

June 2023

Dear Parents and Students:

Below you will find the list of summer reading books for students enrolled at NYA for the 2023-2024 school year. Assignments are listed beneath the grade a student will be entering in September. Additionally, please take the time to review the following guidelines for summer reading.

The English Department strongly encourages students to purchase new copies of all books, both those used for summer reading and those used in the syllabus. A book that has been heavily marked up by a sibling or another NYA student creates a disadvantage for a student; if notes already are written in the margins, it may prevent the student from reading actively and learning the material on his or her own. Also, it is important for students to try to obtain the edition specified by teachers. A student with a different edition (and, thus, different page numbers) may have a difficult time following what the teacher and other students are discussing. All books on the summer list have an ISBN number that identifies the correct edition. Summer reading books may be purchased at area bookstores or ordered online.

Students should complete their assigned summer reading in the weeks BEFORE classes begin, as they form the basis of discussion and writing assignments in the first few weeks of class. Many students prefer to begin their outside reading in the month of August, so that the material is fresh in their minds for discussion. That is certainly fine, but the department advises against “cramming” through the reading during the last weekend before school begins. For those students who wish to complete their reading assignments earlier in the summer, a quick review of the material before school starts is often a good idea. We also encourage students (particularly those in the Upper School) to annotate their books or use sticky notes while they are reading to highlight important parts and to help them to retain and recall information. **Please note:** Reading an on-line summary or watching a film in lieu of reading the book is considered academic dishonesty and may result in consequences in accordance with the Parent-Student Handbook.

In addition to completing assigned summer reading assignments, students in all grades should continue to read for pleasure throughout the summer (though we hope the required reading choices are pleasurable as well!). By the time a student is a junior or senior, time spent reading proves to be far more valuable than time spent frantically cramming SAT vocabulary lists. This reading does not have to be “great” literature. “Beach reads” are absolutely fine—it’s the exposure to pages and words that counts!

Have a great summer and we hope you enjoy your reading!

The NYA English Department

2023 ENGLISH SUMMER READING

GRADE 5-8 (2 books)

This year, all Middle School students will be reading one common summer reading text that will serve as the basis of opening year discussions in class. Additionally, each student will be expected to read one free choice book, selected from the list that is linked below.

- Laura Schroff and Alex Tresniowski. *An Invisible Thread: A Young Readers' Edition*. Simon & Schuster. ISBN-13: 978-1534437289
- Free Choice List is available [HERE](#)

GRADE 9 (2 books)

- Bryan Stevenson. *Just Mercy*. One World. ISBN-13: 978-0812984965
- Angie Thomas. *The Hate U Give*. Blazer+Bray. ISBN-13: 978-0062498540

GRADE 10 (2 books)

- Eowyn Ivey. *The Snow Child*. Back Bay Books. ISBN-13: 978-0316175661
- Kevin Wilson. *Nothing to See Here*. Ecco. ISBN-13: 978-0062913494

GRADE 11

Non-AP sections (2 books):

- Charles Portis. *True Grit*. The Overlook Press. ISBN-13: 978-1590204597
- Ron Suskind. *A Hope in the Unseen*. Broadway Books. ISBN-13: 978-0767901260

AP Language and Composition (3 books minimum):

- Barbara Ehrenreich. *Nickel and Dime*. Picador. ISBN-13: 978-1250808318
- The New York Times, ed. *Class Matters*. Times Books. ISBN-13: 978-0805080551
- Free choice book from the AP Lang nonfiction reading list available [HERE](#)

GRADE 12

Non-AP sections (2 books):

- James McBride. *The Color of Water*. Riverhead Books. ISBN-13: 978-1594481925
- Daniel Wallace. *Big Fish*. Algonquin. ISBN-13: 978-1616201647

AP Literature and Composition (3 books minimum):

- Dave Eggers. *The Circle*. Vintage. ISBN-13: 978-0345807298
- George Orwell. *1984*. Signet Classic. ISBN-13: 978-0451524935
- Free choice from list of commonly used texts on the AP Literature exam available [HERE](#)
(Please make sure that you choose a book that you have NOT read before!)