

English 10 (On-Level and Honors) Summer Reading 2011

Over the summer, you are to read books of your choice.

Honors students should read **two** books and on-level students should read **one**.

Read for a purpose—for enjoyment, for inspiration, and for information. Take notes on your reading and interact with the text, noting key, favorite, and thought-provoking or engaging passages from the texts you have chosen. Please refer to the genre list below to choose a genre that you enjoy.

Mr. Kenton and Mr. Baczkowski have produced a special video on YouTube on how to choose a book for summer reading.

Please see the link on the B-CC English summer reading web pages:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Yad79wzy2Bw>

Follow-Up Letter Writing Assignment

For this assignment, consider at least two points of view from one of your books (On-level students, you only read one book, so use that one.) Select two characters or, if it is nonfiction, maybe the author and someone from his/her audience.

- 1) On each page (there will be two), in the upper-left-hand corner, type the heading (your first and last name, Honors/On-Level English 10, Class period, and date).
- 2) Also, include the title of the book and the author as well as the two characters or points of view.
- 3) For your letters, focus on an event or key issue in the book, and have one “person” write a 1/2-3/4 page letter and include a visual.
- 4) The recipient then responds in another 1/2-3/4 page letter with a visual attached.

Genre List

“Genre” is a fancy French word that means “type” or “kind.” When we talk about literary genres, we’re talking about the type or kind of information or story that makes up that written work. Very few books can be crammed into only one genre, but below are some general descriptions of the major types of literary genres that can help you select a good summer reading book. Along with a description of possible genres are some popular authors with teens whose writing often fall into these genre categories.

Fiction (A.K.A. untrue stories)

- ☐ **Realistic Fiction**—the characters, the setting, and the encountered issues all seem real and plausible. **Possible Authors:** Walter Dean Myers, Jodi Picoult, Sara Dessen, Ellen Wittlinger, Cecily Von Ziegesar, Lisi Harrison, Marcus Zusak
- ☑ **Science Fiction**—often takes place in the future or on another planet and involves technology and gadgets based on real science. **Possible Authors:** Orson Scott Card, Nancy Farmer, Michael Crichton, Isaac Asimov, Malcolm Rose, Scott Westerfield
- ☑ **Fantasy Fiction**—anything can happen in worlds that might have dragons, faeries, and wizards. **Possible Authors:** Tamora Pierce, Stephanie Meyer, Chris Paolini, Robert Jordan, Philip Pullman, P.C. Cast, Neil Gaimon, Terry Pratchett, J.R.R. Tolkien, Amelia Atwater-Rhodes
- ☑ **Horror Fiction**—scary stories that might include supernatural characters like ghosts or unstoppable monsters like a rabid, possessed dog. **Possible Authors:** Annette Curtis Klause, Stephen King, Darren Shan, Jeanne C. Stein, Bram Stoker, Wes Craven
- ☑ **Historical Fiction**—the events, characters, and setting are based on a real historical time period that could date as far back as the ancient Egyptians to as recent as the 9/11 terror attacks. **Possible Authors:** Philippa Gregory, Patrick O’Brien, Jeff Shaara, Sharon Draper.
- ☑ **Action/Adventure/Thriller**—fast-paced stories where the characters are constantly moving from one tense situation to the next. **Possible Authors:** Dan Brown, James Patterson, Cory Doctorow, Catherine Jinks, Stephen Cole, Eoin Colfer, Anthony Horowitz, E.L. Young, Tom Clancy, John Grisham
- ☑ **Mystery/Suspense**—the main characters have a central problem or crime to solve and the story takes several twists and turns before coming to an end. **Possible Authors:** Lois Duncan, Robert Parker, Sara Shepard, Robin Wasserman, Elmore Leonard
- ☑ **Romance**—love stories **Possible Authors:** Nora Roberts
- ☑ **Sports**—characters play or the story centers around sports games or matches. **Possible Authors:** John Feinstein, Robert Lipsyte, Paul Volponi, Mike Lupica, Carl Deuker

Non-Fiction (A.K.A. true, fact-based books)

There are infinite number of non-fiction topics that you could read about, so the list below are just some popular topics that could help you learn more about a topic that interests you.

☒ **Biographies/Autobiographies**—factual accounts and stories of a famous or interesting person's life.

☒ **History**—the written record of the past. **Possible Authors:** James Bradley, Doris Kearns Goodwin, Stephen Ambrose, David McCullough.

☒ **Philosophy**—thinking about thinking.

☒ **Psychology**—study of the mind. **Possible Authors:** Malcolm Gladwell, Stephen Pinker, Sigmund Freud.

☒ **Political Science**—analyzing our government and the political process. **Possible Authors:** Glenn Beck, Al Franken, Bill O'Reilly, Barack Obama.

☒ **Social Issues**—exploring the difficult social problems of our world including poverty, crime, addiction, and matters of life and death.

☒ **Health**—explanations about aspects of human life and why our bodies react a certain way.

☒ **Science**—explanations of the world from subatomic particles to the entire universe. **Possible Authors:** Stephen Hawking, Carl Sagan.

☒ **Technology**—descriptions of the machines and gadgets that have changed our lives.

☒ **Religion**—exploration of the spiritual customs and beliefs of different cultures