

Pre-IB English 10  
Summer Reading 2009

Hello Pre-IB English 10 students!

Pre-IB English 10 promises to be a rigorous yet rewarding course. I hope you are looking forward to next year as much as I am. To prepare you for the course I would like you to complete the following summer reading assignments:

1. **Read *The Catcher in the Rye*.** You will be working with this text in class so having your own copy is preferable. Any edition of the novel is fine.
2. **Select a book of your choice to read from the Summer Reading database**
3. **Answer one of the following essay prompts, using *The Catcher in the Rye* and the free-choice you made.** The prompts are modified IB Exam release questions and should be answered in 2 or 3 pages. Have your responses ready to hand in on August, 31<sup>st</sup>, the first day of school.
  - Say what the titles of the books you read indicated to you at the outset (i.e., before you even read a page). In what ways were your first impressions of the novels reinforced or altered as you read each novel?
  - "Great is the art of beginning, but greater is the art of ending." Using the two novels you read, discuss the above statement.
  - In what ways, and to what effect, have the authors of the novels combined different aspects of human experience?
  - How much of an impact does the reliability (or unreliability) of the narrator have on your appreciation of the novels you read?
4. **Complete the short writing assignment for your free-choice book**

**Required Materials for 2009-20010:**

- Colored pencils
- Notebook for notes, etc

**Optional Materials for 2009-2010:**

- A good grammar reference. I suggest *Woe is I: The Grammarphobe's Guide to Better English in Plain English*. *Eats, Shoots and Leaves: The Zero Tolerance Approach to Punctuation* is also good.
- Your own copies of the books you'll be reading next year. It is helpful to have your own copies to annotate and work with, particularly when we start mimicking IB diploma assignments. The texts we'll work with next year are *The Catcher in the Rye* (JD Salinger), *The Odyssey* (Homer), *Big Fish* (Daniel Wallace), *Fahrenheit 451* (Ray Bradbury), *1984* (George Orwell), *Frankenstein* (Mary Shelley), *Kitchen* (Banana Yoshimoto) and *Henry IV, Part 1* (William Shakespeare).

Enjoy your summer and take the time to do things you won't have time for once school starts again. The upcoming year will be a challenging one, but also rewarding and beneficial and, maybe at times, fun. Enjoy your summer assignments, take the time to do them well and if you have any questions or comments during the summer please don't hesitate to email me at [Kathryn\\_E\\_Peluso@mcpsmd.org](mailto:Kathryn_E_Peluso@mcpsmd.org).

Sincerely,

Kathryn Peluso  
Pre-IB English 10