

10th Literature and History Summer Reading 2025-2026

Directions: Choose two books from the list.

Before We Were Free by Julia Alvarez

Waiting for an Angel by Helon Habila

Little Bee: A Novel by Chris Cleave

I Am Malala by Malala Yousafzai

A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy Soldier by Ishmail Beah

Things Fall Apart by Chinua Achebe

I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings by Maya Angelou

Anil's Ghost: A Novel by Michael Ondaatje

Half of a Yellow Sun by Chimamanda Ngozi Adiche

The Girl Who Smiled Beads by Clemantine Wamariya

Call Me America By Abdi Nor Iftin

The God of Small Things by Arundhati Roy

Factory Girls: From Village to Changing City by Leslie T. Chang

Notes of a Red Guard by Eduard Dune

How the Garcia Girls Lost Their Accent by Julia Alvarez

We the Animals by Justin Torres

Drown by Junot Diaz

For Colored Girls Who Considered Suicide When the Rainbow is Enuf by Ntozake Shange

Why History Matters by Lynn Hunt

The Inheritance of Loss by Kiran Desai

The Overstory by Richard Powers

Colorless Tsukuru Tazaki and His Years of Pilgrimage by Haruki Murakami

REQUIRED PREPARATION:

Be prepared to write an IN-CLASS ESSAY the FIRST week of REGULAR CLASSES in which you will critically analyze and discuss your summer reading books. So enjoy the books, AND read with a critical eye!

Since there will be an in-class essay, you may want to put together some notes, outlines, or whatever you think would act as a helpful reminder of what the stories were about, who the characters were, and what some of the themes were (this is not required, but it is a suggestion that could help you when it comes time to write the in-class essay).

YOUR SUMMER READING IS AN IMPORTANT PART OF CYCLE ONE ASSESSMENTS – in other words, whether or not you do the reading will play a role in the Cycle One grade you receive.