

English 12 Honors

Summer Assignment 2019

12.4. The student will read, comprehend, and analyze the development of world literature and literature of other cultures.

As a rising senior enrolling in English 12 Honors, you are expected to read over the summer in order to prepare for the rigors of an introductory college English class. Research indicates that the more a person reads, the **better** he/she reads, writes, spells, and comprehends vocabulary-- all crucial skills that will lead to your success in the coming year and beyond.

It is also important that students have a **choice** in selecting their books. Recent reports from the National Council of Teachers of English describe guided student choice as a key component in successful summer reading. We hope that greater freedom to choose their own titles will increase students' interest in reading and will lead to greater overall achievement.

You may select one of the following works of world literature to read over the summer:

Brave New World by Aldous Huxley

Frankenstein by Mary Shelley

The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks, by Rebecca Skloot

Never Let Me Go by Kazuro Ishiguro

****If none of the above titles appeal to you, feel free to choose a full-length work of fiction or nonfiction from a NON-AMERICAN AUTHOR of your choosing. Note: this work may not be a middle-school book (such as *Harry Potter*) or a book we've studied already in school.****

Some recommendations from our staff may include works by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, Ta-Nehisi Coates, Margaret Atwood, Haruki Murakami, Amy Tan, Jane Austen, Salman Rushdie, Emily Bronte, and Naguib Mahfouz.

Pick **three** of the quotes below and compose a **three** paragraph response for **each**. Each paragraph should contain 8-10 sentences and be thoughtful and developed. For each of your three quotes...

- Summarize the quote
- Explain your understanding of the quote's deeper meaning/significance
- Explain whether you agree/disagree with the quote and why
- Apply the quote to your own life
- Connect it to the book you've read

Quotes

- **“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.”** - Margaret Mead
- **“When the whole world is silent, even one voice becomes powerful.”** - Malala Yousafzai
- **“People often avoid making decisions out of fear of making a mistake. Actually, the failure to make decisions is one of life’s biggest mistakes.”** - Rabbi Noah Weinberg
- **“I think privacy is greatly overrated because privacy means concealment. People conceal things in order to fool other people about them. They want to appear as something they are not: healthier, smarter, and so forth.”** - Richard Posner
- **“Being deeply loved by someone gives you strength, while loving someone deeply gives you courage.”** - Lao Tzu
- **“Truth never damages a cause that is just.”** - Mahatma Gandhi

In addition to this, you will be composing an in-class essay during the first month of school related to this summer reader. You will also participate in a Socratic discussion. You are strongly encouraged to read carefully, take notes, and annotate if possible, as you will be expected to refer back to this work to prove points made in discussion.

Please note...

Books on this list and books by authors of your choosing may contain mature and/or controversial material (i.e. offensive language, violence, and/or implied or explicit sexual situations). Feel free to use the resources below to gather book reviews and obtain more information about the books we will use in class.

[Fairfax County Library](#)

[Bartleby.com: Great Books Online](#)

[Book Reporter](#)

[Book Spot](#)

[Teen Reads](#)

If you cannot purchase a copy of the book or get one from your local library, you may obtain one from the front office of the school. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Mrs. Wuerfel (vkwuerfel@fcps.edu), our English Department Chair.