

Great Neck North High School Summer Reading 2026

Students Entering English 9, English 10, English 11, and All 12th Grade Half-Year Courses

Students will select a book of their own choosing to read in any genre.

-Fiction is a narrative or creative work that is imagined as opposed to factual history. A novel is an extended work of narrative fiction. Select a work of fiction that you are interested in and will benefit from learning about the author's writing choices. Maybe it's a novel written by your favorite author or a collection of short stories. **The following titles are examples of fiction, though you're welcome to select a text outside of these examples:** *Brave New World* by Aldous Huxley, *The Rent Collector* by Camron Wright, *Pride and Prejudice* by Jane Austen, *Wuthering Heights* by Emily Bronte, *Divergent* by Veronica Roth.

-Non-fiction provides information about facts and real events. Select a non-fiction text that you are interested in and will benefit from learning about the author's choices. Maybe it's one written on your favorite topic – it could be about events from many years ago or a contemporary study. **The following titles are examples of non-fiction, though you're welcome to select a text outside of these examples:** *The Outliers* by Malcom Gladwell, *Moneyball* by Michael Lewis, *Mindset: The New Psychology of Success* by Carol Dweck, *Grit* by Angela Duckworth.

-A type of non-fiction is a memoir. A memoir is a true story about a person's life, and the author is whom the book is about. This differs from a biography, in which the author writes about someone else. A memoir is a form of autobiography in which authors describe their own life experiences. Select a text that you are interested in and will benefit from learning about the author's choices. Maybe it's one written by your favorite athlete or in a form such as graphic literature or personal essays. **The following titles are examples of memoirs, though you're welcome to select a text outside of these examples:** *Crying in H-Mart* by Michelle Zauner, *The Color of Water* by James McBride, *The Glass Castle* by Jeannette Walls, *The Closer* by Mariano Rivera, *First Time for Everything* by Dan Santat, *Bird by Bird* by Anne Lamott.

Expectations

- Choose a full-length text of roughly 200 pages or longer that interests you **and one you haven't already read**. See your teachers for a sample of texts covered in classes.
- It is suggested that you choose a text that reflects your grade level in terms of reading level, maturity, and length.
- Read the full text and take notes on the sections that you found to be effective writing – passages that were especially descriptive or powerful. **Expect a written assessment at the start of the school year.**
- **Our teachers, our school librarians, and your local librarians can assist with recommendations/questions about titles and how to access them.** Students are welcome to check out our school library's offerings in digital or print form. **Many titles above – and many more – can be accessed for free on Actively Learn** – just join the Summer Reading class on ActivelyLearn.com by clicking "Join My Class" and entering the code **UUVhyerw**. Reach out to our English or library departments for any questions.

See the next page for directions on other English courses ➡

Students Entering English 10 Honors

Read a book of your choosing AND Ernest Hemingway's *The Old Man and the Sea*.

Students Entering English 11AP

Read *The Scarlet Letter* by Nathaniel Hawthorne and selections from *The Anthropocene Reviewed* by John Green. The full assignment, which will consist of an essay synthesizing evidence from both works, will be posted on the English department website. Students are advised to check this information early in the summer to effectively plan their approach to the work.

Students Entering English 12AP

Read *The Awakening* by Kate Chopin AND *Bright Lights, Big City* by Jay McInerney. The full assignment, which will consist of an essay, will be posted on the English department website. Students are advised to check this information early in the summer to effectively plan their approach to the work.

Students Entering History Through Literature

Read *I Am Malala* by Malala Yousafzai.

Students Entering ENL 9/10

Read selections from *Brave Journeys*.

Community School

All students will read *The Cider House Rules* by John Irving. The second title and additional handouts will be distributed at the CS barbeque and/or via email.