

SUMMER READING GUIDELINES

Assignment: While reading your summer self-selected book, annotate and note how the author creates the message of the book; that is, how do character development, organizational techniques, and literary features contribute to the meaning of the work? **You will be writing your summer reading essay in class during the first week of school.**

Bring your highlighted/annotated (in the margins or with post-its) book to class the first week of school. For those of you who borrow from the library, make sure you have it for the first week of school. **For students who choose to read digitally, you will need to have thorough notes and bibliographic information. There will be no access to the Internet or Wi-Fi while writing the in-class essay.**

These criteria can be used to help you choose the book:

- Appropriate for grade level
- Personal interest
- Knowledge of author
- Interest in a specific genre
- Recommendation from a friend, parent, teacher, librarian and/or one of the following websites

Choose a book that fits your grade level theme:

- **Freshman-** “Search for Identity”
- **Sophomore-** “Facing Difficult Life Decisions”
- **Junior-** “Isolation/Alienation,” or “Honor/Loyalty”
- **Senior-** “Where am I from?”

Here are some resources to help you in your search for an appropriate selection.

- Public library
- <http://www.pbs.org/the-great-american-read/books/#/> (PBS - Great American Read Top 100 List)
- <http://www.ala.org/yalsa/2016-top-ten-best-fiction-young-adults> (Young Adult Library Association’s Top Ten Best Fiction for Young Adult’s 2016)
- <http://www.ala.org/yalsa/2016-popular-paperbacks-young-adults-top-ten> (Young Adult Library Association’s Popular Paper backs for Young Adults 2016)
- <http://www.ala.org/yalsa/alex-awards#current> (The Alex Awards are given by the American Library Association to ten books written for adults that have special appeal to young adults, ages 12 through 18.)