

Notre Dame de Sion High School Summer Reading 2009

We would like to show support for our locally owned businesses by suggesting that students purchase their books at one of the following booksellers:

Reading Reptile 328 W. 63rd Kansas City, MO. 816-753-0441

Rainy Day Books 2706 W. 53rd St. Fairway, KS 913-381-3126

Required student reading

Booklists:

English I College Prep

Watts and Wood

- The Book Thief Marcus Zusak
- The Secret Life of Bees Sue Monk Kidd

English I Honors

Watts

- The Book Thief Marcus Zusak
- The Secret Life of Bees Sue Monk Kidd (Note: This is a change from the list given at freshman orientation.)
- The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-time Indian Sherman Alexie

English II College Prep

Frederick and Hodge

- Catcher in the Rye J.D. Salinger
- A Northern Light Jennifer Donnelly

Additional assignment for English II novels:

While you read your two novels, highlight any words which are foreign to your vocabulary. The goal of the assignment isn't to create a long list but rather to identify any words that you don't know or ones that you cannot define from the context in which they are used. Your final draft, a typed list, should include definitions and should not be any longer than 15-20 words. A Northern Light features words used in “duels”. Don't use these as they are defined through the synonyms with which Mattie her friend Weaver duel.

English II Honors

Wilcox

- Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close Jonathan Safran Foer
- Slaughterhouse Five Kurt Vonnegut
- Life of Pi Yann Martel

Mrs. Wilcox has created an on-line book group where her students can dialogue about their summer reading and any other books they devour this summer. To be a part of this group, email Mrs. Wilcox at mwilcox@ndsion.edu, and she will invite you to join Shelfari.

See the suggestions below for annotating. This is not mandatory but if you annotate, you'll be able to use on the check-for-reading exams the first week of school.

English III College Prep

Wood and Frederick

- The Curious Incident of the Dog in Nighttime Mark Haddon
- Mister Pip Lloyd Jones
- Film adaptation of Great Expectations(Please view BBC version with Ian Gruffud before reading Mister Pip)

English III AP Language

Wood

- Bird by Bird Anne Lamott
- Brave New World Aldous Huxley
- 1984 George Orwell

English IV College Prep

Zacharias

- Unaccustomed Earth Jhumpa Lahiri
- West with the Night Beryl Markham

English IV AP Literature and Composition

Wilcox

- *How to Read Literature Like a Professor* Thomas Foster
- Cat's Eye Margaret Atwood **OR** In the Time of Butterflies Julia Alvarez
- Atonement Ian McEwan

*Read HTRLLP first so that you can apply his theories to the rest your summer reading.

Mrs. Wilcox has created an on-line book group where her students can dialogue about their summer reading and any other books they devour this summer. To be a part of this group, email Mrs. Wilcox at mwilcox@ndsion.edu, and she will invite you to join Shelfari.

See the suggestions below for annotating. This is not mandatory but if you annotate, you'll be able to use on the check-for-reading exams the first week of school.

We encourage all of our students to attend this year's performance of The Merry Wives of Windsor at the Kansas City Heart of America Shakespeare festival.

Suggested activities for all levels:

To practice close reading skills, students at all levels this year are encouraged but not required to annotate as they are reading the summer selections. These annotations, either in the book or on post-it notes, will help students to better participate in class discussions and to successfully respond to related essay prompts. Each student should have her own copies of the required summer reading books to use in class during the first weeks of school.

Annotating tips

- Make brief notes at the top of the page or on a sticky note to mark important plot events.
- Circle or underline words that are unfamiliar or unusual. Use a dictionary to find out what they mean if necessary and note a brief definition.
- When new characters are introduced, underline phrases that describe them.
- Highlight words, images, and details that seem to form a pattern throughout the text. *For example, if a large clock appears in the first chapter, and you notice the author using "timely" or "ticking" in the text, and then an incident occurs in which a character breaks a watch or is later for an appointment, you may have uncovered a pattern of imagery which will lead the close reader to discover a thematic idea.* Highlight these related strands and observe the rest of the text closely to see if the author uses other linked words, images, or details.
- Highlight passages you think might be symbolic.
- Mark key ideas and note briefly your reflections about them.
- Highlight passages in which figurative language appears.
- When you get an idea while reading the text, note it in a brief form in the margin. You may never think of this idea again unless you write it down.
- If you have a question about something in the book, write it on the page when it first occurs to you.
- Don't mark too much. If you mark everything, nothing will stand out.
- Use brackets, checks, stars, bullets, or asterisks to mark very important items or things you want to come back to later.

(Information taken from Laying the Foundation: A Resource and Planning Guide for Pre-AP English, Grade 9).