

MVRHS Honors English 11 Summer Reading Assignment 2019

Please read these instructions carefully and thoroughly. It is crucial that you follow them exactly to start off your time in Honors 11 on a successful path.

As students in Honors English, I expect you are already reading all the time. For that reason, and the fact that it is summer, I want to leave some of the choice of what you read this summer up to you – *within some particular parameters to ensure that everyone selects a book with literary merit*. Novels and books of literary merit are often identified by scholars and writers who use myriad criteria by which to judge whether a book is notable in some way. These people consider aspects like the style and quality of writing, the nature of the topic and themes, and the originality of the work. One way to determine whether a book has literary merit is whether it has won an award, so your summer reading book choice must be a book that has won a prestigious award. In order to avoid confusion and to help you choose a book of literary merit, you must choose a book from the provided list. There are a range of choices (fiction and non-fiction) and subjects. **To reiterate: you must read a book from the provided list and from that list only.**

Needless to say, you should choose a book that is not one you have read previously for any reason. You are encouraged to research summaries/book reviews of potential choices to ensure that it is a book that interests you.

In addition, only one student may read a particular book, so you must post your choice to the Google Classroom “English 11 Honors Summer Reading 2019” that has been created for you. **You can join this “class” by entering the following class code: 9ct2sah** – once there, add your comment to the posted question so that your peers can see what you said. **Please post your choice as soon as possible or by August 1st at the latest.** Make sure that before you choose your own book, you view the list AND make sure that once you have chosen your book, you update the list – that step is very important so that your peers can make an up-to-date choice. **If you end up reading a book that someone else also read, the only person who will receive credit is the person who signed up first, so make sure that you are completing this important step.**

The bookstores and libraries on the Island (including the MVRHS library) have copies of books to purchase or borrow. The CLAMS library network of which the Island libraries are a part, also allow you to download books for free onto a Kindle device. **It is up to you to obtain whatever book you choose, though you are not expected to purchase it.** If there is some extenuating circumstance that may prevent you from obtaining a book, please let me know as soon as possible.

You will be writing an in-class essay in the 1st or 2nd day of class on the book you chose and read. Your essay will be graded on: your demonstrated understanding of the main ideas/themes/arguments of the book, your ability to use textual evidence (in this case, in the form of paraphrase, at minimum) to support your own ideas, and your general language usage (conventions). **You may not use the book to write this essay, but you may use prepared notes.**

In addition to my expectation that you are regularly and widely reading, my expectation is that you are actively engaging and interacting with the texts you read, which means annotating or taking notes as you read. Some suggested methods for note-taking are a dialectic journal/double-entry notes (for non-fiction), or a note-catcher for major ideas and themes, with examples (for fiction) – though you are not required to use this format. **Your notes will be collected on the first day of class** and should reflect your careful and consistent engagement with the book you chose and should, of course, be entirely your own work/thinking.

See reverse side for more information on your book notes.

Example journal for non-fiction:

<p>In the left column, what you learned or what provoked your thinking as you were reading. Include page numbers.</p> <p>Possibilities include:</p> <p>Notes, Quotations, Summaries, Main Ideas, Facts/Concepts/Evidence, Illustrations, Questions, Responses to specific questions, Descriptions</p> <p>The quotations could be: a passage that strikes you in some way, something you question or don't understand, something you agree or disagree with, or something to which you connect.</p> <p>(A quotation need not be copied completely – the first phrase will suffice, so long as you can find that passage later, so including page numbers is crucial.)</p>	<p>In the right column, write your reaction to that quotation.</p> <p><i>This is where you keep track of what the voice in your head is saying as you read.</i></p> <p>The right hand side should be your thoughts.</p> <p>Possibilities include:</p> <p>Immediate reactions; Reactions after learning something new; Answers to questions; What more you would like to learn; Why you agree or disagree; What you understand or don't understand; Comparisons or contrasts; Connections to other sources or ideas; Your interpretation; Observations, Perspectives.</p> <p>The overriding question to consider as you respond is, “Why is this an important idea, quotation, or question and how does it support the central argument of the text?”</p> <p><i>It is NOT summary, but analysis, so length of response to a particular idea, quotation, or question will vary.</i></p>
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Example journal for fiction:

<p>Topic – the big idea topic you have inferred</p>	<p>Page # - page number(s) for the topic and quotation or plot detail. (A quotation need not be copied completely – the first phrase will suffice, so long as you can find that passage later, so including page numbers is crucial.)</p>	<p>Explanation – WHY/HOW does this particular quotation or plot detail reflect the “big idea”? Questions to consider: What does it suggest about that big idea? What patterns are you noticing? What connections to other texts are you noticing?</p>
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If you have any questions or concerns about this assignment or the course in general, please feel free to ask me before you leave for summer vacation.

Happy reading and have a wonderful summer!

Ms. Thibodeau

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SUMMER READING LIST: HONORS 11 (2019)

Man Booker Prize Winners

2016 <i>The Sellout</i> Paul Beatty	2011 <i>The Sense of an Ending</i> Julian Barnes	2005 <i>The Sea</i> John Banville
2015 <i>A Brief History of Seven Killings</i> Marlon James	2010 <i>The Finkler Question</i> Howard Jacobson	2004 <i>The Line of Beauty</i> Allan Hollinghurst
2014 <i>The Narrow Road to the Deep North</i> Richard Flanagan	2009 <i>Wolf Hall</i> Hilary Mantel	2003 <i>Vernon God Little</i> DBC Pierre
2013 <i>The Luminaries</i> Eleanor Catton	2008 <i>The White Tiger</i> Aravind Adiga	2001 <i>True History of the Kelly Gang</i> Peter Carey
2012 <i>Bring Up The Bodies</i> Hilary Mantel	2007 <i>The Gathering</i> Anne Enright	2000 <i>The Blind Assassin</i> Margaret Atwood
	2006 <i>The Inheritance of Loss</i> Kiran Desai	

Pen/Faulkner Prize Winners

2016 – James Hannaham, <i>Delicious Foods</i>	2012 - Julie Otsuka, <i>The Buddha in the Attic</i>	2006 - E.L. Doctorow, <i>The March</i>
2015 – Atticus Lish, <i>Preparation for the Next Life</i>	2011 - Deborah Eisenberg, <i>The Collected Stories of Deborah Eisenberg</i>	2005 - Ha Jin, <i>War Trash</i>
2014 – Karen Joy Fowler, <i>We Are All Completely Beside Ourselves</i>	2010 - Sherman Alexie, <i>War Dances</i>	2004 - John Updike, <i>The Early Stories 1953–1975</i>
2013 – Benjamin Alire Sáenz, <i>Everything Begins and Ends at the Kentucky Club</i>	2009 - Joseph O'Neill, <i>Netherland</i>	2003 - Sabina Murray, <i>The Caprices</i>
	2008 - Kate Christensen, <i>The Great Man</i>	2002 - Ann Patchett, <i>Bel Canto</i>
	2007 - Philip Roth, <i>Everyman</i>	2001 - Philip Roth, <i>The Human</i>
		2000 - Ha Jin, <i>Waiting</i>

National Book Award: Fiction

2000 Susan Sontag <i>In America</i>	2006 Richard Powers <i>The Echo Maker</i>	2012 Louise Erdrich <i>The Round House</i>
2001 Jonathan Franzen <i>The Corrections</i>	2007 Denis Johnson <i>Tree of Smoke</i>	2013 James McBride <i>The Good Lord Bird</i>
2002 Julia Glass <i>Three Junes</i>	2008 Peter Matthiessen <i>Shadow Country</i>	2014 Phil Klay <i>Redeployment</i>
2003 Shirley Hazzard <i>The Great Fire</i>	2009 Colum McCann <i>Let the Great World Spin</i>	2015 Adam Johnson <i>Fortune Smiles: Stories.</i>
2004 Lily Tuck <i>The News from Paraguay</i>	2010 Jaimy Gordon <i>Lord of Misrule</i>	2016 Colson Whitehead <i>The Underground Railroad</i>
2005 William T. Vollmann <i>Europe Central</i>	2011 Jesmyn Ward <i>Salvage the Bones</i>	2017 Jesmyn Ward <i>Sing, Unburied, Sing</i>

National Book Award: Non-fiction

2000	Nathaniel Philbrick	<i>In the Heart of the Sea: The Tragedy of the Whaleship Essex</i>	2006	Timothy Egan	<i>The Worst Hard Time: The Untold Story of Those Who Survived the Great American Dust Bowl</i>	2012	Katherine Boo	<i>Behind the Beautiful Forevers: Life, Death, and Hope in a Mumbai Undercity</i>
2001	Andrew Solomon	<i>The Noonday Demon: An Atlas of Depression</i>						
2002	Robert A. Caro	<i>Master of the Senate: The Years of Lyndon Johnson</i>	2007	Tim Weiner	<i>Legacy of Ashes: The History of the CIA</i>	2013	George Packer	<i>The Unwinding: An Inner History of the New America</i>
2003	Carlos Eire	<i>Waiting for Snow in Havana: Confessions of a Cuban Boy</i>	2008	Annette Gordon-Reed	<i>The Hemingways of Monticello: An American Family</i>	2014	Evan Osnos	<i>Age of Ambition: Chasing Fortune, Truth, and Faith in the New China</i>
2004	Kevin Boyle	<i>Arc of Justice: A Saga of Race, Civil Rights, and Murder in the Jazz Age</i>	2009	T.J. Stiles	<i>The First Tycoon: The Epic Life of Cornelius Vanderbilt (bio g. Cornelius Vanderbilt)</i>	2015	Ta-Nehisi Coates	<i>Between the World and Me</i>
2005	Joan Didion	<i>The Year of Magical Thinking</i>	2010	Patti Smith	<i>Just Kids</i>	2016	Ibram X. Kendi	<i>Stamped from the Beginning: The Definitive History of Racist Ideas in America</i>
			2011	Stephen Greenblatt	<i>The Swerve: How the World Became Modern</i>	2017	Masha Gessen	<i>The Future Is History: How Totalitarianism Reclaimed Russia</i>

Pulitzer Prize: Fiction

2000: <i>Interpreter of Maladies</i> by Jhumpa Lahiri	2004: <i>The Known World</i> by Edward P. Jones	2009: <i>Olive Kitteridge</i> by Elizabeth Strout
2001: <i>The Amazing Adventures of Kavalier & Clay</i> by Michael Chabon	2005: <i>Gilead</i> by Marilynne Robinson	2010: <i>Tinkers</i> by Paul Harding
2002: <i>Empire Falls</i> by Richard Russo	2006: <i>March</i> by Geraldine Brooks	2011: <i>A Visit From the Goon Squad</i> by Jennifer Egan
2003: <i>Middlesex</i> by Jeffrey Eugenides	2007: <i>The Road</i> by Cormac McCarthy	2013: <i>The Orphan Master's Son</i> by Adam Johnson
	2008: <i>The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao</i> by Junot Díaz	2014: <i>The Goldfinch</i> by Donna Tartt

2015: *All the Light We Cannot See* by Anthony Doerr

2016: *The Sympathizer* by Viet Thanh Nguyen^[8]

2017: *The Underground Railroad* by Colson Whitehead^[9]

2018: *Less* by Andrew Sean Greer

Pulitzer Prize: Nonfiction

2000: *Embracing Defeat: Japan in the Wake of World War II* by John W. Dower

2001: *Hirohito and the Making of Modern Japan* by Herbert P. Bix

2002: *Carry Me Home: Birmingham, Alabama, the Climactic Battle of the Civil Rights Revolution* by Diane McWhorter

2003: *"A Problem from Hell": America and the Age of Genocide* by Samantha Power

2004: *Gulag: A History* by Anne Applebaum

2005: *Ghost Wars: The Secret History of the CIA, Afghanistan, and Bin Laden, from the Soviet Invasion to September 10, 2001* by Steve Coll

2006: *Imperial Reckoning: The Untold Story of Britain's Gulag in Kenya* by Caroline Elkins

2007: *The Looming Tower: Al-Qaeda and the Road to 9/11* by Lawrence Wright

2008: *The Years of Extermination: Nazi Germany and the Jews, 1939–1945* by Saul Friedlander

2009: *Slavery by Another Name: The Re-Enslavement of Black Americans from the Civil War to World War II* by Douglas A. Blackmon

2010: *The Dead Hand: The Untold Story of the Cold War Arms Race and Its Dangerous Legacy* by David E. Hoffman

2011: *Emperor of All Maladies: A Biography of Cancer* by Siddhartha Mukherjee

2012: *The Swerve: How the World Became Modern* by Stephen Greenblatt

2013: *Devil in the Grove: Thurgood Marshall, the Groveland Boys, and the Dawn of a New America* by Gilbert King

2014: *Toms River: A Story of Science and Salvation* by Dan Fagin

2015: *The Sixth Extinction: An Unnatural History* by Elizabeth Kolbert^[2]

2016: *Black Flags: The Rise of ISIS* by Joby Warrick^[3]

2017: *Evicted: Poverty and Profit in the American City* by Matthew Desmond^[4]

2018: *Locking Up Our Own: Crime and Punishment in Black America* by James Forman Jr.