<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dana Hall School</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Summer Reading List 2020</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Table of Contents</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Introduction</strong></td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Middle School</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Requirements</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 5</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 6</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 7</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 8</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Upper School</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Requirements</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New International Students</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Literature and Composition I Required</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recommended Books for Grade 9</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Literature and Composition II Required</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recommended Books for Grade 10</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grades 11 &amp; 12 Required</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Literature and Composition III</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AP English Language/Comp</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Found Voices, Epics and Sagas &amp;</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>This is Us</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AP Literature &amp; Composition</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recommended Books for Grades 11 &amp; 12</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Studies Books</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>World Language Books</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AP Art History Books</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Global Scholars Capstone Books</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Index of Diversity Group Recommendations</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
All students at Dana Hall are required to complete summer reading. The books you read will be used in your English class during the first few weeks of the first trimester. As you read, we urge you to remember that the art of reading is a creative act, a collaboration between reader and writer.

Hold a dialogue with these books: question, argue, disagree; underline those passages that exhilarate you as well as those that infuriate you. Keep a notebook to jot down your immediate responses to each of these works and write questions that you want to discuss in your English classes. Encourage your family and friends to join you in these reading experiences.

A number of the books on this list have been made into movies, many of them wonderful in their own right. Seeing a movie instead of reading the book, however, will not prepare you for your teacher’s assignment related to that book, nor will it replace the unique experience of interacting with a specific text. A better idea is to read the book first, making note of your responses and completing the assigned work, and then see the movie, which as a result you will experience on two levels.

***

This reading list includes stories with characters that showcase a variety of experiences. The diversity clubs of Dana Hall have recommended books throughout this list. They are indicated with the following symbol: 🌟

**ALANA** (Asian, Latina, African American and Native American): Middle School multicultural club  
**Bridge**: Gay/Straight/Bisexual/Transgender alliance  
**Fusion**: Christianity student culture club  
**ISA** (International Student Alliance): International student group  
**Kesher**: Jewish student culture club  
**Salaam**: Islamic culture and support club  
**SHADES** (Sisters Honoring All Diasporas & Enlightening Society): Multicultural club
MIDDLE SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS

1. During the first few weeks in your English classes, you will be asked to discuss and to write about the books you read during the summer. Your first trimester grade will include work connected with your summer reading.

2. Most of the books we have selected are readily available in paperback, and some are also available in e-book format. Review the reading list early in the summer to make sure that you can obtain copies of your choices. Many of these books are also available at your local library; it would be best if you brought the books you read during the summer with you in September.

3. The assignments for Middle School summer reading titles will be posted on the Helen Temple Cooke Library website on June 1: http://library.danahall.org/reading-lists/summer-reading/

GRADE 5

- Required: *Faith, Hope and Ivy June*, Phyllis Reynolds Naylor
- Two books from the reading list “Recommended Books for Grade 5”

All rising fifth graders will receive an assignment for the required reading. In addition, this document will be posted on the Helen Temple Cooke Library website at http://library.danahall.org/reading-lists/summer-reading by June 1.

RECOMMENDED BOOKS FOR GRADE 5

ADVENTURES IN HISTORY

*One Crazy Summer*, Rita Williams-Garcia

Delphine and her sisters are sent to visit their estranged mom in Oakland, California in the summer of 1968. With visions of Disneyland in their heads, the girls set off for a summer of fun, only to find themselves in the middle of a social revolution. Instead of reconnecting with their mom Cecile or meeting Tinkerbell, Cecile shoos them away and sends them off to a day camp run by the Black Panthers, a new organization determined to lift up and empower Black people. Filled with surprises and hard truths, this story highlights the strength of sisters in challenging times.

Recommended by ALANA

*Stella by Starlight*, Sharon Draper

Bumblebee, North Carolina, may be in the segregated South, but Stella and her family are accustomed to following the rules of Jim Crow… until the KKK holds a Klan meeting and burns a cross just around the corner. Overnight, Stella’s world transforms from one of daily oppression to one of sheer terror. Despite the mounting fear, a few of the African Americans in Stella’s community dare to register to vote, leading to severe consequences.
Thankfully, this is a story of the power of community to come together and the power of many voices raised together to drown out the few.

_The War That Saved My Life_, Kimberly Brubaker Bradley  
As the threat of war hangs over 1939 London, the children are evacuated to the countryside where it is safer. Ada, however, has to sneak out to evacuate, because her mother is so embarrassed by Ada’s physical deformity that she doesn’t want Ada to leave their apartment. With her younger brother Jamie in tow, Ada escapes to a new life in the country in the dark of night, but will her past follow her there?

**FANTASTIC FANTASY**

_**Aru Shah and the End of Time**, Roshani Chokshi_  
After telling some lies to help her fit in at school, Aru finds herself in way over her head. She has lit the cursed Lamp of Bharata, her classmates and mother are now frozen in time, and it’s all down to Aru to save them from the Sleeper. She must enter the mythological worlds of the Hindu stories of the Mahabharata, fight a demon and save her friends before it’s too late. Great for fans of Rick Riordan’s books, and the first in a new series!

_**Athena: Grey-Eyed Goddess**, George O’Connor_  
This graphic novel is all about the Greek goddess of wisdom. If you’re a fan of Percy Jackson and Greek mythology, this is a great read!

_**The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane**, Kate DiCamillo_  
Edward Tulane, a well-dressed china rabbit, thinks quite highly of himself. When his owner, Abilene, lets him fall from the edge of a ship, Edward is quite literally lost. If you like a good cry and know what it’s like to lose a part of your identity, find out what happens as Edward Tulane goes on a twisting journey from the bottom of the sea to a train to a doll shop to a toy chest.

_**The Red Pyramid**, Rick Riordan_  
Join siblings Carter and Sadie as they race to reverse the magic that has awoken the gods of Ancient Egypt.

_**Starry River of the Sky**, Grace Lin_  
Guests at an inn put their own spin on traditional Chinese folktales as they try to discover the reason for the moon’s disappearance from the sky.

_**The Wild Robot**, Peter Brown_  
Roz the robot finds herself washed up on an island, surrounded by frightened animals. Slowly, she adapts to island life and even adopts a tiny feathered friend. Then, the corporation that owns Roz tracks her down and tries to take her “home.”
Zita the Space Girl, Ben Hatke
Meet your new favorite superhero, Zita. She doesn’t exactly have superpowers, but she is a loyal friend and a daring adventurer. When a mysterious object falls to Earth, Zita and her best friend Joseph are curious… until pressing a red button on the object opens a portal that grabs Joseph and whisks him away to who-knows-where. After a moment of panic, Zita decides the only choice is to follow, and she finds herself in a strange world of aliens and adventure as she tries to rescue Joseph and get back home.

KIDS LIKE YOU
Amina’s Voice, Hena Khan
Amina is just trying to fit in with her classmates when a local mosque is vandalized. Suddenly, Amina’s Muslim American identity seems to stick out even more, and she grapples with whether to hide it or let it shine.

Beyond the Bright Sea, Lauren Wolk
On a tiny island off the coast of Massachusetts, Crow lives with gruff but kind Osh, who found her washed up in a rowboat when Crow was just hours old. Now Crow is curious about finding out where she came from, and her curiosity leads her into a dangerous situation.

George, Alex Gino
Have you ever really wanted that great part in the school play? Have you ever kept a secret deep inside? If you have, then you have a lot in common with George. Learn about what makes George terrified and ecstatic in this heart-warming book about facing your fears and being true to yourself.

Hoot, Carl Hiassen
Someone has been sabotaging the construction site for the new pancake restaurant in Coconut Grove, Fla., by pulling up stakes, spray-painting graffiti and putting an alligator in the Port-a-Potty. Why would someone go to such lengths to stop a pancake restaurant?

The Penderwicks, Jeanne Birdsall
The four Penderwick sisters spend a summer at a beautiful manor house in western Massachusetts where they make new friends, try to avoid the snooty Mrs. Tifton and stumble upon adventure.

The Red Pencil, Andrea Davis Pinkney
Amira lives in Sudan, where a brutal civil war means that she and her family are constantly in fear of an attack by the Janjaweed. When the Janjaweed come, Amira escapes on foot.
and journeys to a refugee camp, where the opportunity to learn to read and write gives her hope for the future.

*Recommended by ALANA*

*Smile*, Raina Telgemeier
When Raina was younger, she experienced years of emotional and physical pain in an attempt to make her smile perfect. She tells her story in this humorous graphic novel.

**Grade 6**
- Required: *Belly Up*, Stuart Gibbs
- Two books from the reading lists “Recommended Books for Grade 6,” “Recommended Books for Grade 7” or “Recommended Books for Grade 8”

All rising sixth graders will receive an assignment for the required book and the two free-choice books. **In addition, this document will be posted on the Helen Temple Cooke Library website at [http://library.danahall.org/reading-lists/summer-reading](http://library.danahall.org/reading-lists/summer-reading) by June 1.**

**Recommended Books for Grade 6**

**Fantastic Fantasy**

*The Apothecary*, Maile Meloy
While visiting the local pharmacy, Janie watches as the pharmacist (or apothecary, if you’re British) is kidnapped. Janie and the apothecary’s son Benjamin must use a magical book, the Pharmacopoeia, to track him down before a gang of Russian spies can get their hands on the apothecary’s secrets.

*The False Prince*, Jennifer Nielsen
In this thrilling tale, four orphans are snatched off the streets and forced to compete. This isn’t just any competition, though: It’s part of a plot to replace the king with an imposter. Of the four boys, whoever performs best as a false prince becomes the next king. Whoever fails dies. The stakes couldn’t be higher for Sage, who faces treachery at every turn.

*How to Catch a Bogle*, Catherine Jinks
Birdie is an apprentice bogler, which means that she works with Alfred the Bogler luring out and killing bogles and other spooks. It’s dangerous work, especially for Birdie, who serves as bait. Then, other street children around London start to go missing and Birdie suspects an especially tricky bogle. It’s up to her to hunt it down… before it hunts her!

*Ninth Ward*, Jewell Parker Rhodes
Unable to leave New Orleans, Lanesha and her elderly caretaker, Mama Ya-Ya, stay to ride out Hurricane Katrina.

*Recommended by ALANA*
Pashmina by Nidhi Chanani
Priyanka finds a magical pashmina shawl that transports her to India, or at least India as she imagines it. She has never been there, but her mother left the country and Pri’s father many years ago to come to the US. Pri is curious about her heritage, and about her father, but her mother refuses to talk about the past. The India Pri dreams of is filled with bright colors and fun characters, and she longs to visit the real India. Can she convince her mother to take her to India, the place she left so many years ago?

KIDS LIKE YOU

A Long Walk to Water, Linda Sue Park
Two stories merge into one as two children live their lives in Sudan in both 1985 and 2008. Nya walks for hours every day to fetch water for her family from the pond. Salva flees his village in order to escape becoming a child soldier, running for weeks in search of safety from the rebel army. Both endure hardship and persevere in the face of unbelievable odds.

El Deafo, Cece Bell
Cece tells the true story of growing up hard-of-hearing, including the awkward, the painful and the funny. The story starts when she begins using a new hearing aid that is enormous and worn strapped to her chest.

♥ Recommended by ALANA

Forget Me Not, Ellie Terry
Told from two points of view, this is the story of Calliope. Calliope has Tourettes Syndrome, which sometimes makes her act differently, and it’s starting to catch the eye of her new classmates. However, her neighbor Jinsong sees past Calliope’s tics and enjoys being friends with her. Can he bring the rest of the class around to seeing Calliope for who she really is?

Raymie Nightingale, Kate DiCamillo
Raymie’s dad just ran away with a dental hygenist, but she has a plan to bring him home. She will enter the Miss Central Florida Tire beauty pageant, win, and her victorious photo in the newspaper will make her father regret leaving and rush home. Of course, things don’t always turn out the way we plan, as Raymie soon discovers.

Roller Girl, Victoria Jamieson
If you love Raina Telgemeier’s books, you’ll definitely enjoy this graphic novel. Astrid is spending the summer at roller derby camp with a group of entirely new people. Scary? She’s terrified. Making new friends is hard, and roller skating competitively is not so easy either. Find out how Astrid makes it to the finish line.
**Middle School**

**Books to Make You Laugh & Cry**

*Because of Mr. Terupt*, Robert Buyea  
Several students narrate the story of their fabulous teacher, Mr. Terupt. We learn about their lives, and how Mr. Terupt makes them feel seen and heard. Then, Mr. Terupt suffers from a terrible accident and the students must learn how to cope with tragedy.

*Bud, Not Buddy*, Christopher Paul Curtis  
It’s 1936 and the Great Depression is in full swing all over the USA. Ten-year-old Buddy won’t let that stop him though - he’s on a mission to find his dad, and he’s not afraid to take to the road and leave his home in Michigan to try to find him.  

*Chomp*, Carl Hiaasen  
Things aren’t going well on the set of Expedition Survival!, a reality show that Wahoo’s father is working on as an animal wrangler. The animals are out of control, a massive storm is raging, and the show’s main star, Derek Badger, has gone missing in the Florida Everglades. Then there’s that angry guy with the gun...

*Frazzled: Everyday Disasters and Impending Doom*, Booki Vivat  
Think *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* meets Ramona. This hilarious graphic novel follows newbie 6th grader Abbie Wu through the last days of summer straight into her first panic-laden year of middle school. Abbie navigates the halls in a string of mishaps and disappointments with the feeling that, just like at home, she is the only one struggling to get it right.

*Gracefully Grayson*, Ami Polonsky  
Grayson has a secret. “He” wishes to be a girl. When she auditions to play a girl’s part in the school play, it challenges her family and community. Although she faces some bullies, a supportive teacher and some new friends help her find a way to shine.

*My Basmati Bat Mitzvah*, Paula Freedman  
Tara is a normal Jewish girl preparing for her bat mitzvah, trying to navigate her friendships and crushes, all while grappling with her Indian heritage and identity. She’s not sure she wants to go through with the ceremony, as she feels a greater connection to her mother’s Hindu roots. A fun story of managing mixed heritage and growing up.

*Out of My Mind*, Sharon Draper  
Melody has cerebral palsy, and her case is so severe that she can’t walk or talk; she feels trapped inside her own brain. That brain is brilliant, though—she can remember everything and is probably the smartest kid at her school. It’s just hard for her to show it, because
all of her classmates and even her teachers assume that she is mentally challenged because of her physical disability and inability to communicate. Melody is determined, though, to break out of her mind and show the world what she has to offer.

**Mystery & Adventure**

_Escape From Mr. Lemoncello’s Library_, Chris Grabenstein

If you enjoyed _Charlie and the Chocolate Factory_ or _The Candymakers_, you’ll love Mr. Lemoncello. The new library in Kyle’s town was funded and designed by the brilliant but mysterious gamemaker Luigi Lemoncello. Twelve kids, including Kyle, win the opportunity to spend the night in the new library before it opens to the public but find themselves locked in. In order to find their way out, they must solve all of the elaborate games and puzzles Mr. Lemoncello has devised.

_Refugee_, Alan Gratz

They are escaping. They are trying to find a better life. They are doing everything they can to survive. This is the story of a boy running from the Nazis in Germany in the 1930s, a girl escaping violence in Cuba in the 1990s and a boy fleeing a war in Syria only a few years ago. They may be from different places and times but they all are searching for same thing: a safe space to call home.

**York: The Shadow Cypher**, Laura Ruby

Twins Tess and Theo live in a version of New York City that is almost like our own, but different. Designed and built by the genius Morningstarrs in the early 1900s, the city is filled with mechanical features and automatons that make the citizen’s lives easier. It also contains a hidden secret. Can Tess, Theo and their new friend Jaime follow the clues to the secret before the beloved buildings are destroyed by greedy developers?

**Grade 7**

• Required: _Inside Out & Back Again_, Thanhha Lai

• Two books from the reading lists “Recommended Books for Grade 7” or “Recommended Books for Grade 8”

All rising seventh graders will receive a reading guide for the required books. This guide will include questions to answer as well as other activities to prepare you to do additional work on the required books when you begin school in September. In addition, this document will be posted on the Helen Temple Cooke Library website at http://library.danahall.org/reading-lists/summer-reading by June 1.
RECOMMENDED BOOKS FOR GRADE 7

REALISTIC STORIES

Anne of Green Gables, L. M. Montgomery
Red-headed orphan Anne Shirley is far too dramatic and imaginative for the likes of her prim, proper new family! Discover her misadventures with green hair dye, red currant wine, and Gilbert, the dreadful (but cute) boy down the road.

Counting by 7s, Holly Goldberg Sloan
Although this book starts with a tragedy—the main character’s parents die—it is not depressing. Read more to find out about Willow Chance, a 12-year old genius with a unique way of seeing the world and coping with grief.

Does My Head Look Big In This?, Randa Abdel-Fattah
Amal is from Melbourne, where she’s enrolled as an eleventh grader in a suburban prep school. When she decides to commit to wearing a hijab and fully embracing her religious identity, she’s not sure how others will react: if her family and friends will support her; if she can handle cruel prejudices; if she can find cute hijab to match her outfits; and if, of course, her crush will ever share her feelings.

Every Soul a Star, Wendy Mass
Astronomy and friendship come together in this beautiful story of a solar eclipse. Told from three different perspectives, this novel explores three very different lives and the one thing they all have in common.

In Real Life, Cory Doctorow and Jen Wang
In this graphic novel, Anda questions her love of the videogame Coarsegold when her gaming adventures intersect with real life on the other side of the world.

Insignificant Events in the Life of a Cactus, Dusti Bowling
Aven doesn’t have arms. She lost them in an epic wrestling match with an alligator! No, it was fighting the massive wildfire in Australia! Actually, despite the fantastic tales she tells, she was born without them. When her family moves from Kansas to Arizona, Aven has to deal with a whole new school, filled with people staring and asking questions. She finds a kindred spirit in Connor, who also feels different because he has Tourettes. The two become friends and work together to solve a mystery.

Lucky Broken Girl, Ruth Behar
Ruth Mizrahi has just moved from Cuba to the U.S. She is finally starting to get settled when she gets into a terrible car accident. She has to spend a year confined to her bed in a full body cast. This is the story of how she manages to grow even while staying in one place.
The Seventh Most Important Thing, Shelley Pearsall
Arthur is given a list in the junkyard where he will spend 120 hours of community service with the Junk Man. On the list are glass bottles, foil, cardboard, pieces of wood, lightbulbs, coffee cans, and mirrors. But why are these things on a list for him to collect? What is the Junk Man doing with this… garbage? Inspired by a true story, the Junk Man is building something so epic it will land his and Arthur’s collected trash in the Smithsonian Museum.

The Thing About Jellyfish, Ali Benjamin
Suzy’s best friend Franny has just died. Only, they weren’t best friends when she died; they weren’t even speaking. Now, Suzy is trying to understand how such a thing could happen, grappling with her grief and her guilt. This is a beautiful story of friendship and grief, and how to cope with the worst life can throw at you.

FANTASTIC FANTASY
Graceling, Kristin Cashore
Katsa was born with an unstoppable fighting ability, which causes her to be feared by everyone in her life—until she meets Po, a prince with the same gift. Their investigation of the kidnapping of Po’s grandfather puts them in danger as they discover the horrible secret behind a distant king’s rule.

The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe, C. S. Lewis
Four siblings slip through a wardrobe in their new home and find themselves in a magical land ruled by the cruel White Witch. First in a series.

The Prince and the Dressmaker, Jen Wang
This graphic novel is a kind of inside-out Cinderella, where the prince is the one dressing up in gowns and sneaking away at night. Sebastian relies on his best friend and dressmaker Frances to make his elaborate outfits… and keep his secret. However, Frances wants to be famous for her designs, and make a name for herself. How can she honor her best friend’s greatest secret while honoring her own hopes and dreams?

Redwall, Brian Jacques
Mattias has always dreamed of adventure and of finding the sword of the legendary Martin the Warrior, hidden somewhere inside the Redwall Abbey. When the dreaded Cluny the Scourge attacks Redwall, the peaceful inhabitants must find it in themselves to defend their refuge. Mattias and the others must rise to the challenge if they plan to protect their home in this adventure-filled first novel in the classic series.
Warcross, Marie Lu
Emika accidentally hacks her way into the most popular video game tournament in the world, but rather than get arrested, she is hired. The creator of the game asks her to be a spy in the game to help him uncover a security threat. Suddenly, Emika finds herself smack dab in the middle of a cyber world of intrigue, danger and a plot much worse than she ever imagined.

Twists and Turns
Endangered, Eliot Schrefer
Sophie, whose mother runs a sanctuary for bonobo apes in the Congo, becomes a foster mother to an orphan baby bonobo, Otto. When the Congo breaks out in civil war, Sophie and Otto must survive alone in the jungle and make it to safety.

Not If I Save You First, Ally Carter
Maddie’s father is a Secret Service agent; Logan’s father is the president. Their friendship is cut short when Maddie’s dad suddenly drags her off into the Alaskan wilderness, where they live off the grid for six years. Then Logan shows up and things get… complicated. Like, running from a professional assassin through the rough terrain of the Arctic and trying to stay alive complicated. She would kill Logan for coming along and messing everything up, but she’ll have to save him first.

True Stories
I Am Malala (Young Readers’ Edition), Malala Yousafzai
Malala Yousafzai, the youngest winner of the Nobel Peace Prize, is a champion for girls’ education. Her desire to attend school in her home country, Pakistan, had dire consequences but hasn’t stopped her from continuing to speak on behalf of girls who don’t have a voice. 📖 Recommended by ALANA and Salaam

I Will Always Write Back, Caitlin Alifirenka and Martin Ganda
This is the true story of people on different continents and the letters that connected them. When Caitlin writes a letter to her new pen pal in Zimbabwe, she doesn’t know that it is the beginning of a years-long friendship. You won’t be able to put this book down as you learn of Caitlin’s and Martin’s lives and struggles, and how their letters changed their lives.

Adventures in History
The Boy on the Wooden Box, Leon Leyson
This is the only memoir written by a child saved from the Holocaust by Oskar Schindler’s famous list.

The Great Trouble, Deborah Hopkinson
It’s 1854 and a neighborhood of London is besieged by a terrible plague of cholera.
Eel, a street kid and “mudlark,” joins forces with the refined Dr. Snow to seek answers. Based on the true story of the Broad Street cholera outbreak, this fascinating and thrilling historical novel adds an extra dimension to the discovery of the causes of illness.

*War Horse*, Michael Morpurgo
The unforgettable story of a brave farm horse sold into battle in World War I.

**GRADE 8**
- Required: *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian*, Sherman Alexie
- Two books from the reading lists “Recommended Books for Grade 8” or “Recommended Books for Grade 9”

All rising eighth graders will receive a reading guide for the required book. This guide will include questions to answer as well as other activities to prepare you to do additional work on the required book when you begin school in September. **In addition, this document will be posted on the Helen Temple Cooke Library website at** [http://library.danahall.org/reading-lists/summer-reading](http://library.danahall.org/reading-lists/summer-reading) **by June 1.**

**RECOMMENDED BOOKS FOR GRADE 8**

**TWISTS & TURNS**

*And Then There Were None*, Agatha Christie
Ten strangers are invited to an island off the English coast for a mysterious party. One by one, they turn up dead. Will anyone make it out alive? Who among them is the murderer and why are they doing this? Read one of the most famous murder mysteries of all time and find out!

*Bloody Jack: Being an Account of the Curious Adventures of Mary ‘Jacky’ Faber, Ship’s Boy*, L.A. Meyer
Irrepressible orphan Jacky Faber disguises herself and is hired as ship’s boy on a 19th century merchant ship where she learns to sail, fights pirates, and all the while must keep her identity secret from her crewmates, a hard thing to do when, you know… you’re kind of crushing on one AND you have a sudden need to buy a bra!

*I Am Still Alive*, Kate Alice Marshall
This harrowing survival story follows Jess, who goes to live in a cabin in the wilderness with her estranged father after the sudden, tragic death of her mom. However, her father has secrets and one of them leads to his murder, leaving Jess alone in the middle of nowhere with only her wits to keep her alive. Pushed on by thoughts of revenge against her father’s murderer, Jess finds food and shelter and works to endure the punishing whims of nature.
**Fantastic Fantasy**  
*Children of Blood and Bone*, Tomi Adeyemi  
In this fantasy novel based on Nigerian mythology, magic is forbidden and those descended from the maji are called “maggots” and are oppressed or even killed. Zélie Adebola, a young girl who struggles to control her own magical powers, begins a quest to bring back magic.  
้ว Recommended by ALANA

*The Girl from Everywhere*, Heidi Heilig  
Nix’s father captains a ship that can navigate to any time and place on a map—even mythical places. After 16 years of adventures, Nix and the crew find themselves back where it all began: 1860s Hawaii, where her father met her mother and Nix was born. Her father has a plot to bring the family together, but things are much more dangerous than they seem. Will Nix reunite with her dead mother and sail off into the sunset? Or will Nix’s father take too big a gamble and lose big for them all?

*House of the Scorpion*, Nancy Farmer  
Matteo is a clone of a powerful and cruel drug lord named El Patron in a world where those who grow opium are the rulers of the land. He lives a lonely existence on a massive estate, hated by everyone else but treated like a favorite by his master. When Matteo learns the reason he is kept like El Patron’s pet, he decides to escape.

*Shadow and Bone*, Leigh Bardugo  
Alina discovers that she has magical powers while on a dangerous military mission into the Fold, a land of terrifying creatures. She is sent away from her regiment, and her best and only friend Mal, to train as a Grisha and learn how to use her powers. She finds herself far from the battlefields in the lavish but perilous court of the Darkling. First in a series.

*Starflight*, Melissa Landers  
Solara indentures herself to the rich but rude Doran in order to pay for her ride to the Outer Realm of the galaxy. When they get kicked off their ship, they have to stick together to hitchhike the rest of the way, while chased by both space pirates and space police. This is a fun space adventure with lots of exciting twists.

**Realistic Stories**  
*Eleanor & Park*, Rainbow Rowell  
Eleanor and Park meet on the school bus and bond over mixtapes and comic books. They become fast friends despite the dramatic differences in their home lives: Park lives a somewhat stifled life in a loving, stable home, while Eleanor is barely surviving life with an abusive stepfather.
**Finding Audrey**, Sophie Kinsella
Audrey has crippling anxiety—the kind that prevents her from going to school, or worse, leaving her house. Then she connects with her brother’s teammate Linus, and maybe, just maybe, a few sparks kindle and perhaps even start her down a path to recovery.

**Lumberjanes**, Noelle Stevenson
Imagine if you saw a woman turn into a bear in the middle of the night at your overnight camp. Now imagine that’s not the craziest thing that you’ll see at this particular summer camp for hardcore ladies, where the unusual is usual and mysteries are there to be solved. This is an awesome graphic novel for the hardcore lady camper in all of us!

**Piecing Me Together**, Renée Watson
Jade is wise; she works hard for everything, but has no friends in the mostly white private school she’s attended for the past two years. Mostly, Jade is tired of being the “at-risk,” “bad neighborhood” kid identified for mentorship and after-school programs. She wants to be seen and heard, not pre-judged by the color of her skin or the money her mom doesn’t have, and she’s about to use that wisdom to find some change.

**The Truth About Forever**, Sarah Dessen
Macy is coping—but not really—with the death of her father. She’s keeping herself busy for the summer with a new catering job, where she meets the super hot Wes. The problem is, Macy already has a boyfriend. Filled with Dessen’s humorous treatment of difficult subjects, you’ll love getting to know Macy and her crew.

**Adventures in History**

**The Hired Girl**, Laura Amy Schlitz
It’s 1911 and 14-year-old Joan Skaggs sees no future for herself on the farm, grieving her mother’s death and cleaning up after her miserable father and brothers. Bright, tough and impulsive, Joan reinvents herself as Janet Lovelace, finds work as a hired girl with a Jewish family in the city, and begins her quest for knowledge, adventure and love.

**Salt to the Sea**, Ruta Sepetys
For fans of historical fiction comes the frightening true tale of the *Wilhelm Gustloff*, a little-known maritime disaster that was six times deadlier than the Titanic. Based in 1945 during WWII, this book traces the stories of four narrators—Emilia, Florian, Alfred and Joana—as they try to escape the advancing Russian army on a journey across Europe. One is pregnant, one carries a dangerous secret, one is a young Nazi dreaming of glory, and all witness firsthand the horrors of war.
True Stories

Taking Flight: From War Orphan to Star Ballerina, Michaela DePrince with Elaine DePrince
This is the true life story of Michaela DePrince who endured a childhood of deprivation and violence in Sierra Leone before she was adopted and brought to the United States. There, she was able to pursue her love of ballet and realize her dream to become a principle dancer in a major ballet company!
**Upper School Requirements**

1. During the first two weeks in your English classes, you will be asked to discuss and to write about the books you read during the summer. Your first trimester grade will include work connected with your summer reading.

2. Most of the books we have selected are readily available in paperback, and some are also available in e-book format. Review the reading list early in the summer to make sure that you can obtain copies of your choices. Many of these books are also available at your local library; it would be best if you brought the books you read during the summer with you in September.

**New 9th Grade International Students**
- *Girl in Translation*, Jean Kwok
- Two books from the reading list “Recommended Books for Grade 9”

**New 10th Grade International Students**
- *Girl in Translation*, Jean Kwok
- *Interpreter of Maladies*, Jhumpa Lahiri
- One book from the reading list “Recommended Books for Grade 10”

**New 11th and 12th Grade International Students**
- *Homegoing*, Yaa Gyasi
- *Interpreter of Maladies*, Jhumpa Lahiri
- One book from the reading list “Recommended Books for Grades 11 & 12”

**Literature and Composition I**
- *Girl in Translation*, Jean Kwok
- Two books from the reading list “Recommended Books for Grade 9”

**Literature and Composition II**
- *Interpreter of Maladies*, Jhumpa Lahiri
- Two books from the reading list “Recommended Books for Grade 10”

**Literature and Composition III**
- *Homegoing*, Yaa Gyasi
- Two books from the reading list “Recommended Books for Grades 11 & 12”
AP English Language/Comp
- *The Best American Science and Nature Writing 2019*, Sy Montgomery
- *Homegoing*, Yaa Gyasi
- A non-fiction text of your choosing from the reading list “Recommended Books for Grades 11 & 12”

Senior English Courses: Creative Writing: Found Voices; Epics and Sagas; and This is Us: Contemporary Narratives of the Human Experience
- *The Street*, Ann Petry
- Two books from the reading list “Recommended Books for Grades 11 & 12”

AP Literature & Composition
- *Tess of the D’Urbervilles*, Thomas Hardy
- Two books from the reading list “Recommended Books for Grades 11 & 12”

New International Students
All new international students will be mailed a copy of their books(s)—*Girl in Translation*, *Interpreter of Maladies* and/or *Homegoing*—in early June. Please complete the following assignments based on the book(s) assigned to you.

I. *Girl in Translation*, Jean Kwok
As you read *Girl in Translation*, take notes to keep track of your perceptions of this novel’s themes and the characters’ development. In particular, prepare bullet point notes on each of these four questions so you are prepared to work with these questions right away when school begins:

1. The title tells us that this is a story of a girl, but it also tells us that it is a story about translation. Learning to translate between her two languages is the key to Kimberly’s ability to thrive in her new life. What other translations must Kimberly learn to make? Be ready to refer to specific instances where these translations occur and explain why they are significant to the story as a whole.

2. How do Chinese values (such as the importance of family obligations, respect for educators, etc.) that Kim and her mother brought with them to New York help them in their new home? How did these values make their life more difficult? What impressions of Chinese values and culture did you take away from this book?

3. Kimberly believes that devoting herself to school will allow her to free her family from poverty. Does school always live up to her expectations? Where do you think it fails her? How does it help her succeed?
4. An important theme in this novel is choice—or lack of choice. How much choice do you feel Kim and her mother have about their work and living conditions? What factors limit their options? Where in the story do you feel they could have made different choices?

II. Interpreter Of Maladies, Jhumpa Lahiri
This is a collection of short stories that each work on their own as individual stories, but also belong together in this collection. As you read Jhumpa Lahiri’s stories, look for patterns and themes that reoccur in different stories. Make a note of the similarities and differences in characters, conflicts and themes.

Choose two stories that interest you to write about:

Choose one story that speaks to you because it has a character or situation that is familiar to you, something that sounds like your own life in some way. Explain that similarity or familiarity in one well-developed paragraph, including quotations.

Choose a second story that stands out to you because it is very unfamiliar to you; perhaps a character or a conflict or a significant struggle is very different from your own experience. Explore that contrast, what it reveals and what it leaves you wondering in one well-developed paragraph, including quotations.

Two well-developed paragraphs should run about 500-700 words in total.

III. Homegoing, Yaa Gyasi
Ghana, 18th century: Two half sisters, Effia and Esi, are born into different villages, each unaware of the other. One will marry an Englishman and lead a life of comfort in the palatial rooms of the notorious Cape Coast Castle. The other will be captured in a raid on her village, imprisoned in the very same castle, and shipped off to America to be sold into slavery.

With breathtaking scope, Homegoing follows the parallel paths of these sisters and their descendants through eight generations: from the slave traders of the Gold Coast to the plantations of Mississippi, from the Asantes’ struggle against British colonialism to the first stirrings of the American Civil War, from the jazz of 20th century Harlem to the sparkling shores of modern Ghana. Yaa Gyasi’s extraordinary novel illuminates slavery’s troubled legacy both for those who were taken and those who stayed—and shows how the memory of captivity has been inscribed on the soul of our nation. (source: Penguin Random House)

As you read Homegoing (in paperback, please, rather than e-book), pay close attention to the family tree included in the opening pages. Mark it up with notes that will help you
remember each character. Also, please make notes in the margins so that it’s easy to go back and find passages that are your favorites or seem especially meaningful. When you finish reading the novel, please write a two-page reading reflection responding to the following topic:

Toward the end of the novel, Yaw tells his students, “History is storytelling.” He continues: “We believe the one who has the power. He is the one who gets to write the story. So when you study history, you must always ask yourself, Whose story am I missing? Whose voice was suppressed so that this voice could come forth? Once you have figured that out, you must find that story, too” (226-27). Write two pages reflecting on the role of storytelling in this novel. Who are the storytellers? What kinds of stories do they tell and to whom? Why do they tell their stories? (Note: We’re not asking about the narrator or the author as storytellers, but about the characters themselves telling stories within the context of their lives.) Does reading this novel give you a new understanding of history? Of storytelling in general? Be prepared to turn in your reflection on the first day of class.

**Literature and Composition I**

**Required Reading**
- *Girl in Translation*, Jean Kwok
- Two books from the reading list “Recommended Books for Grade 9”

As you read *Girl in Translation*, take notes to keep track of your perceptions of this novel’s themes and the characters’ development. In particular, prepare bullet point notes on each of these four questions so you are prepared to work with these questions right away when school begins:

1. The title tells us that this is a story of a girl, but it also tells us that it is a story about translation. Learning to translate between her two languages is the key to Kimberly’s ability to thrive in her new life. What other translations must Kimberly learn to make? Be ready to refer to specific instances where these translations occur and explain why they are significant to the story as a whole.

2. How do Chinese values (such as the importance of family obligations, respect for educators, etc.) that Kim and her mother brought with them to New York help them in their new home? How did these values make their life more difficult? What impressions of Chinese values and culture did you take away from this book?

3. Kimberly believes that devoting herself to school will allow her to free her family from poverty. Does school always live up to her expectations? Where do you think it fails her? How does it help her succeed?
4. An important theme in this novel is choice—or lack of choice. How much choice do you feel Kim and her mother have about their work and living conditions? What factors limit their options? Where in the story do you feel they could have made different choices?

**Recommended Books for Grade 9**

Choose two books from this annotated list to complete your summer reading requirement. We encourage you to read as many of these selections as you can.

*Between Shades of Gray*, Ruta Sepetys
Lina lives a pretty normal 1941 life in Lithuania. That is, it was normal until war interferes and Soviet soldiers separate her family and drag Lina, her mother and little brother onto a packed cattle car, taking them thousands of miles to a prison camp in desolate Siberia. They must fight for their very existence in this incredible harsh climate, hoping to stay alive long enough that one day they might go home.

*Black Ice*, Lorene Cary
An autobiographical account of the author’s struggles as a young black girl who tries to maintain two separate lives while attending an independent school.

*The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*, Mark Haddon
Autistic math genius Christopher Boone must solve the mystery of his neighbor’s murdered poodle.

This graphic novel is one part memoir, one part travel guide, one part fashion guide, one part food blog, and all parts awesome. The author was born in Japan but moved to the States, and returned on a solo trip when she was 16. She documented her travels and adventures in Japan as a fun, funny, sweet and heartfelt graphic novel.

*Fierce Fairytales: Poems and Stories to Stir Your Soul*, Nikita Gill
Nikita Gill is a poet who will change the way you see the fairytales of your childhood. “Await no princes to save you... Through their lips touching yours...Wake each other up instead.” Turning fairytales upside down and examining how stories portray women here, she’s also a social media sensation. Follow her and then fly through this quick collection of poems and stories.

*The Hobbit*, J.R.R. Tolkien
Bilbo is visited by the wizard Gandalf and 13 dwarves who seek a 14th member for their
journey to steal treasure from the dragon Smaug. Though reluctant at first, Bilbo is convinced to join the unexpected party, and his epic adventure takes him face to face with trolls, goblins, a riddling creature named Gollum, elves and, of course, the dragon. (Adapted from blurbhack.com)

*I Believe in a Thing Called Love*, Maureen Goo

Desi Lee is a high-powered high school senior intent on being excellent at everything. The only thing she hasn’t mastered is romance; Desi literally trips over her own feet any time she tries to flirt with anyone. But when she decides she is going to win over the new boy in school, all she needs as a foolproof plan, and she knows where to find it: in the Korean dramas her father watches obsessively. When her quirky friends help her model her love life after K dramas, hilarity—and a little bit of emotion—ensues in this breezy and charming novel.

*I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*, Maya Angelou

Powerful, lyrical autobiography of an African American writer growing up in the South.


This is a story of love—Forbidden love. This is a true story. A story about two people whose relationship was considered invalid by the state of Virginia in 1955 because of the two different colors of the couple’s skin. This story is about what happens when people stand up for love. This story is told from two perspectives of Mildred and Richard Loving, through poetry and love letters.

![Recommended by SHADES](https://shades.org/)

*Monday’s Not Coming*, Tiffany D. Jackson

Monday has disappeared. When she keeps missing school and no one notices, her best friend Claudia takes it upon herself to find out what happened. The deeper she dives, the stranger the mystery becomes, as Claudia learns that the people in Monday’s life can’t even remember when they last saw her. This is a truly thrilling page-turner for fans of *Gone Girl* and E. Lockhart.

![Recommended by SHADES](https://shades.org/)

*Ms. Marvel v.1: No Normal*, G. Willow Wilson

Kamala Khan is navigating all the normal challenges of being a comic-loving nerdy teenage Muslim girl in Jersey City: overly protective parents, friends who find her “exotic,” the temptation of bacon, when she suddenly enters the Marvel Universe herself and things get really complicated. Her new powers take some getting used to, and the skimpy superhero outfit just doesn’t work for her, but Kamala takes her place and saves the world like the superhero she is. Written by fantasy powerhouse author G. Willow Wilson and beautifully
illustrated by Adrian Alphona, this is everything a superhero comic should have been all along.

*Recommended by Salaam*

*My Most Excellent Year: A Novel of Love, Mary Poppins, and Fenway Park*, Steve Kluger
Best friends T.C. and Augie have treated each other like brothers since they were little. When T.C. falls for feisty and brilliant Alé and Augie falls for a boy, it’s the beginning of the most excellent year of their lives.

*The Odyssey*, Gareth Hinds
Shipwrecks, angry gods, man-eating giants—Homer’s Odyssey is one of the greatest adventures ever told, and the story comes to life in this exciting graphic novel adaptation.

*Prisoner of Night and Fog*, Anne Blankman
In 1930s Germany, Gretchen Müller admires everything about her Uncle Dolf and works hard to please him, even as she begins to feel some doubts about her brother’s work with him in the National Socialist Party. But when she impulsively stops her brother from beating up a Jewish man on the street, her life turns upside down. That chance encounter leads to another, with a young Jewish newspaper reporter who tells her that her dead father was actually murdered. Nothing is what it seems, and danger is everywhere … for the man she calls “Uncle Dolf” is Adolf Hitler. This is a gripping suspense novel about one young woman’s attempt to protect herself and those she loves in Nazi Germany.

*The Rainbow Troops*, Andrea Hirata
Ikal promised his teacher he would write her a book. However, Ikal has never known if his school will be open tomorrow. He’s growing up on an island in Indonesia, and between typhoons and government cutbacks for public education, every day is a question mark. The rainbow troops—the gang of bicycle riding kids on the island—are his constants. They are going to make it. They are going to get the education that gets them to far away places. This semi-autobiographical book is internationally recognized, and has been translated into over 20 languages.

*Raven Boys*, Maggie Stiefvater
Blue Sargent comes from a family of clairvoyants. They make their living from predicting the future and talking to ghosts. This might be ok if it weren’t for the fact that Blue has been living with a prediction her whole life: “If you were to kiss your true love, he would die.” Have that hanging over your head, plus a ghost of a boy from the local private school and a posse of his pissed off friends, and Blue has more than enough going on for her impending sixteenth birthday. Follow Blue from the beginning of this trilogy as she uncovers ugly truths, solves mysteries and helps a wayward band of private school boys stay alive.
Spinning Silver, Naomi Novik
Novik spins a rich, complex and absorbing fantasy rooted in both the Jewish story tradition and in classic fairytale tropes. The woman at the heart of this tale is strong, wily, loving and fierce, and her journey to protect and claim what is right for her family takes her to thrilling unknown realms. You will turn these pages until long after bedtime, and then your dreams will be full of magic and daring.

Story of a Girl, by Sara Zarr
Imagine making a mistake at 13 so big and so public that it defines you. In an effort to escape the role her town has given her, Deanna Lambert gets a job the summer of her sophomore year so she can raise enough money to move her, her 19-year-old brother, his wife and their newborn daughter out of her parents’ basement. As a waitress at the worst pizza shop in California, she wrestles through conflicts with her best friend, seductive ghosts from her past and a father who hasn’t looked at her for three years. Story of a Girl offers readers a hint at how, even after the greatest mistakes, life can go on.

Symptoms of Being Human, Jeff Garvin
“The first thing you’re going to want to know about me is: Am I a boy or am I a girl?” Spoiler alert: The answer is neither. Riley is a gender-fluid kid just starting a new high school, trying to figure out what it means to be Riley and how to figure that out without destroying their father’s political career in a conservative county. When Riley gets outed, everything gets more complicated. This lovely, sensitive young adult novel is informative and affirming, a perfect new entry into the queer fiction canon.

The Upside of Unrequited, Becky Albertalli
Crushes, first kisses and paralyzing fear of rejection are the central themes of this hilarious and heartfelt book. Molly watches as her twin sister Cassie approaches dating and romance without flinching, until a new girl makes Cassie’s cool exterior start to crack. For Molly, it is easier to pretend she is not interested in anyone than to admit that she’s lonely, but Cassie’s new love interest has a really cute best friend who is just Molly’s type. Then there’s Reid, who is a total nerd but somehow Molly doesn’t mind...

We Were Liars, E. Lockhart
Cadence spends her summers on a private island off of Cape Cod living a carefree life of privilege with her cousins Johnny and Mirren and best friend Gat. The island was a paradise until two summers ago, when a mysterious and tragic event injured Cadence and left her with amnesia. Now she is trying to put the pieces back together, an unreliable narrator trying to grasp the complexities of family drama while under the influence of major painkillers. If you enjoy a little romance, a little mystery and a big twist, this book will have you turning the pages.
Wolf by Wolf, Ryan Graudin
In this alternate-history dystopian science fiction thriller, Graudin asks the question: What if the Nazis had won World War II? What if all of Europe and most of Asia were under Nazi rule? And what if one teen-aged, motorcycle-racing, resistance-fighting, skin-shifting, concentration-camp-escapee Jewish girl could single-handedly spark the revolution? Yael is sure going to try. Join her in a no-holds-barred road race from Berlin to Tokyo to kill Hitler and change the world in this exciting and thought-provoking novel.

Yaqui Delgado Wants to Kick Your Ass, Meg Medina
Rumor has it Yaqui Delgado wants to kick Piddy Sanchez’s #youknowwhat. Piddy has a lot more on her mind, like trying to keep her weekend job, do well in honors classes and figure out who her dad is. Piddy doesn’t get why Yaqui’s after her, or what she’s done to enrage her, but Yaqui and her gang are starting to be a bit too much, and Piddy’s starting to crack.

LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION II
REQUIRED READING
• Interpreter Of Maladies, Jhumpa Lahiri
• Two books from the reading list “Recommended Books for Grade 10”

This is a collection of short stories that each work on their own as individual stories, but also belong together in this collection. As you read Jhumpa Lahiri’s stories, look for patterns and themes that reoccur in different stories. Make a note of the similarities and differences in characters, conflicts and themes.

Choose two stories that interest you to write about:
• Choose one story that speaks to you because it has a character or situation that is familiar to you, something that sounds like your own life in some way. Explain that similarity or familiarity in one well-developed paragraph, including quotations.
• Choose a second story that stands out to you because it is very unfamiliar to you; perhaps a character or a conflict or a significant struggle is very different from your own experience. Explore that contrast, what it reveals and what it leaves you wondering in one well-developed paragraph, including quotations.

Two well-developed paragraphs should run about 500-700 words in total.

RECOMMENDED BOOKS FOR GRADE 10
Choose two books from this annotated list to complete your summer reading requirement. We encourage you to read as many of these selections as you can.

American Street, Ibi Zoboi
Fabiola Toussaint and her mom are on their way from Haiti to live with family in Detroit.
Their plans are derailed when her Haitian mom is detained and Fabiola, an American citizen only by circumstance of her birth there years ago, is sent ahead alone. The home she finds on the corner of Joy and American streets is much, much different than the one she left behind in Haiti. The dangers, joys and romance is new and real, her customs and culture are as foreign as those she encounters, and she soon encounters the cost of the American dream as she struggles to find a way to have her mom released.

*Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe*, Benjamin Alire Saenz

“When Aristotle and Dante meet in the summer of 1987, they are 15-year-olds existing in the universe between boys and men. The two are opposites in most ways: Dante is sure of his place in the world, while Ari feels he may never know who he is or what he wants. But both are thoughtful about their feelings and interactions with others, and the book explores the back-and-forth in their relationship over the course of a year. Family issues take center stage, as well as issues of Mexican identity, but the heart of the novel is Dante’s openness about his homosexuality and Ari’s suppression of his.” *(Booklist)*

Recommendation by Bridge

*The Bear and the Nightingale*, Katherine Arden

If you love fairytales, this is the book for you! Vasya, the daughter of a farmer in a village on the edge of the woods in Medieval Russia, has a special power: she can talk to animals, house gnomes and spirits in the woods. However, she must keep this ability hidden so that her village will not punish her for being a witch. As she comes of age (and to terms) with her magical abilities, she must decide who to trust: the handsome young monk who has just arrived from Moscow or the Frost King who resides deep in the forest. With her trusted horse, Solovey, Vasya needs to determine her friends from her enemies in this first installment of a three-part series.

*Birth House*, Ami McKay

A young woman comes of age in a remote village in Nova Scotia, training to be a midwife under the tutelage of a woman many consider a witch. Tensions rise even further as conflict develops between the midwives and the local doctor who disparages their folk medicine.

*Black Enough*, Ibi Zoboi, et al.

Stories about everything from summer camp, gym class, summer in New York City or two cowboys kissing. But here’s the important part and the theme that threads them together: each and every one of these stories features a young character of color. See yourself in stories or see a story you think you know from a different perspective. These stories will make you weep and pee your pants laughing.

Recommended by SHADES
Boy Toy, Barry Lyga
Josh Mendel has a secret. Unfortunately, everyone knows what it is. Five years ago, Josh’s life changed. Drastically. And everyone in his school, his town—seems like the world—thinks they understand. But they don’t—they can’t. And now, about to graduate from high school, Josh is still trying to sort through the pieces. (Goodreads)

Code Name Verity, Elizabeth Wein
This is a story of friendship, courage and two young enlisted British women during World War II. One is a pilot who transports planes between bases, and the other, her best friend, who has been captured and held as a spy in Nazi-occupied France. Thrilling and frightening, it is a heartbreaking, heartwarming and captivating story.

The Devil in the White City, Erik Larsen
While architect Daniel H. Burnham was painstakingly constructing an entire city of pure white buildings in the 1893 Chicago World’s Fair, Dr. H. H. Holmes was building a house of horrors: a boarding house complete with dead-end hallways, a crematorium and a gas chamber in the basement. Not for the faint of heart (Holmes’ boarding house served as an inspiration for the hotel in American Horror Story: Hotel), this book delves deep into the life and mind of a real life monster as well as the environment that enabled his crimes.

Exit, Pursued by a Bear, E.K. Johnston
Hermione Winters has got it. She’s a star on her high school cheerleading squad. Yeah, it’s a sport, and an elite one at Palermo Heights High School. As Hermione sees it, there is the top of the high school food chain, her, and the bottom, those girls who get pregnant and have to drop out. The problem is, after a party, Hermione is now both of those girls: top and bottom, cheerleader and pregnant.

Hidden Figures, Margot Lee Shetterly
A group of women known to NASA as “human computers” are the heros of the race to the moon. Many of these women were African Americans and not recognized for their incredible contribution to the space program. Read the stories of mathematicians and engineers Dorothy Vaughan, Mary Jackson, Katherine Johnson and Christine Darden. Fighting injustice from within the system is a different kind of war.

How to Understand Israel in 60 Days or Less, Sarah Glidden
In this memoir in graphic novel form, Sarah Glidden’s tour of Israel is complicated by her anger at Israeli politics and the oppression of Palestinians. Indeed, “it’s complicated” becomes her ongoing refrain as she talks with local Muslims and Jews, with fellow travelers on the tour, and with the Israeli soldiers who guard the tour group.

© Recommended by Kesher and Salaam
If I Was Your Girl, Meredith Russo
Amanda’s just like all of us: she’s got her secrets and she just wants to fit in in school and live her life. When she meets Grant, she can’t help but be drawn to him and want to share everything... everything but her one big secret: she used to be Andrew.

commended by Bridge

Jellicoe Road, Melina Marchetta
Abandoned at a boarding school in the Australian bush as a little girl, Taylor searches for clues to her past in a story written by the mysterious young woman who raised her, all while trying to command her school to victory over the townies and visiting boys school in their annual turf war. The beginning feels confusing, but it makes the tragic, uplifting, ugly-cry finale of book worth it.

Marcelo in the Real World, Francisco X. Stork
Marcelo, a young man with Asperger’s Syndrome, has spent his whole life in a special school. For his last summer in high school, his dad gets Marcelo a job in the “real world”: the mailroom of his dad’s law firm. The real world turns out to be full of new friends, moral ambiguity and a lot more growing up than Marcelo or his dad had anticipated.

Night, Elie Wiesel
Imagine your life turned upside down by a shift in political power. In this famous and heartbreaking memoir, Elie Wiesel tells of his journey from his home in Transylvania to Auschwitz, a prison camp of the Nazi regime during World War II. “Never shall I forget that night, the first night in camp, which has turned my life into one long night.”

Playing with Matches, Hannah Orenstein
After her post-college dream job to be a journalist falls through, Sasha Goldberg struggles to find a new job and make ends meet in New York City. She takes a job as a matchmaker, working to help people twice her age find love in the age of online dating. Fall in love with this smart, funny and socially critical book!

The Poet X, Elizabeth Acevedo
“Sometimes it seems like writing is the only way I keep from hurting.” Xiomara Batista feels like she is not truly seen, nor heard, and so she writes. She writes elaborate, gut-wrenching poems that speak to the ocean of feelings inside. Outside, she is trying to ignore the guys verbally assaulting her, trying to be the good Christian girl her mom wants her to be and all the while the words come. This book is a fast read because it’s all poetry, capturing Xiomara’s every moment in verse. If you like Angie Thomas’s On the Come Up, you will love this book.
A Raisin in the Sun, Lorraine Hansberry
Set in Chicago’s south side in the 1950s, between World War II and the civil rights movement, A Raisin in the Sun is the story of the Younger family. Through the realistic and frank portrayal of this African-American family, Hansberry’s play explores issues of gender, morality, identity and justice. A Raisin in the Sun depicts a family for which the American dream is repeatedly deferred.

Rebecca, Daphne Du Maurier
A young woman is swept off her feet by the love of her life. That seems like a happy ending, but it’s really only the beginning of this romantic suspense novel. After the wedding, he takes her to his family’s estate, where everyone is haunted by the memory of his first wife, Rebecca. At first, she’s just worried that she’ll never measure up to the perfect Rebecca, but then her fear deepens as she encounters secrets and dangers, especially in the form of Mrs. Danvers, the housekeeper whose loyalty to the first Mrs. de Winter has become an obsession.

Relish: My Life in the Kitchen, Lucy Knisely
“Knisley, daughter of a chef mother and gourmand father, had the kind of upbringing that would make any foodie salivate, and she’s happy to share. In this collection of memories studded with recipes, she explores how food shaped her family life, friendships, travel experiences and early career as a cartoonist. Knisley’s illustrated recipes are particularly delightful and inventive, and she tempers any navel-gazing impulses with humor, humility and honesty, noting, for example, that even someone who loves fine food can still put away a truckload of McDonald’s fries from time to time.” (Booklist)

She’s Not There, Jennifer Boylan
A bittersweet account of being transgender before, during and after gender reassignment surgery. After reading this, you will want to read Boylan’s I’m Looking Through You: Growing up Haunted, her account of growing up among ghosts—in her childhood house in Pennsylvania, in her community and in her heart.

Song of Achilles, Madeline Miller
We all know the story of Trojan War hero Achilles—but do we really? Achilles was the rockstar jock of the Greeks; a warrior stronger, faster and more deadly than his counterparts. Patroclus is an exiled prince, said to be Achilles’ dearest friend. When Helen is kidnapped and all Greek heroes are called to get her back, everything they know will be left to the unforgiving hands of the Gods.

Soul of an Octopus: A Surprising Exploration into the Wonder of Consciousness, Sy Montgomery
Did you know that the octopus can problem solve? Did you know they have personality
in addition to eight bendy arms and the ability to bounce balls, change color and trick other octopuses? Us either. This nonfiction book is filled with heart, science and intelligence.

A Spy in the House, Y.S. Lee
In Victorian England, women had few rights and fewer options. What better setting for a top-secret women’s detective agency? In this first novel in a series, the agency rescues orphan Mary Quinn from the gallows and trains her to become a detective; her first case places her as a spy in the household of a suspected smuggler and threatens not only the scandalous secret that she has kept for years but also her very life.

Station Eleven, Emily St. John Mandel
What do a Hollywood star, the medic who tries to save him, a traveling group of actors and musicians, and the collapse of civilization have in common? This novel roams back and forth over the 15 years after and before a pandemic virus eliminates most of civilization as we know it in this post-apocalyptic novel about life, art, love and the way we’re all connected.

Strange Practice, Vivian Shaw
Just because vampires are undead doesn’t mean they don’t have medical needs! Meet Greta Helsing, a human doctor whose patients include witches, ghouls, vampires and other monsters. When a group of killer monks begins murdering both humans and vampires in London, Greta and her human and vampire friends must track down the religious cult and the animating force that is directing them.

Tell Me How You Really Feel, Aminah Mae Safi
Two high school seniors star in this story of love and self-discovery: Pakistani-American model student Sana tries to figure out her life’s path, while Mexican-American Jewish Rachel tries to cobble together her vision as a filmmaker. Neither expects to fall in love, but in this queer meet-cute love story, there are many surprises. This high school romance is both traditional and nothing like the high school romance novels you may have read before.

Recommended by Bridge and Salaam

Truly Devious, Maureen Johnson
Exclusive and historic boarding school Ellington Academy’s history has been made infamous by the 1920s murder mystery and missing person case that robbed its founder of his wife and daughter. One hundred years later, Stevie is admitted because of her interest in the case. Unfortunately, the murders don’t seem to be done on campus and a fellow student Stevie has been working with on a project about the murder is found dead. This is the extremely addictive, funny and engrossing first in a three-part mystery series that you’ll find hard to put down!
Underground Girls of Kabul: In Search of a Hidden Resistance in Afghanistan, Jenny Nordberg
This is an amazing study of a hidden culture in Afghanistan that sanctions the raising of infant girls as boys in order to secure the status of a family.

When I Was Puerto Rican, Esmeralda Santiago
A memoir of a girl’s journey from extreme poverty in Puerto Rico to life in New York—and her first year at Harvard University.

Grades 11 & 12
Required Reading
I. Literature and Composition III
• Homegoing, Yaa Gyasi
• Two books from the reading list “Recommended Books for Grades 11 & 12”

Homegoing, Yaa Gyasi
Ghana, 18th century: Two half sisters, Effia and Esi, are born into different villages, each unaware of the other. One will marry an Englishman and lead a life of comfort in the palatial rooms of the notorious Cape Coast Castle. The other will be captured in a raid on her village, imprisoned in the very same castle, and shipped off to America to be sold into slavery.

With breathtaking scope, Homegoing follows the parallel paths of these sisters and their descendants through eight generations: from the slave traders of the Gold Coast to the plantations of Mississippi, from the Asantes’ struggle against British colonialism to the first stirrings of the American Civil War, from the jazz of 20th century Harlem to the sparkling shores of modern Ghana. Yaa Gyasi’s extraordinary novel illuminates slavery’s troubled legacy both for those who were taken and those who stayed—and shows how the memory of captivity has been inscribed on the soul of our nation. (source: Penguin Random House)

As you read Homegoing (in paperback, please, rather than e-book), pay close attention to the family tree included in the opening pages. Mark it up with notes that will help you remember each character. Also, please make notes in the margins so that it’s easy to go back and find passages that are your favorites or seem especially meaningful.

When you finish reading the novel, please write a two-page reading reflection responding to the following topic:

Toward the end of the novel, Yaw tells his students, “History is storytelling.” He continues: “We believe the one who has the power. He is the one who gets to write the story. So when you study history, you must always ask yourself, Whose story am I missing? Whose voice was suppressed so that this voice could come forth? Once you have figured that out,
you must find that story, too” (226-27). Write two pages reflecting on the role of storytelling in this novel. Who are the storytellers? What kinds of stories do they tell and to whom? Why do they tell their stories? (Note: We’re not asking about the narrator or the author as storytellers, but about the characters themselves telling stories within the context of their lives.) Does reading this novel give you a new understanding of history? Of storytelling in general? Be prepared to turn in your reflection on the first day.

II. AP English Language/Comp

- The Best American Science and Nature Writing 2019, Sy Montgomery
- Homegoing, Yaa Gyasi
- A nonfiction text of your choosing from the reading list “Recommended Books for Grades 11 & 12”

The Best American Science and Nature Writing 2019, Sy Montgomery

Your summer assignment is to read at least 10 of the collection’s 26 essays. For each of the 10 essays of your choice, answer the following questions briefly but thoughtfully:

- All of these essays about science or nature are written for a general audience, so they are all expository (that is, explaining or describing something) to some extent. Is this exposition the primary purpose of the essay, or is it also argumentative (that is, proving a thesis)? If so, what is that argument? Explain your answer in a brief paragraph.
- Did you learn something you consider worthwhile in this essay, and did you enjoy reading this essay? Why? (There’s no right or wrong answer here—you’re allowed to have an opinion, after all!)
- Type out a sentence that you particularly like or think is well-crafted from this essay; include a parenthetical citation with page number. Briefly explain why you think it’s such a good sentence.

The answers to these questions for each of the 10 essays you choose are due on the first day of class. You will complete assignments on Homegoing and the nonfiction book of your choice during the first week of class.

III. Senior English Courses: Creative Writing: Found Voices; Epics and Sagas; and This is Us: Contemporary Narratives of the Human Experience

- The Street, Ann Petry
- Two books from the reading list “Recommended Books for Grades 11 & 12”

The Street, Ann Petry

Written by black author Ann Petry in 1946, The Street tells the story of Lutie Johnson, a young black mother struggling to raise her son in 1940s Harlem. The novel follows Lutie’s attempts to navigate the poverty, sexism, violence and racism of America, inviting readers to confront key questions about personal choices and societal responsibility.
In a 500-750 word response, look at Lutie and examine the definition of womanhood as presented through the novel. In what ways does Lutie fit the 1940s American society’s expectations for a woman? A black woman? A wife? A mother? A sexual being? An employee? What commentary do you think Petry is making about womanhood and its challenges through her characterization of Lutie? Plan to hand in your response on the first day of class. Your work will be graded on the depth of your ideas and the quality of your writing.

IV. AP Literature & Composition

- *Tess of the D’Urbervilles*, Thomas Hardy

Read Thomas Hardy’s 1891 novel, *Tess of the D’Urbervilles*. As you read, annotate your text, paying particular attention to:
- Stages of character development
- Character motivations
- Motifs and repeated images
- Figurative language (metaphor, symbol, etc.)
- Settings and where they are reflective of character and/or theme

Also, identify passages that pertain to the themes of the AP Literature & Composition courses: women’s roles in society, monsters and “monstrous” people, and wildness and freedom. Be prepared to discuss these themes and ideas in class.

In addition, read two other books of your choice from the list.

**Recommended Books for Grades 11 & 12**

*A Tale of Love & Darkness*, Amos Oz

Amos Oz grew up in a tiny apartment with many people and even more books in even more languages. This memoir follows him through his life as he leaves his family, joins a kibbutz and finds his voice through political activism in the Middle East. Yes, it’s about books but it includes wisdom on so much more: “When I was little, my ambition was to grow up to be a book. Not a writer. People can be killed like ants. Writers are not hard to kill either. But not books.”

*The Age of Innocence*, Edith Wharton

This famous novel is about upper-class New York society in the late 19th century. The wealthy young Newland Archer is attracted to two very different women, one of them a respectable young American woman and the other a “dangerous” European divorcée.

*The Alchemist*, Paulo Coelho

An enchanting tale about a boy who goes on a journey filled with epic adventure, only to
find the treasure he’s been searching for is in the most unexpected of places. This classic story has charmed millions of readers and will likely resonate with you for years to come.

*All the Light We Cannot See*, Anthony Doerr
It’s World War II. The Nazis are bombarding the coast of France near Saint Malo and the need to stop them has never been more desperate. Can a young girl, blind and vulnerable, help save her city? Can a young Nazi soldier find the courage to act on his principles against the Reich? This novel will thrill your mind and heart. You won’t sleep until you finish this Pulitzer Prize winning novel.

*Band of Sisters: American Women at War in Iraq*, Kirsten Holmstedt and Senator Tammy Duckworth
Increasingly, American women are joining the U.S. military in non-combat positions, driving trucks, flying transport planes, and working as nurses and doctors. But in modern combat, there is no such thing as “the front lines.” In these short reports, the author interviews women who were unexpectedly attacked or trapped in enemy territory. Their experiences reveal the inherent risk of war, as well as the heroism of these young soldiers.

*Between the World and Me*, Ta-Nehisi Coates
“What is it like to inhabit a black body and find a way to live within it? And how can we all honestly reckon with this fraught history and free ourselves from its burden?” Coates works to answer these important questions in a gut-wrenching, painful letter to his son. There is no way around the issues this book poses to the United States and its people. Get ready to dive in and reflect on this short but powerful book.

*Bone Clocks*, David Mitchell
In 1980s England, teenager Holly Sykes runs away after a brush up with her mother. Over the years, she is part of the lives of the other narrators in this novel that starts in the past, jumps to the present and past, and ends in the future: a Cambridge undergrad best described as a total jerk, a war reporter in Iraq, a middle-aged writer with an ego, and an ancient doctor. All are tied together, but their stories are told in unique voices, both likeable and unlikeable, and in different genres, times and settings.

*The Boys in the Boat: Nine Americans and Their Epic Quest for Gold at the 1936 Berlin Olympics*, Daniel Brown and Daniel James Brown
The title tells everything you need to know about this book except that you will fall in love with these young men and learn quite a bit about the Nazi Olympics—and that even if you can’t tell a scull from a seal, you’re at risk to fall in love with rowing.
**Brothers and Keepers**, John Edgar Wideman
In 1975, Robby Wideman and a partner committed robbery, during which his partner shot and killed their victim. He is now serving a life sentence in a Pittsburgh prison. He and his older brother, John Edgar Wideman, had grown apart as they grew up—two black men from the ghetto, one headed toward a life of crime while the other became a respected author and professor—but Robby’s imprisonment ironically reversed that distance. John Wideman and his brother reconnected through multiple conversations in the prison’s visiting room, and the result of those conversations is the memoir *Brothers and Keepers*, a moving family history about race and opportunity in America.

**City of Thieves**, David Benioff
The people of Leningrad are slowly starving under Nazi seige; they survive by eating anything they can find while they pray the nightly bombs don’t land on them. A teenage boy accused of looting and an accused deserter are spared from execution...if they find 12 eggs for wedding of the daughter of the commander who sentences them. This novel is darkly funny, heartbreaking and very difficult to put down. By the writer and producer of the *Game of Thrones* series, this is the fictionalized account of his grandfather’s survival during the war.

**Do Not Say We Have Nothing**, Madeline Thien
A young Chinese-Canadian woman begins unraveling the secrets that led to her father’s suicide in 1989 during the Tiananmen Square protests. As she traces clues about the lives of three young musicians at the Shanghai Conservatory during the Cultural Revolution, she comes to a new understanding of her father’s life as well as the lives of the people he loved. Spanning three generations, this beautiful novel is an absorbing historical epic as well as a gripping meditation on the meaning of unfinished lives, of “broken music.”

**East of Eden**, John Steinbeck
Steinbeck’s magnum opus is an epic family saga of the Hamiltons and the Trasks, set in Salinas, California, at the turn of the century. Filled with scandal, intrigue and the intricacies only found in the relationship between brothers, it is a surprisingly relatable and compelling read. It brings to mind all manner of complex themes—fate versus choice, biology versus destiny—but at its heart, *East of Eden* is a great story, featuring fascinating characters and thrilling twists.

**Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine**, Gail Honeyman
Eleanor Oliphant is, as the title says, completely fine. Sure, she has no social skills, doesn’t have any friends, has weekly abusive calls with her mother, and follows the same, boring schedule day in and day out. But really, she’s fine. Or, she’s fine until an encounter that leads to the rescue of a senior citizen rattles her cage doors open.
Everything is Illuminated, Jonathan Safran Foer
Jonathan Safran Foer is on a quest. He is armed with only a yellowing photograph and a Ukrainian translator named Alex. Chapters jump between Jonathan’s family’s past and present. It’s tantalizingly funny, hauntingly sad, and it will reveal how people, places and things can completely disappear in war.

Freakonomics, Steven Levitt and Stephen Dubner
An economics book for beach reading? Really? Though written by economists, this book reads nothing like an economics textbook. Levitt and Dubner collect mounds of data as they examine social trends, and they reach surprising conclusions about the way society functions and the impact present actions can have on the future. Written in lively prose and full of fascinating stories, Freakonomics will engage and entertain you, and it may change the way you see the world.

Fun Home, Alison Bechdel
An engrossing memoir in graphic novel format, Fun Home documents Bechdel’s childhood experiences and coming of age as a woman and lesbian. At its center lies her painful relationship with her distant father.

Gabi, a Girl in Pieces, Isabel Quintero
Gabi Hernandez chronicles in her diary her senior year in high school as she copes with the teen pregnancy of one friend and another’s coming out; her father’s drug abuse; her identity as a Latina; and her love of food, boys and the poetry that helps forge her identity. Part diary, part poetry, and part zine, it’s really hard not to wish Gabi is really your friend.

Get in Trouble: Stories, Kelly Link
This acclaimed and contemporary collection of short stories is a wry, sometimes creepy and often satirical look at pop-culture and human nature. Blending sci-fi, fairy tales and realism (both real and magical), this book is filled with stories about animatronic boyfriend dolls, friendships formed on the Internet, superpowers, faeries and regular humans.

Girl Mans Up, M-E Girard
Pen is in a tough spot; her best friend Colby is making her do some pretty shady things and it needs to stop. Her parents need to learn English. She needs to get better at Portuguese. Everything was easier before she fell hard for this girl and now she’s scrambling to keep it all together. One of these days Pen has got to stop pretending, but she’s not sure she’ll come out of it alive.

Recommended by SHADES

Recommended by Bridge
The Girl with Seven Names, Hyeonseo Lee
Hyeonseo Lee was one of a million North Koreans scrambling to make ends meet, find enough to eat, keep out of trouble and survive in the secretive country. A famine in 1990 when she was 17 makes her seriously question if this is all life has to offer, and the proximity of the Chinese border beckons.

Gulp: Adventures in the Alimentary Canal, Mary Roach
“How much can you eat before your stomach bursts? Can constipation kill you? Did it kill Elvis? In Gulp, we meet scientists who tackle the questions no one else thinks of—or has the courage to ask. We go on location to a pet-food taste-test lab, a fecal transplant and into a live stomach to observe the fate of a meal” (Publisher). Mary Roach tackles the questions you’ve always wanted to ask but haven’t in this palatable and funny nonfiction book.

How Long ’til Black Future Month?, N.K. Jemisin
N.K. Jemisin exploded the canon of fantasy literature in recent decades, crafting a powerful black, feminist voice in this under-appreciated literary genre. Her new collection of sci-fi/ fantasy short stories spans her writing career and runs the gamut: new planets, ecological post-apocalyptic landscapes, robot invasions, cities that come to life... It’s all here, a smorgasbord of sci-fi excellence in a new and magnificent voice.

Hunger, Roxane Gay
This memoir details author Roxane Gay’s relationship with food and her weight over the course of her life, as well as her hunger for acceptance and self-love. Sexually assaulted at a young age, Gay began to purposefully overeat in order to protect herself from potential predators. This is not a tale of a woman learning to deal with her trauma to lose weight; instead, Gay lays herself and her emotions bare, asking questions that almost every woman faces at some point.

The Husband’s Secret, Liane Moriarty
“Imagine your husband wrote you a letter, to be opened after his death. Imagine, too, that the letter contains his deepest, darkest secret—something with the potential to destroy not only the life you have built together, but the lives of others as well. And then imagine that you stumble across that letter while your husband is still very much alive…” (Amazon)

I’ll Give You the Sun, Jandy Nelson
Fraternal twins Jude and Noah were inseparable and competitive for most of their lives, until tragedy struck. Now, they barely acknowledge each other. In alternating chapters, we learn that Noah was a shy artist while Jude was a popular, boy crazy surf-queen. Now their roles are hugely reversed, and both are developing feelings for new boys in their lives.
Each of them only has half the story that led to the tragedy that tore them apart; they’ll have to find a way to put themselves back together in this novel that is a love story of all kinds.

_in the Woods_, Tana French
This is the first book in French’s Dublin Murder Squad series, a collection of loosely related, brilliantly written mysteries. _In the Woods_ introduces us to Detective Rob Ryan, who is investigating a case that hits chillingly close to home, specifically a wood near his childhood home that was once the scene of his own traumatic event. Will his past as the lone survivor of a horrible unsolved crime keep him from solving the murder of a 12-year-old girl who is found in the same wood? As is the case in all of her mysteries, French weaves a story around a central, complex character whose personal experience affects his perception of and reaction to the crime. A gripping, thrilling, can’t-put-it-down read.

_into the Wild_, Jon Krakauer
After graduating from college in 1991, Christopher Johnson McCandless decided the very next April to give up all his savings and possessions and take to the wild. He abandoned all his worldly possessions in the Mojave desert, threw out his maps, hitchhiked to Alaska and walked off into the woods to live off the land and find himself. Four months later, his body and journals were found. This is the story of his life and final months.

_Iran Awakening_, Shirin Ebadi
Shirin Ebadi is a real life superhero. She is a lawyer in Iran and the first person from that country to win the Nobel Peace Prize in 2003. “Under the Iranian code, the worth of a woman’s life equals half of a man’s…” Imagine dedicating your life to the pursuit of the belief that you are worth just as much as a man. If you loved the everyday heroism and kick butt rebellion of _Persepolis_ by Marjane Satrapi, then this memoir is for you. 
© Recommended by Salaam

_is Everyone Hanging Out Without Me?, _Mindy Kaling
In this collection of personal essays, the writer, producer and star of _The Mindy Project_, Massachusetts native Mindy Kaling recounts her experiences with trying to find romance, working in Hollywood and maintaining friendships.

_Just Mercy_, Bryan Stevenson
This gripping autobiography tells the story of our broken justice system through one man’s efforts to right the wrongs. Bryan Stevenson is a lawyer who has worked for years to get people who have been unjustly imprisoned, sometimes on Death Row, released. Taking on the American justice system is no small task, however, and he soon learns just how deep the injustices lie.
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Killers of the Flower Moon, David Grann
Back in the 1920s, oil was almost actually worth its weight in gold. The Osage nation in current-day Oklahoma became instant millionaires when they sold much of their oil rich land. Things were good for a while—many Osage had chauffeurs, mansions and the trappings of a rich life—but suddenly many people started to turn up dead in very suspicious circumstances. Using cutting edge techniques to uncover a massive, horrifying conspiracy to kill the Osage for their land rights and money, this is the case that legitimized a fledgling law enforcement agency called the FBI.

Labgirl, Hope Jehren
Hope Jehren is a scientist—a female scientist—who studies plants and the natural world. Her memoir has been called funny, fresh, filled with friendship and empowering to female scientists around the world.

Life After Life, Kate Atkinson
What if you could live again and again until you got it right? On a cold and snowy night in 1910, Ursula Todd is born, the third child of a wealthy English banker and his wife. She dies before she can draw her first breath. On that same cold and snowy night, Ursula Todd is born, lets out a lusty wail, and embarks upon a life that will be, to say the least, unusual. (Adapted from publisher.)

Little Fires Everywhere, Celeste Ng
A “perfect” suburban mother befriends an artist single mother. Their friendship turns toxic as the two women find themselves on opposite sides of a messy adoption battle. A suburban whodunit and a smart story about relationships and choices.

March: Book One, John Lewis, Andrew Aydin, et al.
You’ve seen the recent protests in the news: March For Our Lives, Black Lives Matter, Women’s March, etc. But have you seen and experienced the march that inspired them all, the 1963 March on Washington? Moreover, have you seen it through the eyes of John Lewis, the 17-term congressman from Georgia who was there, marching as a young man? In graphic novel format, you can see and experience it for yourself.

Me, My Hair, And I, ed. Elizabeth Benedict
This is a book of personal essays about hair. Women of all ages from many countries talk about haircuts, strangers touching hair, awkward questions about hair, questions about dying, straightening or relaxing hair, and more. Why do we care so much? What do our choices about hair say about us?

The Misadventures of Awkward Black Girl, Issa Rae
Issa Rae shares her story of being a young African American woman learning to be cool
with her awkward self. Sassy, smart and sometimes sad, this is an earnest look at a woman
who is pretty easy to identify with. Favorite quote: “If I could go back in time and slap all
of the idiocy out of my mouth, I would be a busy time traveler.”

**Recommended by SHADES**

*News of the World*, Paulette Jiles
It’s 1870 and Captain Jefferson Kyle Kidd, a disillusioned elderly widower, travels around
the country giving live news reports to audiences who pay to hear the news of the world. He
takes on one more job: to deliver Johanna, a young orphan girl, through perilous country to
relatives who live 400 miles away and don’t care about her. Johanna is feisty, rebellious and
endearing. The two bond during this treacherous journey—and don’t want to say goodbye.
A fascinating and touching historical novel.

*Opposite of Loneliness*, Marina Keegan
Marina Keegan was a young writer and Massachusetts native with tremendous promise
who died in a car crash the day after she graduated from Yale in 2012. This book of her
essays, short stories and speeches was published by her professors and her parents and
became an instant bestseller.

*Oranges are Not the Only Fruit*, Jeanette Winterson
Before orange was the new black, it was not the only fruit. Jeannette Winterson wrote this
ground-breaking, semi-autobiographical coming-of-age novel in 1985. The witty, quirky
narrator grows up in an English pentecostal community, where she stitches samplers with
apocalyptic themes, plans a life as a missionary—and then falls in love with another girl. An
imaginative, poignant story of a creative young woman’s struggle to find her voice in the
face of furious backlash from her conservative family and community.

*Please Look After Mom*, Shin Kyung-sook
In preparation for a celebration, a young Korean businessman brings his mother by train
to be reunited with her adult children in Seoul. However, in the crowd at the train station,
they become separated. Although they search for her, the children discover that they know
too little about their mother; they don’t even agree on how to describe her to the police. As
the story goes on, we slowly learn all about the life of this overlooked Korean mother.

**Recommended by ISA**

*People of the Book*, Geraldine Brooks
In this fast-paced novel of rich and vivid detail, Geraldine Brooks transcends time and place
by tracing the journey of an ancient and mystifying Hebrew manuscript. Through her
analysis of artifacts found in the Sarajevo Haggadah’s ancient binding, Anna, the proto-
gonist, unveils the complicated and troubling history of the diverse people and cultures who
have possessed it.
The Power, Naomi Alderman  
What if women suddenly woke up with the power to control electricity with their very fingertips? This novel explores a new world order with women in control, what power does to you and how we all adapt. There are some very violent moments and scenes of sexual assault, so you should be warned this is for more mature readers.

Pride and Prejudice, Jane Austen  
In one of the most romantic novels of the 19th century, Jane Austen tells the story of Elizabeth Bennet, a stubborn, witty and independent young woman who struggles with unexpected love. Jane Austen’s masterpiece exposes the secrets of high-society England and makes us, along with her heroine, slowly fall in love with the curt Mr. Darcy. This is Austen at her finest!

Real American, Julie Lythcott-Haims  
In this memoir, Julie Lythcott-Haims details her experiences growing up as the daughter of a black American man and a white British woman in the United States. Both personal relationships and societal systems are discussed as she comes to terms with her biracial identity, as well as with the country’s perception of her identity, moving through stages of self loathing to find pride and love.

Sacred Lies of Minnow Bly, Stephanie Oakes  
Minnow Bly lost her faith, family and hands to a cult. Raised for most of her life in the Kevinian cult, Minnow escapes, runs away, and is arrested and imprisoned for assault the same night the cult burns to the ground and the prophet Kevin disappears suspiciously. She struggles to adjust to her new world of juvie, the real world and learning to get by without her hands. The FBI psychologist assigned to her suspects Minnow knows more than she’s letting on, but Minnow isn’t ready to talk... yet.

The Screwtape Letters, C.S. Lewis  
Do you remember that book The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe? Well, this is by the same guy, C.S. Lewis, but it is next to nothing like that book of fawns and ice queens. It’s a series of letters from Uncle Screwtape to his nephew, Wormwood. In it, they argue, plot and philosophise about a fundamental question we all must answer at some point: Are we, as humans, naturally good or evil? This radical book can be offensive, yet thought provoking. If you liked the last installment of The Harry Potter series or The Alchemist you will be intrigued by this book.

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Singular Intimacies, Danielle Ofri  
Dr. Danielle Ofri writes about her first year as a doctor in one of the most famous hospitals in the world: Bellevue in New York City. Having just completed medical school, she
suddenly finds herself responsible for the lives of countless people, many who speak different languages and come from cultures about which she only knows the bare minimum. In Singular Intimacies, she writes about how important it is for a doctor to form a positive relationship with their patients and how crucial it is to listen to their needs. If you have ever wondered what it is like to be a doctor, this is for you.

*Smoke Gets in Your Eyes*, Caitlin Doughty
Caitlin Doughty is a mortician and one of the leaders of the “death positive” movement. In her poignant and at times hilarious first memoir, she recounts her journey from crematory operator to mortician to “death enthusiast.” Filled with fascinating tales of the reality of dealing with death on a daily basis, Doughty manages to make a morbid subject a little less dark and depressing. She uses her knowledge to remove some of the stigma, mythology and uncertainty from a process that many are curious about but few are brave enough to discuss.

*Swing Time*, Zadie Smith
Two biracial girls develop a friendship and as dancers in a London council flat, they dream of careers as professionals. One of them makes it, one of them doesn’t, but who really makes it and who doesn’t is up for debate in this masterful, musical, beautifully written book about friendship, the power of dancing and the decisions we make that shape our lives. “My favorite Smith novel since White Teeth. The best book I read in 2019!” –Ms. Gayton

*To Live*, Yu Hua
Imagine watching the life you thought you would have slowly melt away. Fugui was born the son of a landlord. He wanted for nothing. Between spending his inheritance and being drafted in the cultural revolution in China, Fugui was left with next to nothing. Initially banned in China, this book is now revered as a contemporary classic. © Recommended by ISA

*The Unquiet Dead*, Ausma Zehanat Khan
Mystery ensues as detectives try to discover what happened to Christopher Drayton on the outskirts of Lake Ontario, just outside of Toronto. Was he pushed off Cathedral Bluffs or did he jump? Detectives Rachel Getty and Esa Khattak continue to peel away layers of this case and find links to the genocide in Bosnia. A body on a beach is not such a simple thing.

*The Ways of White Folks*, by Langston Hughes
These short stories provide biting observations into racial relationships in the South during Langston Hughes’s lifetime. Hughes explores themes of class and women’s rights as he presents vignettes of everyday life in the 1930s. The stories may be short, but they will stick with you long after you’ve closed the book.
Wild Embers, Nikita Gill
This book of poetry is a must for feminist fans of contemporary female poets like Rupi Kaur. Though it may have fewer words than a novel, this fiery volume is filled with passion, powerful women, and will leave you wanting more.

SOCIAL STUDIES BOOKS
The following titles are suggestions for summer reading from the Social Studies Department. While the required books are part of the assignments for AP European History and AP United States History courses, the other titles reflect readings that will provide enrichment. Each book was selected because it is well written and provides thoughtful excursions to other times, places and ideas. Enjoy!

AFRICAN STUDIES
July’s People, Nadine Gordimer
“For years, it had been what is called a ‘deteriorating situation.’ Now all over South Africa the cities are battlegrounds. The members of the Smales family—liberal whites—are rescued from the terror by their servant, July, who leads them to refuge in his village. What happens to the Smaleses and to July—the shifts in character and relationships—gives us an unforgettable look into the terrifying, tacit understandings and misunderstandings between blacks and whites.” (Amazon.com) Gordimer won the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1991.

Mighty Be Our Powers: How Sisterhood, Prayer and Sex Changed a Nation at War, Leymah Gbowee
Nobel Peace Prize winner Gbowee recounts how “an army of women helped lead her nation [of Liberia] to peace—in the process emerging as an international leader who changed history. Mighty Be Our Powers is a gripping chronicle of a journey from hopelessness to empowerment that will touch all who dream of a better world.” (Amazon.com)

EAST ASIAN STUDIES
American Born Chinese, Gene Luen Yang
Using the graphic novel format, the author presents his own experiences growing up as a person of Chinese descent in America. Yang also retells the classic Chinese folk story The Monkey King as a metaphor for his own search for identity. This book is a great introduction to issues faced by Asian Americans today and to one of the most popular and influential stories in East Asian culture.

China in the 21st Century: What Everyone Needs to Know, Jeffrey N. Wasserstrom
China has a long, complex history that can be daunting to a beginning learner, and Professor Wasserstrom’s book does an admirable job of covering the breadth of Chinese history and culture in an accessible manner. Reading this book is an excellent introduction
to many of the topics—both ancient and modern—that will be discussed throughout the year in East Asian Studies.

*Understanding China Through Comics*, Jing Liu
This short introduction to the earliest history of China and its culture uses the graphic novel to explain many of the ideas and events that are the foundations of Chinese civilization.

**Middle Eastern Studies**

*Funny in Farsi: A Memoir of Growing Up Iranian in America*, Firoozeh Dumas
Dumas came to America for the first time in the early 1970s, when many Americans were unfamiliar with Iran. She has a unique perspective on American culture, and she balances the comedy of her family's misadventures with the more serious prejudices they face.

*How to Understand Israel in 60 Days or Less*, Sarah Glidden
A secular Jew with strong opinions, Glidden sets off on her first visit to Israel and learns that there are no easy answers to her questions. She details her discoveries in this beautifully-drawn graphic novel.

*In the Country of Men*, Hisham Matar
In this novel of pre-Arab-Spring Libya, a young boy lives under the oppression of a dictator. His life is defined by his mother’s resentment of the denial of her own emotional identity, her fear for her husband who is involved in revolutionary activity, and her passion for her son. The novel, which is written from the boy’s perspective, gives a sense of how fear can twist the behavior of people living in a dictatorial regime and of how lonely it can be to live in such a society. Can a culture whose children have been so abandoned ever recover?

*My Name is Red*, Orhan Pamuk
In Istanbul, in the 1590s, the Sultan secretly commissions a great book, but any work of art—an affront to Islam—is considered dangerous. This murder mystery set during the time of the Ottoman Empire uses colors as characters that help decipher the killer’s identity.

*A Map of Love*, Ahdaf Soueif
At either end of the 20th century, two women fall in love with men outside their familiar worlds. In 1901, Anna Winterbourne finds herself enraptured with Egypt and with Sharif Pasha al-Baroudi. Nearly 100 years later, Isabel Parkman, Anna and Sharif’s descendant, falls in love with a gifted and difficult Egyptian-American conductor with his own passionate politics.

*Someone to Run With*, David Grossman
When awkward and painfully shy 16-year-old Assaf is asked to find the owner of a stray
yellow lab, he begins a quest that will bring him into contact with street kids, criminals and a talented young singer, Tamar, who is on her own mission: to rescue a teenage drug addict.

**Europe in the 20th Century**

*European Union: A Very Short Introduction (Very Short Introductions)*, John Pinder and Simon Usherwood

“Since the second edition of this popular *Very Short Introduction* published in 2007, the world has faced huge economic and political change. Showing how and why the EU has developed from 1950 to the present day, John Pinder and Simon Usherwood cover a range of topics, including the Union’s early history, the workings of its institutions and what they do, the interplay between ‘eurosceptics’ and federalists, and the role of the Union beyond Europe in international affairs and as a peace-keeper.” (Publisher blurb)

**Comparative Politics**

*Half the Sky*, Nicholas D. Kristof and Sheryl Wu Dunn

Relying on case studies from Bangladesh to Zimbabwe, “*New York Times* columnist Kristof and his wife, WuDunn, a former Times reporter, make a brilliantly argued case for investing in the health and autonomy of women worldwide.” (Publisher’s Weekly)

*Women and Politics in a Global World*, Sarah L. Henderson and Alana S. Jeydel

This book “offers a cross-national and comparative examination of the impact of women on politics—and the impact of politics on women. Henderson and Jeydel carefully consider women’s participation in institutionalized politics, social protest, and nationalist, fundamentalist, and revolutionary movements.” (Amazon.com)

*The World is Flat: A Brief History of the Twenty-First Century*, Thomas Friedman

An award-winning *New York Times* columnist explains how the flattening—i.e., connectedness—of the world happened at the dawn of the 21st century, what it means to the global economy, and how governments and societies must adapt.

**Economics**

*The Undercover Economist*, Tim Harford

“‘The economy isn’t a bunch of rather dull statistics with names like GDP (gross domestic product)’ notes Tim Harford columnist and regular guest on NPR’s *Marketplace*. ‘Economics is about who gets what and why.’ In this acclaimed and riveting book—part expose, part users’ manual—the astute and entertaining columnist from the *Financial Times* demystifies the ways in which money works in the world, from why coffee costs so much to why efficiency is not necessarily the answer to ensuring a fair society, from improving health care to curing crosstown traffic. All the dirty little secrets of dollars and cents are delightfully revealed by The Undercover Economist.” (Publisher blurb)
RUSSIAN STUDIES

Uncle Vanya, Anton Chekov
A play about the melancholy Uncle Vanya, an aging professor, his very young wife, the estate that supports them and the characters that make that happen, and the crisis that results from Vanya’s announcement to sell it to provide a better life for himself in the city.

UNITED STATES HISTORY

Brave Companions, David McCullough
Pulitzer Prize-winning author David McCullough presents profiles of exceptional men and women who have contributed to the history of the United States. In this rich collection of 17 essays, readers meet figures such as Harriet Beecher Stowe, Frederic Remington, Teddy Roosevelt, Louis Agassiz and Anne Morrow Lindbergh.

The Feminine Mystique, Betty Friedan
After graduating from Smith College, Friedan interviewed her classmates about their lives following college. What she found were countless women living in silent desperation, forced by social expectations into marriage and homemaking with little opportunity for personal expression. In many ways, this book launched the modern feminist movement.

Founding Brothers, Joseph Ellis
Ellis recounts several pivotal moments in the nation’s creation: from the private debates and dealings over where to locate the capital, to the deadly duel between Alexander Hamilton and Aaron Burr, to arguments between Thomas Jefferson and John Adams over the meaning of the nation. These anecdotes speak to the central values and the fundamental conflicts of the nation, then and now.

Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl, Harriet Jacobs
The autobiographical account of a young girl’s life as a slave and her escape to freedom. Jacobs recounts the horrors of her experience as a slave in North Carolina, her heroic escape and the years she spend in hiding, and her ultimate freedom. Written in a gripping and readable way, this narrative is a classic of slave literature.

AP UNITED STATES HISTORY

Select and read one of the following two required titles; you do not need to read both. Other titles listed are optional but recommended.

Required: The Autobiography of Malcolm X, Malcolm X and Alex Haley
A controversial political and social activist of the 1960s, Malcolm X, whose influence continues to grow, tells his life story. Spike Lee’s 1992 movie restored this classic to its bestseller status.
Required: *The Killer Angels*, Michael Shaara
This engaging novel takes place during the three most important days of the United States Civil War. Shaara’s gripping characterizations of complex historical figures provide a rich context for an exploration of the pivotal events that took place in Gettysburg during the summer of 1863.

*Undaunted Courage*, Stephen Ambrose
“*Undaunted Courage* is the story of a heroic and legendary man, and the saga of a great nation creating itself. In 1803, President Thomas Jefferson chose Captain Meriwether Lewis to lead the first government-backed exploration of the vast and unknown western territory of what would become part of the United States. Lewis was the perfect choice. *Undaunted Courage* is first and foremost a significant, scholarly work, yet it reads like an adventure novel filled with high drama, suspense and personal tragedy. It brings to life the times and circumstances of Meriwether Lewis and his unprecedented expedition, and renews our wonder of the vastness of our country and the heroics of our forefathers.” (Publisher)

*We Were Eight Years in Power: An American Tragedy*, Ta-Nehisi Coates
“‘We were eight years in power’ was the lament of Reconstruction-era black politicians as the American experiment in multiracial democracy ended with the return of white supremacist rule in the South. In this sweeping collection of new and selected essays, Ta-Nehisi Coates explores the tragic echoes of that history in our own time: the unprecedented election of a black president followed by a vicious backlash that fueled the election of the man Coates argues is America’s ‘first white president.’” (Publisher)

**Western Civilization**
The Bull from the Sea, Mary Renault
This novel, a marvelous choice for those who like mythology, tells the story of Theseus, who meets the challenge of the Minotaur in the Labyrinth of Crete. Like all good historical fiction, this is not only an engaging story, full of complex characters and outstanding descriptions, but also a window into another time and place. After reading *The Bull from the Sea*, you will have a rich understanding of the ancient Aegean world.

*The Eagle of the Ninth*, Rosemary Sutcliff
Sutcliff has a great store of information about the Roman world and writes engaging, well-written and historically accurate stories. This particular tale is of a young soldier who must travel to Britain to defend his father’s honor.

**AP European History**
Required: *The Prince*, Niccolo Machiavelli
This is the first book of Western political science. Machiavelli gives advice to a prince on
how best to run his kingdom. The assumptions about human behavior caused the book to be burned and the author’s name to become an adjective for evil political scheming.

*Bury the Chains*, Adam Hochschild
This is a powerful story of the British anti-slavery movement, which traced its origins from a small focused group to a mass movement that ended first the slave trade and ultimately slavery in the British Empire. Most Americans are taught about the abolitionist movements in the United States but are not aware of the earlier, powerful generation that inspired them.

*The Daughter of Time*, Josephine Tey
Did Richard III kill those little princes in the tower? This is a classic of historical fiction that attempts to solve the mystery that led to the end of Plantagenet rule in medieval England.

*Hard Times*, Charles Dickens
A classic novel that takes us into the world of 19th-century people struggling to make ends meet. With Dickens’ marvelous characters, strong plot and a pleasing conclusion, the reader finishes *Hard Times* completely satisfied. As an artifact and as a polemic, this novel lets us know that Victorian England could be a grim place.

*The Name of the Rose*, Umberto Eco
In 1397, finding his sensitive mission at an Italian abbey further complicated by seven bizarre deaths, Brother William of Baskerville turns detective, penetrating the cunning labyrinth of the abbey and deciphering coded manuscripts for clues. This mystery conveys a marvelous sense of time and place.

*Sophie’s World: A Novel About the History of Philosophy*, Jostein Gaarder
A page-turning novel that is also an exploration of the great philosophical concepts of Western thought. In order to answer two existential questions—who are you? and where does the world come from?—Sophie must use the philosophy she is learning. However, the truth turns out to be far more complicated than she could have imagined.

A page-turner that combines both biography and history to examine the origin of Western culture’s foundation: the free questioning of truth. The story hinges on the discovery in 1417 of an ancient Latin text that had been neglected for a thousand years. We even learn the history of the bookworm—a real entity and one of the enemies of ancient written-cultural transmission. (*Publishers Weekly*)

*Wolf Hall*, Hilary Mantel
A long but fascinating look at Tudor England, this fictionalized biography of Thomas Cromwell, Henry VIII’s minister, is a great novel. Our view of the royal family as seen
through Cromwell’s eyes is dark and frightening, and we worry that his ability to navigate the terrible personal politics of the era will somehow fail. The picture of Sir Thomas More is new: he’s not the pure hero and martyr often found in textbooks but just as manipulative as everyone else at court. Cromwell turns out to be the real hero. *Bring Up the Bodies*, this book’s sequel, explores the downfall of Anne Boleyn and is equally compelling.

**World Language Books**

The following titles are suggestions and in some cases requirements for summer reading from the Language Department. The required books help our Advanced Placement courses run more smoothly and often prove to be helpful throughout the year. The recommended titles include both books in the language of the courses we offer at Dana—French, Latin, Mandarin and Spanish—and also books that enhance the study of the cultures associated with each language. We encourage you to use the summer as a great opportunity to enjoy reading in another language not only for enjoyment but also to help keep the language in your ears and in your minds. Some of you might enjoy reading a book on the culture because you are especially interested in that culture and there isn’t time for that during the school year.

**French**

**Required for IV AP: La Grammaire est une chanson douce**, Erik Orsenna
A girl and her brother are shipwrecked on a mysterious island. With their musical guide, they discover a magical place where words live and work together to form the basis of the French language. (Recommended for levels III-V.)

*Je voudrais que quelqu’un m’attende quelque part*, Anna Gavalda
Twelve short stories of the daily lives of contemporary everyday people. Some are tragic, some are joyous and some are just accounts of common human experiences. (Recommended for levels III-V.)

*Le Petit prince*, Antoine de Saint-Exupéry
The classic story of a stranded pilot and a little boy searching the universe for friendship. Voted the greatest French work of literature of the 20th century by the French people. (Recommended for levels III-V.)

**Latin**

*Black Ships*, Jo Graham
By focusing on the feminine experience in the Aeneid, Jo Graham transforms the passionate character of Dido into an Egyptian queen and places the entire novel in a new setting.

*Diary of a Wimpy Kid Latin Edition: Commentarii de Inepto Puero*, Jeff Kinney
Remember when you were in elementary school or middle school and couldn’t wait for the
next book in the series *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* by Jeff Kinney? Now you can read it in Latin! Get in touch with your younger self and see if you can use your Latin skills to read a favorite story translated into Latin.

*Lavinia*, Ursula LeGuin
LeGuin takes a relatively invisible character from Vergil’s *Aeneid* and weaves an entire story around her. Lavinia plays a crucial role in the eventual founding of Rome, and in this novel she is given a voice, one that adds new meaning to the *Aeneid*.

*A Word a Day*, Anu and Stuti Garg
Do you love words and wish we could study etymology all year long? Latin class will help your understanding of words, but reading this book will also inspire word lovers to dig even more deeply into roots, prefixes and suffixes.

**Mandarin**
*Monkey: Folk Novel of China*, Wu Ch’eng-en
A thrilling Chinese folk novel centered on a monkey and his interactions with a variety of spirits, gods, demigods and other immortal beings (in English; suitable for all levels).

*Taipei People*, Pai Hsien-yung
*Taipei People* is a brilliant collection of beautifully translated, contemporary Chinese fiction. For advanced level Mandarin students, try your hand at reading the stories in Chinese; you can check your comprehension with the English translations. For beginning students, journey into the culture and lives of Chinese people by reading the English translations.

**Spanish**
**Required for V AP:** *Yerma*, Federico García Lorca
One of Lorca’s final plays from his famous trilogy, this is a powerful and poetic work on the yearning for motherhood.

**Required for IV AP:** *Devolver al remitente*, Julia Alvarez
A contemporary immigration story told through the alternating viewpoints of Tyler, son of an injured dairy farmer, and Mari, daughter of illegal migrant Mexican workers.

*La Casa en Mango Street*, Sandra Cisneros
In small vignettes, Esperanza Cordero tells the tales of the people she has met and experiences she has lived on Mango Street. (Recommended for levels IV and V.)
**AP Art History**

**Required:** *A History of the World in 100 Objects*, Neil MacGregor

Full copies of the assignment for this course, along with links to supporting material for the required title, can be accessed beginning June 1 on the Helen Temple Cooke Library website: http://library.danahall.org/reading-lists/summer-reading/

*A History of the World in 100 Objects*, Neil MacGregor

The director of the British Museum explores world history from two million years ago to the present by looking at 100 objects in the collection.

**Reading/Listening/Reflection**

This summer, you are to read and/or listen to the chapters on the following artworks:

Introduction: Signals from the Past, pgs. xv-xxvi

9. Maya Maize God Statue, pgs. 49-54

12. Standard of Ur, pgs. 69-77

15. Early Writing Tablet, pgs. 91-94

27. Parthenon Sculpture: Centaur and Lapith, pgs. 171-176

35. Head of Augustus, pgs. 221-226

41. Seated Buddha from Gandhara, pgs. 265-268

51. Maya Relief of Royal Blood-letting, pgs. 327-332

59. Borobudur Buddha Head, pgs. 379-384

64. The David Vases, pgs. 411-415

66. Holy Thorn Reliquary, pgs. 425-430

68. Shiva and Parvati Sculpture, pgs. 437-442

70. Hoa Hakananai’a Easter Island Statue, pgs. 449-455

77. Benin Plaque: The Oba with Europeans, pgs. 497-502

87. Hawaiian Feather Helmet, pgs. 567-571

93. Hokusai’s The Great Wave, pgs. 606-612

Each chapter includes an illustration of the work being discussed. Each chapter is quite brief; only around 4-5 pages of text. All of the works are related to material we will be studying in AP Art History.

**Written Assignment**

Many of these works communicate ideas about power and authority. Choose two works that you learned about and write a brief (two-page) compare and contrast essay addressing the question, “How does each work of art convey that particular culture’s notion of what constitutes power and authority?” How does the material and/or art-making process used contribute to a message of power?
GLOBAL SCHOLARS CAPSTONE (GRADE 12)

Required Materials:
• Podcast: “John Snow’s Ghost Map” episode of *The Things You Missed in History Class*. Stream or download from (transcript also available): https://www.missedinhistory.com/podcasts/john-snows-ghost-map.htm

Twelfth grade Global Scholars Certificate candidates enrolled in the Capstone course are required to listen to the “John Snow’s Ghost Map” episode of *The Things You Missed in History Class* podcast. The assignment, with detail on which sections to read, will be made available on the library website and the course Schoology page on June 1.
INDEX OF DIVERSITY GROUP RECOMMENDATIONS

ALANA
One Crazy Summer  Grade 5
The Red Pencil  Grade 5
Bud, Not Buddy  Grade 6
El Deafo  Grade 6
Inside Out and Back Again  Grade 6
Ninth Ward  Grade 6
Out of My Mind  Grade 6
Refugee  Grade 6
Does My Head Look Big…  Grade 7
I Am Malala  Grade 7
Children of Blood and Bone  Grade 8

BRIDGE
George  Grade 5
The Prince and the Dressmaker  Grade 7
Symptoms of Being Human  Grade 9
Aristotle and Dante Discover…  Grade 10
If I Was Your Girl  Grade 10
She’s Not There  Grade 10
Song of Achilles  Grade 10
Tell Me How You Really Feel  Grade 10
Girl Mans Up  Grades 11 & 12

FUSION
The Screwtape Letters  Grades 11 & 12

ISA
Diary of a Tokyo Teen  Grade 9
The Rainbow Troops  Grade 9
The Girl with Seven Names  Grades 11 & 12
Please Look After Mom  Grades 11 & 12
To Live  Grades 11 & 12
## INDEX

### Kesher
- My Basmati Bat Mitzvah  
  Grade 6
- How to Understand Israel...  
  Grade 10
- Playing with Matches  
  Grade 10

### Salaam
- I am Malala  
  Grade 7
- Ms. Marvel v.1  
  Grade 9
- How to Understand Israel...  
  Grade 10
- Tell Me How You Really Feel  
  Grade 10
- Iran Awakening  
  Grades 11 & 12

### Shades
- Loving vs. Virginia  
  Grade 9
- Monday’s Not Coming  
  Grade 9
- Black Enough  
  Grade 10
- Between the World and Me  
  Grades 11 & 12
- Gabi, a Girl in Pieces  
  Grades 11 & 12
- How Long ’til Black Future...  
  Grades 11 & 12
- Just Mercy  
  Grades 11 & 12
- The Misadventures of ...  
  Grades 11 & 12
Original artwork by

Elena Carmichael ’20 (front cover)
Sydney Weller ’22 (inside front cover)
Rosalinda Zhu ’27 (page 16)
Sophie Barnes ’26 (page 53)
Kat Morris ’27 (page 56)
Mira Smith ’22 (inside back cover)
Mercedes McLaughlin ’23 and Effie Chen ’23 (back cover)
This summer reading list was compiled by

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Linda Derezinski, Department Head, and members of the English Department

Nia Jacobs, Department Head, and members of the Language Department

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with selected annotations from the Greater Boston Cooperative Library Association’s 2007 7th and 8th Grade Reading List, publishers, review journals and websites.

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Dana 2020 Hall
Summer Reading