



Required Summer Reading  
Pre-AP and AP Courses  
&  
Regular ELA Courses

*Students participating in Pre-AP and AP courses are required to read the books listed for their appropriate course.*

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## High School Students — Pre-AP and AP

**9th Grade Requirements:** 9th Grade students should read **Great Expectations** by Charles Dickens. In this novel, Pip, an orphan in Victorian England, learns that a mysterious benefactor has ensured that he will be educated and raised as a gentleman. In **Lord of the Flies** by William Golding, after a plane crash strands them on a tropical island while the rest of the world is ravaged by war, a group of British schoolboys attempt to form a civilized society

**10th Grade Requirements:** 10th Grade students should read **Jane Eyre** by Charlotte Bronte. In this novel, when a penniless governess falls in love with the brooding master of Thornfield, she is unaware of the tragic events that will follow. In **1984** by George Orwell, Winston Smith, a worker at the Ministry of Truth in the future political entity of Oceania, puts his life on the line when he joins a covert brotherhood in rebelling against the Party that controls all human thought and action.

**Assignment:** 10th Grade PAPER students will annotate these works for setting, character, themes, symbols, and significant motifs. You will be provided with instructions to guide you through this process of making substantial margin notes instead of color coding.

## High School Students — Pre-AP and AP

**11th Grade Requirements:** 11th Grade students should read 3 works by Truman Capote. In **Cold Blood** is a nonfiction novel retracing the 1959 murder of a well respected family and the search for their killers. **The Grass Harp** is a brief, light-hearted novella exploring the ideals of freedom, family, and responsibility through the escapades of 3 misfits in a small southern town who move into a treehouse. **A Lamp in the Window** is an interesting anecdotal essay describing a brief encounter with a cat lady. This selection will be copied for you and provided with your specific instructions for your assignments for each of the works.

**Assignment:** 11th Grade AP students will be annotating all of the texts for elements of style and rhetoric, including logos, ethos, pathos appeals.

**12th Grade Requirements:** 12th Grade students should read **The Poisonwood Bible** by Barbara Kingsolver which follows an evangelical Baptist minister's family to the Congo in the late 1950s, entwining their fate with that of the country during three turbulent decades. **Brave New World** by Aldous Huxley is a classic science fiction work that continues to be a significant warning to our society today. His satirical prediction of a distant future creates a frightening image -- a world of tomorrow in which capitalist civilization has been reconstituted through the most efficient scientific and psychological engineering.

## Summer Reading Requirements

### Regular ELA Courses — Junior High School Students and High School Students

Summer reading for junior high and high school students enrolled in regular ELA courses is an extra credit opportunity. Students may select and read up to three books. They may receive 1 point of extra credit for each book read with completed journal activity. Points will be awarded on the first six weeks grading period.

#### Assessment

##### Reflective Journal Questions

Using a spiral notebook, create a Reflective Journal by selecting one of the following questions to answer after you read each chapter in your novel. Make sure you vary your question choice.

1. Explain how an event in this chapter is like something that has happened in your own life.
2. What is the setting of this chapter? Is it important? Why or why not?
3. After reading this chapter, has your opinion of anything or anyone in the book changed? Explain.
4. Find a phrase or sentence in the chapter that you liked and share your thoughts about it.
5. Make a prediction about what you think will happen next and tell why you think that.

More suggestions are available on the DPISD website at <http://www.dpsid.org>



### Pre-AP and AP Courses —

#### Junior High School Students and High School Students

The English language arts department requires all junior high and high school Pre-AP and AP students to participate in summer reading in order to build upon the foundational skills that make up our curriculum. During reading, students should record their thoughts in a reflective journal in order to be prepared for assessment upon returning to school in the fall.

#### Assessment

Your ELA teacher may use

- objective tests, in-class essays,
- inner/outer circle discussion, or
- creative projects in order to assess summer reading.

This assessment will be a major test grade during the first 6 weeks.

### Junior High School Students — Pre-AP

**7th Grade Requirements:** Seventh grade Pre-AP students should read **The Old Man and the Sea** by Ernest Hemingway. In this novel, an old fisherman battles the sea and sharks to bring home the giant marlin he caught. The other required novel is **My Name is Asher Lev** by Chaim Potok in which the main character, born into a devout Jewish family and community, struggles to reconcile his burning need to create art with the restrictions and expectations placed on him by his faith and his people.

**8th Grade Requirements:** Eighth grade Pre-AP students should read **And Then There Were None** by Agatha Christie. In this novel, ten strangers—each with a sordid past—are summoned by an absent millionaire to a private island off the coast of Devon and begin to die one by one upon arrival. The other required novel is **Anthem** by Ayn Rand. In this future world, only one man dares to think, strive, and love as an individual in the midst of a paralyzing collective humanity.

