

*"When I look back, I am so impressed again with the life-giving power of literature. If I were a young person today, trying to gain a sense of myself in the world, I would do that again by reading, just as I did when I was young."*

*~ Maya Angelou*



*Dear Parents/Guardians,*

*Educational research confirms that reading is a core skill. Since students who read usually excel in all areas of study, Montgomery County Public Schools wants its students to benefit from summer reading. This helps prepare them for the upcoming school year and maintains their skills in reading, thinking, and vocabulary.*

*We ask that incoming freshmen select one novel to read over the summer. When the students return to school in the fall, they are expected to bring their completed assignments.*

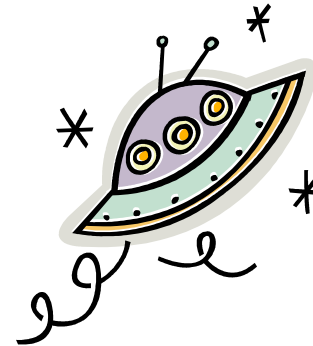
*Please support our efforts by encouraging your child to enjoy the summer reading.*

*The Quince Orchard English Department*



# Quince Orchard High School 2010-2011

## Summer Reading Program



# GRADE 9

*Dear Student,*

*Because reading is integral to good thinking and writing, each student entering Quince Orchard High School in August 2010 is required to complete a reading assignment in preparation for the fall semester.*

## **Requirements**

- Read a science fiction, fantasy, or historical fiction novel.
- Complete the reader-response questions.
- Type or write neatly in ink.
- Answer each question on a separate page.
- For the novel, record the following at the top of your first response:
  - Title, author, copyright date, number of pages.

## **Choosing a Book**

- Please do not select a previously-read novel or required school title.
- Select a novel that is on or somewhat above your reading level.
- Check out a novel from the QOHS Media Center that will be due when school starts next year or one from the public library. Students may, as another option, read their own books.

## **Due Date**

Bring the completed assignment to class on  
the first day of school.

## **Assignment**

Answer each of the following reader-response questions.

- 1) Choose one passage (4-7 sentences) that describes the protagonist (the main character in the novel). Try to select a passage that describes the emotions and personality of the character, not just his/her physical appearance. Copy the passage. Then, in a paragraph of 5-8 sentences, explain what you learn about the character from the passage.
- 2) Choose one passage that includes imagery describing the setting of the novel ("imagery" is descriptive language that appeals to the senses: seeing, hearing, tasting, smelling, and touching). Copy the passage. Then, in a paragraph of 5-8 sentences, explain how the imagery in this passage helps create the setting (the time and place of the story's action) and mood (what you feel as you read the passage).
- 3) A "theme" is the author's central message or insight into life. In the genres of science fiction, fantasy, and historical fiction, themes often reflect the current society and culture. In a paragraph of 5-8 sentences, explain how a theme in your novel comments on the society and culture at the time the novel was written.

## **Late Enrollment**

Students who enroll after the start of the first semester will have three weeks to complete the summer reading assignment.