

Northwood High School Summer Reading for Incoming 9th Graders

Reading Assignment

Students must read at least two books for the summer and complete note-taking assignments. One book is required reading and the other is a grade level appropriate free-choice book. The required reading book for all on-level incoming 9th graders is **The Red Badge of Courage** by Stephen Crane. The required book for all honors-level incoming 9th graders is **My Antonia** by Willa Cather.

Suggested Options for Book Choice #2

Non-Fiction Choices:

I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings by Maya Angelou

Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, An American Slave by Frederick Douglass

Autobiography by Benjamin Franklin

Fiction Choices:

A River Runs Through It by Norman MacClean

Ender's Game by Orson Scott Card

Jacob, Have I Loved by Katherine Patterson

Shabanu by Suzanne Fisher Staples

Hiroshima by John Hershey

The Joy Luck Club by Amy Tan

Uncle Tom's Cabin by Harriet Beecher Stowe

The Bread Givers by Anzia Yezsierska

Cry, the Beloved Country by Alan Paton

The Story of a Shipwrecked Sailor by Gabriel Garcia Marquez

Inherit the Wind by Jerome Lawrence and Robert E. Lee

The Chosen by Chaim Potok

Nectar in a Sieve by Kamala Markandaya

A Separate Peace by John Knowles

The Princess Bride by William Goldman

A Tale of Two Cities by Charles Dickens

Great Expectations by Charles Dickens

Les Miserables by Victor Hugo

A Farewell to Arms by Ernest Hemingway

The Jungle by Upton Sinclair

Writing Assignment

Students must take notes on the following aspects of each summer reading book:

- 1) **Setting:** Where does the story take place? How does the setting change?
- 2) **Main Characters:** Who are major characters? Why are they significant?
- 3) **Conflicts:** What are the major conflicts? Why are they significant?
- 4) **Themes:** What significant themes are found within the story? Briefly explain.
- 5) **Quotations:** Write two significant quotations found within the text. Include page numbers.
- 6) **Resolution/Tone:** How does the story end? What adjectives best describe the tone at the end?
- 7) **Author's Purpose:** What do you think was the author's purpose in telling this story? Explain.
- 8) **Personal Reaction:** What is your personal reaction or response to the story?

Students may use the attached graphic organizer or separate sheets of paper to take these notes. Additional graphic organizers may be found on the Northwood High School website. These notes are meant to help students remember key aspects of the stories so that they can complete a graded project when they return to school. Students must bring their notes with them to their first English class.

Pizza Party

Help your English class win a Pizza Party! The 9th grade English classes that earn the highest percentages for completion of the summer reading assignment will win a pizza party.