Select ONE summer reading book. The list below provides some suggestions.

Spend time reading a good book this summer. We have provided suggestions for inspiration, but feel free to choose a title that does not appear on the list. Chat with your friends, parents, teachers, and librarians about the books they recommend. Browse the shelves in the library and in book stores or read reviews online. Choose a fiction or nonfiction book that interests you and that challenges you. The possibilities are nearly endless. Our purpose is to encourage you to find an enjoyable summer read. Expect that your English teacher will assess your reading when you return to school. Have a great summer! See the back of this sheet for additional requirements.

Some Reading Suggestions

**We Are Okay**, Nina LaCour – 256 pp
Marin hasn’t spoken to anyone from her old life since the day she left everything behind. No one knows the truth about those final weeks. Not even her best friend Mabel. But even thousands of miles away from the California coast, at college in New York, Marin still feels the pull of the life and tragedy she’s tried to outrun. Now, months later, alone in an emptied dorm for winter break, Marin waits. Mabel is coming to visit and Marin will be forced to face everything that’s been left unsaid and finally confront the loneliness that has made a home in her heart. Printz 2018 Award Winner.

**The Poet X**, Elizabeth Acevedo – 368 pp
In this novel in verse, an Afro-Latina heroine tells her story with blazing words and powerful truth. Xiomara Butista feels unheard and unable to hide in her Harlem neighborhood. Ever since her body grew into curves, she has learned to let her fists and her fierceness do the talking. But Xiomara has plenty she wants to say, and she pours all her frustration and passion onto the pages of a leather notebook, reciting the words to herself with suddenly being in police handcuffs. In the moment, she left everything behind. No one knows the truth about those final weeks. Not even her best friend Mabel. But even thousands of miles away from the California coast, at college in New York, Marin still feels the pull of the life and tragedy she’s tried to outrun. Now, months later, alone in an emptied dorm for winter break, Marin waits. Mabel is coming to visit and Marin will be forced to face everything that’s been left unsaid and finally confront the loneliness that has made a home in her heart. Printz 2018 Award Winner.

**Dear Martin**, Nic Stone – 240 pp
Justyce, an Ivy-League bound teen, becomes a victim of racial profiling. He struggles to reconcile the fact that he’s “a good kid” with suddenly being in police handcuffs. In the months that follow, Justyce confronts injustices and micro-aggressions he experiences at his mostly white prep school and the fallout from his brief detainment. William C. Morris 2018 Award Finalist.

**Foul Trouble**, Jon Feinstein – 416 pp
The top high school basketball player in the country, Terrell Jamerson, and teammate Danny Wilcox, a talented player in his own right, navigate life as big-time college basketball prospects while college boosters, coaches, and agents close in fast. YALSA 2012 Top Ten Best Fiction for YA.

**Internment**, Samira Ahmed – 400 pp
Set in a horrifying near-future United States, seventeen-year-old Layla Amin and her parents are forced into an internment camp for Muslim American citizens. With the help of newly made friends also trapped within the internment camp, her boyfriend on the outside, and an unexpected alliance, Layla begins a journey to fight for freedom, leading a revolution against the internment camp’s director and his guards.

**On the Come Up**, Angie Thomas – 464 pp
Sixteen-year-old Bri wants to be one of the greatest rappers of all time. Or at least win her first battle. As the daughter of an underground hip hop legend who died right before he hit big, Bri’s got massive shoes to fill, but it’s hard to get your chance when you’re labeled a hoodlum at school, and your fridge at home is empty after your mom loses her job. Bri pours her anger and frustration into her first song, which goes viral…for all the wrong reasons. Bri soon finds herself at the center of a controversy, portrayed by the media as more menace than MC. With an eviction notice staring her family down, Bri doesn’t just want to make it—she has to. Even if it means becoming the very thing the public has made her out to be.

**Damsel**, Elana K. Arnold – 320 pp
The rite has existed for as long as anyone can remember: when the king dies, his son the prince must venture out into the gray lands, slay a fierce dragon, and rescue a damsel to be his bride. This is the way things have always been. When Ama wakes in the arms of Prince Emory, she knows none of this. She has no memory of what came before she was captured by the dragon or what horrors she faced in its lair. She knows only this handsome young man, the story he tells of her rescue, and her destiny of sitting on a throne beside him. It’s all like a dream, like something from a fairy tale. As Ama follows Emory to the kingdom of Harding, however, she discovers that not all is as it seems. There is more to the legends of the dragons and the damsels than anyone knows, and the greatest threats may not be behind her, but around her, now, and closing in. Printz 2019 Honor Book.

(continued)
Suggestions (continued)

*Educated: A Memoir*, Tara Westover – 512 pp
Born to survivalists in the mountains of Idaho, Tara Westover was 17 the first time she set foot in a classroom. Her family was so isolated from mainstream society that there was no one to ensure the children received an education and no one to intervene when one of Tara’s older brothers became violent. When another brother got himself into college, Tara decided to try a new kind of life. Her quest for knowledge transformed her, taking her over oceans and across continents, to Harvard and to Cambridge University. Only then would she wonder if she’d traveled too far, if there was still a way home. Finalist of the National Book Award Critic’s Circle 2018 Award in Autobiography.

*Hey Kiddo*, Jarrett J. Krosoczka – 432 pp
In kindergarten, Jarrett Krosoczka’s teacher asks him to draw his family, with a mommy and a daddy. But Jarrett’s family is much more complicated than that. His mom is an addict and his father is a mystery. Jarrett goes through his childhood trying to make his non-normal life as normal as possible. In this graphic novel, only as a teenager can Jarrett begin to piece together the truth of his family, reckoning with his mother and tracking down his father. National Book Award Finalist.

Honors Classes

In addition to your one summer reading choice, honors students are expected to read the following:

English 9 Honors:
*The Other Wes Moore: One Name, Two Fates* by Wes Moore

English 10 Honors:
*All Quiet on the Western Front* by Erich Maria Remarque

English 11 Honors:
*Outliers* by Malcolm Gladwell

English 12 Honors:
*We Were Here* by Matt de la Peña

Assignments for Special Classes
(due on the first day of school):

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<th>IB Classes (11 only)</th>
<th>AP Language (11)</th>
<th>AP Literature (12) AND UConn ECE (12)</th>
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<td><strong>IB Team Read</strong></td>
<td>Read <em>Outliers</em> by Malcolm Gladwell. Keep a dialectical journal in which you identify a passage from each of the nine chapters and analyze the language. This must be typed. AND Read and annotate five articles from <em>The New Yorker</em> magazine or <em>Atlantic Monthly</em> magazine. Choose non-fiction articles (no fiction, blogs, or short side bar articles). Articles should be annotated with copious notes that reveal your close, detailed reading. See <a href="http://www.stamfordhigh.org">www.stamfordhigh.org</a> for more specific instructions.</td>
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<td><em>Think Like a Freak</em> by Stephen J. Levitt and Stephen J. Dubner. Annotate with your reactions and questions as per the assignment instructions.</td>
<td><strong>Note:</strong> Any reading above and beyond these requirements is optional.</td>
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<td>IB English A: Language and Literature (11)</td>
<td><strong>AND</strong></td>
<td><strong>Read</strong> <em>The Elements of Style</em> by William Strunk and E.B White. Then, write an essay in which you use what you learned from reading this book to assess your own writing. AND Read <em>Americanah</em> by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie. Keep a dialectical journal in which you identify and explain parts of the text that trace the main character’s sense of identity and culture throughout the novel. Minimum fifteen entries. This must be typed. See <a href="http://www.stamfordhigh.org">www.stamfordhigh.org</a> for more specific instructions. <strong>Note:</strong> Any reading above and beyond these requirements is optional.</td>
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<td>Read at least 10 poems by Thomas Hardy. Then, write one poem in the style of Hardy. AND Read <em>Kindred</em> by Octavia Butler. Keep a dialectical journal in which you identify and explain parts of the text that trace the juxtaposition of the past and present experiences of the main character and Butler’s critique of American history throughout the novel. Minimum eighteen entries (three passages from each of the novel’s six chapters). This must be typed.</td>
<td><strong>Note:</strong> Any reading above and beyond these requirements is optional.</td>
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