

Spring 2015

Dear Honors 9 Student,

We are very excited about being your English teachers during your freshman year at East High. To prepare for your first quarter of studies, and to keep you in practice over the summer, you are required to read **two** books. Your first book is part of East High's summer reading program, and is required for **all** students. This book is explained in the attached brochure. You will choose your second book from the following book list.

*Your **reading assignment** is attached. Read the instructions carefully, and complete all requirements*

*Submit course work that is thoughtful and original. Read carefully and **ENJOY**  
Have a good summer. We look forward to having you in class next year.*

Claudia Yearheath    Cristi Hebert    Rebecca Richardson    Elaine Turner

### **Book List**

\*Contains material that may be objectionable. Some titles contain language, behavior and sexual references.

#### The Chocolate War by Robert Cormier

When high school teen Jerry Renault refuses to sell chocolate during his school fundraiser, his decision kicks off a stream of events that cause the school to unravel. Is he a hero or a scapegoat? The school divides on the subject. The book has some terrifying characters including a vicious student and the corrupt temporary headmaster who controls the school, targeting freshman Jerry Renault when he quietly resists them. With the whole school against him, Jerry stands alone. The book raises deep questions of good, evil, independence, and compliance. \*Contains material that may be objectionable

#### The Power of One by Bryce Courtney

The Power of One is a coming of age story of a young white boy and the obstacles he faces in South Africa, a country filled with racial discrimination and hatred. At a young age he learns to box out of a desire to defend himself. Boxing continues to play a central role in his life and in the challenges he faces. The Power of One is a book of inspiration, friendship, overcoming obstacles and self-discovery. \*Contains material that may be objectionable

#### The Brothers Torres by Coert Voorehess

When Frankie Torres Towers exhibits some bravado against rich kid and soccer jock John Dalton, he only hopes to win a girls attention, but he unintentionally incites a series of incidents that forces his brother to defend him. Protected by his brother's squad of toughs, Frankie seeks revenge but soon learns what these warring factions of older boys are willing to risk. \*Contains material that may be objectionable

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The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian by Sherman Alexie

Alexie recounts the trials of a Native American teenager, Arnold "Junior" Spirit, during his first year in high school. Using humor to soften the sometimes difficult and emotional story, Alexie creates a loveable, misfit protagonist whom readers cannot help but root for.

Big Mouth and Ugly Girl. By Joyce Carol Oates

Matt Donaghy is *Big Mouth*. When he makes joking remarks in the school cafeteria about blowing up the school, he becomes a suspected terrorist. Ursula Riggs, *Ugly Girl*, leaps to Matt's defense. Matt's friends turn against him, his family receives hate mail and the hostilities increase driving Matt to consider desperate measures.

Jumped by Rita Garcia Williams

Leticia, a gossipy high-school student, knows that "Girl fights are ugly. Girl fights are personal." She says this after overhearing that Dominique, the tough-as-nails basketball player, is planning to beat up pink-clad fashion-plate Trina at 2:45. Leticia overhears this plan, but decides not to warn Trina about what's coming. And then the attack happens.

Speak by Laurie Halse Anderson

The summer before her freshman year of high school, Melinda Sordino meets Andy Evans at a party. Drunk, Melinda follows him outside where he assaults her. Melinda calls 911, but does not know what to say. The police come and break up the party. Melinda does not tell anyone what happened to her, and no one asks. She starts high school as an outcast, shunned by her peers for calling the police. Speak details Melinda's journey as she moves from a silent victim to a strong young woman who finds her voice.

A Tree Grows in Brooklyn by Betty Smith

Francie Nolan, avid reader, lover of penny-candy, and careful observer of human nature, grows up in colorful, turn-of-the-century Brooklyn, New York. She grows up with a sweet, tragic father, a severely realistic mother, and an aunt who gives her love too freely--to men, and to a brother who will always be the favored child. She is her father's child--romantic and hungry for beauty. But she is her mother's child, too--deeply practical and in constant need of truth. Resourceful Francie struggles against all odds to survive and thrive.

**If you have questions or concerns, contact Cristi Hebert @ [cristi.hebert@slcschools.org](mailto:cristi.hebert@slcschools.org)**  
Language Arts 9 – Honors

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## Summer Reading Assignment

**BEFORE YOU READ:** Think about who the most powerful people in your life are. Which adults are most powerful? Which of your peers seems to have the most power with your friends? Could it be you? Write a short essay of 3 – 4 paragraphs in which you explore power among the people you interact with, how they get that power, and how they use it. Your introduction should define power and introduce your topic. Body paragraphs must develop the ideas introduced in your Introduction, and include **specific examples** that support your ideas regarding power.

**AS YOU READ:** For each chapter, choose 5 of the 9 annotation topics and write them in your notebook. Be sure to use each of the 9 topics at least once in the novel. Go to the next page for the annotation topics.

*Happy Reading!*

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For each chapter of your novel, you should answer 5 of the following 9 topics in a spiral notebook. Be sure to answer all of the questions in the topic section. Each chapter and each novel will be different, so choose according to what makes sense in that section. Beware to not rely on the same 5 topics for each chapter. You will lose points for depth of thought if you choose the same things over and over. By the end of the novel, you should have used all 9 topics at least once.

### TOPICS FOR ANNOTATION

#### 1 PLOT AND CONFLICT

Describe the key events of the chapter. 3 or 4 sentences should be enough.

Write the types of conflict that happen in this chapter and explain why they are that type. This should be about 2-3 sentences (man vs man, man vs self, man vs nature, man vs society, man vs supernatural, man vs technology)

#### 2 CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT

How do the events, setting, or people in this chapter change the main character? Is this change for the better or worse for the main character? Why? 4-6 sentences.

#### 3 SETTING

What changes occurred in the setting in this chapter? (only use this one when there is a setting change) Why did they change? What effect will this change have on the main character or the antagonist? 4-6 sentences.

#### 4 THEME, SYMBOLS, AND MOTIFS

Theme is the main message or lesson that the reader should understand at the end of the novel. There are normally 2 or 3 key themes in a novel. Choose two for your novel to follow through out.

Symbols are objects that stand for something else; usually something abstract that you cannot touch like love or freedom. Authors choose symbols to help explain their story and theme.

A motif is an object or idea that repeats throughout the novel. It is used to create a mood or tone such as every time it rains (rain is the motif) something bad happens to the main character. Motifs can also help to create the theme.

Describe any examples of the theme, symbol, or motif in this chapter. Write the passage or quote, explain what theme, motif, or symbol it is, and why you think this is an example of that theme, symbol, or motif.

#### 5 LITERARY DEVICES AND MECHANICS

Literary devices and mechanics are HOW the author writes to create the characters' lives. These are what makes the reading interesting and exciting or boring and confusing. If you are not familiar with at least 4 types then use the website [literarydevices.net](http://literarydevices.net) to help.

For each chapter, find two DIFFERENT literary devices. Write the type of device: the passage or quote; why you think it was a good/bad example for this text.

Example: Metaphor: "her eyes are the ocean" (pg 19); this is a good example because it describes the expanse and beauty of her eyes in a way that is easy to imagine.

#### 6 VOCABULARY

Choose a minimum of 5 words from the chapter that are EITHER new or used in a new way. Write the word, if it is new or used in a new way for you, the definition, the quote from the novel. A note on definitions: be sure you understand the definition you choose. If you do not, go to another source until it makes sense.

Example: Omen (new word): a sign or clue of something to come. "The rain clouds were an omen for the bad day I had at school"

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### **7 QUESTION and PREDICTION**

An important part of critical thinking is being able to predict and question what you are reading. For this chapter, ask two questions. These can be for the author, a character in the story, the teacher, or something you want to look up later. Make one prediction (3-4 sentences) for what will happen in the next chapter and why you think it will happen.

### **8 COMMENT and CONNECT**

Connections can be an image, an idea, an experience you've had or know of. You can connect something in the chapter to something you are learning in or out of school. You can connect to something bigger like a development in science, arts, math, or your city. Or, it can connect to a cultural issue you think is important. There are many ways to connect to a story. The key here is to explain why you think the item from the chapter is connected to something else. 4-6 sentences

Make a comment. Write a 2 or 3 sentence response to the chapter. It can be anything you want to say to the characters, author, or teacher. This should be different than a question. This is something you think or is your opinion.

### **9 PASSAGE REACTION**

Find a passage or quote from this chapter that you had a reaction to. This could be something that made you laugh, or mad or sad. Maybe, you just think the author expressed the idea in a beautiful or clever way.

Write the quote or passage, the page number, and why you thought it was good/why you had a reaction to it.

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Full ownership of a book only comes when you have made it a part of yourself. You take in the people, think about the events, and question the meaning. This happens in our minds as we actively read. You demonstrate this thinking by annotating the book. Why is marking a book indispensable to reading it?

- First, it keeps you awake – not merely conscious, but wide awake.
- Second, reading, if it is active, is thinking, and thinking tends to express itself in words, spoken or written. The person who says he knows what he thinks but cannot express it usually does not know what he thinks.
- Third, writing your reactions down helps you to remember the thoughts of the author.

The most common complaint about annotating is that it slows down your reading. Yes, it does. That's the point. If annotating as you read annoys you, read the chapter, then go back and annotate. Reading a text a second time is preferable anyway.

Remember, annotating, like thinking, is a discrete skill that requires practice to hone and master. With each chapter you read and annotate, you become a stronger reader.

Approach the works with an open mind. Let them inspire you and stretch your imagination. If you have questions before school starts, feel free to email me. Bring your annotated texts to class the first day. I look forward to seeing you in August!

### Some *suggested* ABBREVIATIONS / SYMBOLS

b/c = because	* = important
+ = and	** = very important
W/ = with	w = of the utmost importance, crucial to understanding
W/O = without	< = use caret to point to an exact location
b/t = between	• = change
e.g. = for example	PLOT = plot item (and / or use one of the following:
ex = example	EXP = exposition
info = information	TP = turning point
b4 = before	CF = conflict
	RA = rising action
	CX = climax
	FA = falling action
	RES = resolution
	CH = characterization
	S = setting

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<p>ü = increase, improvement, rising</p> <p>ú = decrease, decline, falling</p>	<p>POV = point of view (mention type: 1st person, limited omniscient, etc.)</p> <p>TH = theme</p> <p>LT = literary term (identify the term by name – irony, tone, foreshadowing, personification, metaphor, symbol, etc.)</p>
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Baddies in Books: Mrs Coulter might just be the mother of all evil â€¢ Northern Lights named the 'Carnegie of Carnegies'. â€¢ Read Kate Kellaway's interview with Philip Pullman.Â So, are you congratulating yourself on having read everything on our list or screwing the newspaper up into a ball and aiming it at the nearest bin? Are you wondering what happened to all those American writers from Bret Easton Ellis to Jeffrey Eugenides, from Jonathan Franzen to Cormac McCarthy? Have women been short-changed? All Lists. 1001 Books You Must Read Before You Die. A book edited by Peter Boxall, and written by over 100 hundred international critics. - The Book. 100 Best Books.Â "This list was compiled by tabulating nominations by UWM faculty, staff and students for the Select 100. It includes changes which have resulted from nominations received since the original list was released. We asked you to recommend books which you have found to be so useful and important that Browse all 18,945 Book lists on List Challenges.Â Find Book Lists That Interest You & Mark Off What You've Done! OR MAKE YOUR OWN Book List >. All (106,791) Travel (8,953) Movies (53,155) Books (18,945) Food (3,400) Other (22,349). Trending New Popular. 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23. 1-120 of 2,649 trending lists. 1000 Books You May Have Actually Read. 21,536 today. 1000. Incredible Books That Will Stay With You. 1,152 today. 140.