

SOMERS HIGH SCHOOL SUMMER READING LIST FOR THE 2018-19 SCHOOL YEAR

Required selection(s) for students entering grade/level:

9R – Students must read *The Five People You Meet in Heaven* (Albom)
and also read one of the following:

A Night to Remember (Lord)

The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-time Indian (Alexie)

Ender's Game (Card)

A Study in Scarlet (Conan Doyle)

Chains (Halse Anderson)

The Princess Bride (Goldman)

The Lightning Thief [*Percy Jackson and the Olympians, Book 1*] (Riordan)

Special Class English 9 – Students must read *The Five People You Meet in Heaven* (Albom)

9 Humanities – Students must read *China's Son* (Chen) OR *Red Scarf Girl* (Jiang)
and also read one of the following:

Does My Head Look Big in This? (Abdel-Fattah)

I Am Not Your Perfect Mexican Daughter (Sanchez)

Absolutely True Story of a Part-time Indian (Alexie)

Touching Spirit Bear (Mikaelsen)

The Things a Brother Knows (Reinhardt)

Half of a Yellow Sun (Adichie)

Note: We strongly encourage students to take detailed notes of important passages while paying close attention to themes and concepts related to identity.

9H – Students must read *Stardust* (Gaiman)
and also read one of the following:

A Tree Grows in Brooklyn (Smith)

The Book Thief (Zusak)

Ender's Game (Card)

To Kill a Mockingbird (Lee)

SOMERS HIGH SCHOOL SUMMER READING LIST FOR THE 2018-19 SCHOOL YEAR

Required selection(s) for students entering grade/level:

10R – Students must read two books—**one** non-fiction and **one** fiction—from below:

Non-fiction

Ten Days in a Mad-House (Bly)

David and Goliath: Underdogs, Misfits, and the Art of Battling Giants (Gladwell)

Fiction

Fahrenheit 451 (Bradbury)

The Giver (Lowry)

Unwind (Shusterman)

Special Class English 10 – Students must read *The Giver* (Lowry)

10H – REQUIRED: *Students must buy their own copies of **Ethan Frome*** (Wharton).

--Read and make at least FIVE annotations within Wharton's book, including marginal notes on important scenes that also highlight examples of several stylistic elements within the passage (examples of devices such as symbolism; imagery; figurative language--simile, metaphor, personification; setting; characterization; juxtaposition, etc.). Note these elements in the margins and perhaps their purposes. These will be checked the first week back to school and lead to further journal entries about the novel.

AND

*Students must also pick to read **ONE** of the below, non-fiction works by author Malcolm Gladwell.* These will lead to small group discussions on the book when we return to school. These books all introduce thematic elements of the works we will study together in class this year:

The Tipping Point: How Little Things Can Make a Big Difference

Outliers: The Story of Success

David and Goliath: Underdogs, Misfits, and the Art of Battling Giants

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Required selection(s) for students entering grade/level:

11R – Students must read any two of the following books:

Monster (Myers)

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time (Haddon)

Twisted (Anderson)

Between Shades of Gray (Sepetys)

A Long Way Gone (Beah)

Special Class English 11 – Students must read one of the following books:

The Wave (Strasser)

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time (Haddon)

Twisted (Anderson)

Between Shades of Gray (Sepetys)

A Long Way Gone (Beah)

11H – Students must read *The Handmaid's Tale* (Atwood) and one of the following:

The Glass Castle (Walls)

Wild (Strayed)

Into the Wild (Krakauer)

IB HL Year 1 - Students must read *The Handmaid's Tale* (Atwood) and one of the following:

The Glass Castle (Walls)

Wild (Strayed)

Into the Wild (Krakauer)

SOMERS HIGH SCHOOL SUMMER READING LIST FOR THE 2018-19 SCHOOL YEAR

Required selection(s) for students entering grade/level:

IB HL Year 2 - Students must read *The Things They Carried* (O'Brien) and *Purple Hibiscus* (Adichie)

*Optional Reading: *The Man Who Mistook His Wife for a Hat: And Other Clinical Tales* (Sacks)

Students must also view one documentary from the list below:

He Named Me Malala (2015)

"HE NAMED ME MALALA is a portrait of Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Malala Yousafzai, who was targeted by the Taliban and severely wounded by a gunshot when returning home on her school bus in Pakistan's Swat Valley. The then 15-year-old...was singled out, along with her father, for advocating for girls' education, and the attack on her sparked an outcry from supporters around the world. She miraculously survived and is now a leading campaigner for girls' education globally as co-founder of the Malala Fund. Documentary filmmaker Davis Guggenheim shows us how Malala, her father Zia and her family are committed to fighting for education for all girls worldwide" (foxsearchlight.com).

Underwater Dreams (2014)

"*Underwater Dreams*, written and directed by Mary Mazzio, and narrated by Michael Peña, is an epic story of how the sons of undocumented Mexican immigrants learned how to build an underwater robot from Home Depot parts. And defeat engineering powerhouse MIT in the process"

(www.underwaterfilms.com).

Miss Representation (2011)

"Written and directed by Jennifer Siebel Newsom, *Miss Representation* exposes how mainstream media and culture contribute to the under-representation of women in positions of power and influence in America. The film draws back a curtain to reveal a glaring reality we live with every day but fail to see – how the media's limited and often disparaging portrayals of women and girls makes it difficult for women to feel powerful and achieve leadership positions.

In a society where media is the most persuasive force shaping cultural norms, the collective message we receive is that a woman's value and power lie in her youth, beauty, and sexuality, and not in her capacity as a leader. Stories from teenage girls and provocative interviews with politicians, journalists, entertainers, activists, and academics, like Katie Couric, Rosario Dawson, Gloria Steinem, Margaret Cho, Condoleezza Rice, Rachel Maddow, and Nancy Pelosi, build momentum as *Miss Representation* accumulates startling facts and statistics that will leave the audience shaken, but armed with a new perspective" (therepresentationproject.org/film/miss-representation/).

The Mask You Live In (2015)

"*The Mask You Live In* follows boys and young men as they struggle to stay true to themselves while negotiating America's narrow definition of masculinity.

Research shows that compared to girls, boys in the U.S. are more likely to be diagnosed with a behavior disorder, prescribed stimulant medications, fail out of school, binge drink, commit a violent crime, and/or take their own lives" (therepresentationproject.org/film/the-mask-you-live-in/).

SOMERS HIGH SCHOOL SUMMER READING LIST FOR THE 2018-19 SCHOOL YEAR

Required selection(s) for students entering grade/level:

English 11 AP Language and Composition - Please read the three following titles:

Freakonomics: A Rogue Economist Explores the Hidden Side of Everything (Levitt, Dubner)

Pudd'nhead Wilson (Twain) (I recommend the Dover Publications edition. Cost: \$1.00)

Eats, Shoots & Leaves (Truss)

12R – Students must read two of the following:

I am the Messenger (Zusak)

Nineteen Minutes (Picoult)

The Things They Carried (O'Brien)

Room (Donoghue)

Boy 21 (Quick)

Special Class English 12 – Students must read one of the following books:

I am the Messenger (Zusak)

19 Minutes (Picoult)

The Things They Carried (O'Brien)

Room (Donoghue)

Boy 21 (Quick)

12H – Students must read at least two of the following:

Behind the Beautiful Forevers: Life, Death, and Hope in a Mumbai Undercity (Boo)

LaRose (Erdrich)

Exit West (Hamid)

A Thousand Splendid Suns (Hosseini)

Never Let Me Go (Ishiguro)

The Accidental Universe (Lightman)

The Warmth of Other Suns (Wilkinson)

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12AP – Students must read ***all*** of the following three novels:

The Grapes of Wrath (Steinbeck)

A Prayer for Owen Meany (Irving)

Their Eyes Were Watching God (Hurston)

Alternative High School –

Choose **ONE** book from the selections listed above for your grade level.