

High School Summer Reading Requirements 2026

Dear Students,

Congratulations on starting your summer vacation! I hope you have a fun and relaxing summer! This coming year will have a focus on American Literature in Upper High School and a survey of literature in English 9/10 for Lower High School.

This year, all students will be reading one book with their incoming grade cohort and one that they drew based on a few keywords during our “blind date with a book.”

9th Grade Will Read: *Animal Farm* by George Orwell

10th Grade Will Read: *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee

11th Grade Will Read: *Of Mice and Men* by John Steinbeck

12th Grade Will Read: *Everything I Never Told You* by Celeste Ng

A note on audiobooks: You are more than welcome to use an audiobook, BUT you MUST read along with the book **and annotate it**. (See Google Classroom for instructions on annotation)

You also have already drawn a second book to read over the summer with you “blind date with a book”.

Hornet: *Never let me go* by Kazuo Ishiguro

Onyx: *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* by Stephen Chbosky

Finn: *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian* by Sherman Alexie

Zachary: *Night* by Ellie Wiesel

Olivia: *Brave New World* by Aldous Huxley

Arabella: *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* by Rebecca Skloot

Any new students not listed here, your other book may be one of your choice that is at least 150 pages.

Your Assignment:

Before you come back from summer vacation, you will need to read both of these novels and actively annotate along with them. You should have 5 annotations per chapter minimum.

Students must annotate both novels by taking notes in the book or writing on sticky notes or in a notebook.

Your assignment is to write a five-paragraph persuasive essay convincing someone to read this book.

You should have an introductory paragraph with a thesis, three body paragraphs- with each

devoted to giving a reason to read the book, and a conclusion.

Information on your summer reading assignment, annotation guides, and rubrics can be found on Google Classroom, which can be joined with this class code: de7kgprl.

Please turn in your assignment on Google Classroom before the first day of school.

Please do your best on this assignment! If you have any questions, feel free to email me at zschreiner@welshhills.org.

Have an epic summer!

Zack