

What do I read this summer?

Every English I student will read at least one book from the following list:

A Lesson Before Dying- Ernest J. Gaines

A heartbreaking story of a friendship between two African-American men in the 1940s. One of the men is an unwitting man who is sentenced to death while the other man is educated and has been asked by a loved one to teach the dying man life's most important lesson.

Alive- Piers Paul Read

On October 12, 1972, a plane carrying a team of young rugby players crashed into the remote, snow-peaked Andes. Out of the forty-five original passengers and crew, only sixteen made it off the mountain alive. For ten excruciating weeks they suffered deprivations beyond imagining, confronting nature head-on at its most furious and inhospitable. And to survive, they were forced to do what would have once been unthinkable...

Fahrenheit 451- Ray Bradbury

Guy Montag is a fireman. His job is to burn books, which are forbidden, being the source of all discord and unhappiness. Even so, Montag is unhappy; there is discord in his marriage. Are books hidden in his house? The Mechanical Hound of the Fire Department, armed with a lethal hypodermic, escorted by helicopters, is ready to track down those rebels who defy society to preserve and read books.

Night- Elie Wiesel

A true story of the author's experience with his father in the Nazi German concentration camps at Auschwitz and Buchenwald in 1944–1945, at the height of the Holocaust and toward the end of the Second World War.

Monster- Walter Dean Meyers

The book uses a mixture of a third-person screenplay and a first-person diary format to tell, through the perspective of Steve Harmon, an African American teenager, the story of his trial for felony murder in the state of New York.

Can I read more than one book?

Absolutely! Read as much as you would like!

Where do I find my book?

Books are available at the library or most bookstores including *Barnes and Noble* or *Half Priced Books*. You can also find SUPER CHEAP copies in good shape on Amazon.com. You can also read your book online as an eBook.

Do I need to annotate my book?

Yes! Read and annotate your novel—or take notes on a separate piece of paper as you read. Consider marking the important ideas that come to you while reading, such as:

- Interesting characters or quotes
- Possible themes or conflicts

What are good ways to annotate?

- Make notes in the margin or on a sticky note to mark important ideas
- Add questions in the margin, things you are asking while you read
- Use checks, stars, asterisks to mark very important items or passages that you want to come back and reread
- Don't mark up or highlight so much that you can't distinguish what is most important

What do I need to bring on the first day of school?

Your annotated book or annotation notes and the following assignment that should be typed in Times New Roman font size 12.

Part 1: Vocabulary

While reading your book, you should be thinking about the author's word choice. Many times, we can read and understand words that we may not be familiar with by using context clues. You should look for these words; you may find that you "kind of" know the meaning of a word, but an exact definition helps you to understand exactly what the author intends you to know. For the vocabulary section of this assignment, you must find **15 words** that are new to you or that you don't *exactly* know. **For each word, record the sentence that it is used in, what you think the word means, and the actual definition.**

Part 2: Questions

1. Find a memorable passage of one-two paragraphs from the book. Copy word for word the short passage that you think is worth remembering. Write a paragraph explaining why you think the passage you chose is memorable.
2. Describe your favorite character or event. Cite at least three pieces of textual evidence from the book that supports why you like this character or event. Write the textual evidence then explain how it adds to your interest in the character or event.
3. Identify a significant change in your book, and describe the results of that change. This change may be the consequence of a choice, a conflict of some kind that has to be resolved, a display of some outstanding trait like courage, or even the result of an action or event that occurs during this story.
4. To highlight the significance of this book for you, read the following questions below and **write a one-two paragraph response to one of them:**
 - a. What discovery did you make as a result of reading this book?
 - b. How has this book changed your thinking about a particular topic?
 - c. How has this book supported or changed your opinions on a particular topic?
5. Write one positive comment regarding this book.
6. Write one constructive criticism comment about this book.

This will be a major grade (90%) for the first 6 weeks