall interpretation of its meaning or significance? Use evidence from the text to support your ideas, and reflect on how your own experiences or perspectives shaped your understanding of the story.



Completed the 1st
week of school in class.

Thank You!

