

Summer Reading for students entering English 9/9R/9H

Alabama Moon by Watt Key. Moon Blake has spent most of his life hiding in the forests of Alabama with his father a disturbed vet. When his father dies unexpectedly, what will happen to Moon? 1

American Born Chinese by Gnee Luen Yang and Pien Lark. This graphic novel explores the Asian experience in America in three linked tales. 1 (**Only 1** of your selections for summer reading may be a graphic novel.)

Between Shades of Gray by Ruta Sepetys. "A girl, her mother and brother are deported to Siberia." 2

The Book Thief by Marcus Zusak. Set in Nazi German, this novel tells the story of Liesel Meminger, a foster girl who so loves books she is driven to steal them. A vivid account of life for the Germans and Jews in Nazi Germany. 1

Bullyville by Francine Prose. Bart Rangely is in eighth grade when his father dies in the Twin Towers. Soon after Bart wins a scholarship to Bailywell Prep, also known as Bullywell. Discover what happens to middle class Bart when he enters this expensive prep school. 1

Change Up: Mystery at the World Series by John Feinstein. What secret is the Red Sox star pitcher hiding? What really happened the night his wife died? Full of authentic sports detail, this mystery is sure to please fans of any sport. 1

The Chosen by Chaim Potok. This novel chronicles the friendship between Danny Saunders, a boy from a Hasidic family and the more assimilated Reuven Malter, as they come of age in the Williamsburg section of Brooklyn. 2

City of Bones (#1 in Mortal Instruments series) by Cassandra Clare. Sixteen-year-old Clary Fray witnesses a murder during a night out with friends in the Pandemonium Club in NYC. The murderers - three teenagers covered with strange tattoos and holding bizarre weapons - disappear into thin air along with the body. This encounter begins Clary's adventures with the Shadowhunters, warriors dedicated to ridding the earth of demons, and Clary's link to her own past. NOTE: Any book in the Mortal Instrument series is acceptable). 1

Cold Sassy Tree by Olive Ann Burns. The narrator Will Tweedy tells how his grandfather, Rucker Blakeslee, scandalizes the town by remarrying only three weeks after his wife's death. The town ostracizes his bride—she is young, beautiful, and a Yankee. 2

The Compound by S. A. Bodeen. A teenage boy, Eli, has lived for six years in an underground compound created by his billionaire father because of nuclear war. But Eli begins to suspect there is more to his father's story—and investigating brings more surprises than he bargained for. A really engrossing read. 1

Confessions of a Shopaholic by Sophie Kinsella If you've ever paid off one credit card with another, thrown out a bill before opening it, or convinced yourself that buying at a two-for-one sale is like making money, then this silly,

appealing novel is for you. In the opening pages of Confessions of a Shopaholic, recent college graduate Rebecca Bloomwood is offered a hefty line of credit by a London bank. Within a few months, Sophie Kinsella's heroine has exceeded the limits of this generous offer, and finds herself trapped in a world of trouble. 1
The Cradle by Patrick Somerville. Marissa Bishop wants her baby to use the same cradle she did as a baby. However, it was stolen years ago. Can her husband find it? What secrets will he uncover in the process? 2
The Crazy Horse Electric Game by Chris Crutcher. This coming of age story combines elements of sports, family dysfunction, physical disability, social issues, and a little bit of humor into tragic circumstances. 1
Cut by Patricia McCormack. In this first-person novel, a fifteen-year old girl who has struggled with self-abuse finds herself in a hospital with other girls who are also struggling with different types of self-abuse. The narrator tells a gripping story of how she tries to overcome her mental demons and how the stories of other patients impact her day-to-day existence. 1
The Disreputable History of Frankie Landau Banks by E. Lockhart. Frankie, stylish and shrewd, plans and executes elaborate pranks at her boarding school. What happens when she is discovered as the mastermind? 1
Everlost series by Neal Shusterman. Teens are caught in the middle between life and death, and create a whole society. But evil lurks, and they must find a way to battle it. Fascinating and fantastical. 1
Eyes Like Stars by Lisa Mantchev. Beatrice Shakespeare Smith must find a way to make herself indispensable to the Theatre Illuminata or she will have to leave the only home she has ever known. 1
Fifty Miles from Tomorrow by William Hensley. This memoir which takes place in the 1940's recounts what it is like to grow up in northern Alaska. The family had no electricity, phones, indoor toilets, or medical care. The New York Times calls the memoir "rarely less than gripping." 3
Firestorm by David Klass. Greenpeace recommends this "gripping tale" of the harm humans have done the earth. An environmentally-inspired, sci-fi thriller. 1
Full Tilt by Neal Shusterman. A 16 year old boy goes to a rave theme park and must ride 7 rides before dawn to save his soul—and his younger brother. A thrill ride from start to finish, this is like reading a horror movie without all the gore. Lots of fun! 1
The Gardener by S. A. Bodeen. Science fiction and about a neighborhood of teenagers who are harvested. 1
The Girl Who Loved Tom Gordon by Stephen King. At 10 o'clock Trisha McFarland was sitting in her mother's Dodge Caravan. At 10:30 , she was lost in the woods. By 11:00 she was trying not to be terrified. For solace she tunes her Walkman to listen to the broadcasts of the Boston Red Sox games and her hero Tom Gordon. 1
Graceling by Kristin Cashore. Katsa is a killer who always gets her prey. Weary of doing the King's dirty work, she begins to question her special "grace" and explore a different future. 1

<p>The Graveyard Book by Neil Gaimon. In this novel that won multiple young adult fiction awards, a baby is raised in a graveyard. What will happen to it? 1</p>
<p>Hate List by Jennifer Brown. A girl and her boyfriend put together a list of kids that they hate. Then he opens fire and kills some of them. In the fall, she returns to school and has to deal with the aftermaths of her choices. 1</p>
<p>A Little History of the World by E.H. Gombrich. A history of the world from dinosaurs to the Holocaust. Written in readable prose. Great overview of important events and developments. Not only for history buffs. 1</p>
<p>Hole in My Life by Jack Gantos. This author relates how, as a young adult, he became a drug user and smuggler, was arrested, did time in prison, and eventually got out and went to college, all the while hoping to become a writer. This true life story explores how this writer was willing to sacrifice his morals to attain his dream of going to college and becoming a writer. 2</p>
<p>Homer's Odyssey by Gwen Cooper When the vet offers the author an eyeless, abandoned kitten, she almost says no. Accepting him changes her life. Read about Homer's courage and be inspired. 3</p>
<p>Hunted (House of Night, Book 5) by P. C. Cast. How do you tell if someone is a vampyre? That's easy, look at their facial tattoo. Zoey Redbird just wants to be a normal teenage girl, but instead, against her wishes, her life gets spun around as she becomes anything other than normal: a vampyre. Since being chosen, her life has been anything but easy. She can't hide what she's become, she has to move to a new school, and the most popular vampyre girl is out to get her because she hates her. If you are interested in the Twilight series then this series will be an excellent choice because although they're completely different in storyline, they both deal with isolation, friendship, and love. (NOTE: Books 1-4 of this series are also acceptable). 1</p>
<p>Hush Hush by Becca Fitzpatrick. A gripping thriller in which humans are pawns of fallen angels. Nora is in love with Patch. . . but should this human stay away? 1</p>
<p>Incarceron by Catherine Fisher. "An infamous prison, where inmates don't believe there is an outside world." 2</p>
<p>Invincible or Infinity (both a part of <u>The Chronicles of Nick</u>) by Sherrilyn Kenyon. <u>Invincible</u> requires the protagonist raise the dead. <u>Infinity</u> is about "brain-eating demons who complicate academic life." 1</p>
<p>Ithaca by Adele Geras. "In this sequel to <u>Tro</u>, Geras once again shows her skill at fashioning multi-dimensional characters from mythological figures and making them accessible to a 21st-century audience...Lovers of Greek mythology will appreciate the authentic flavor this book, but readers need to be familiar with <u>The Odyssey</u> to follow the plot or to recognize themes of loyalty and unrequited love, which are brilliantly and movingly displayed throughout this ambitious, gripping novel." Publisher's Weekly 1</p>
<p>It's Not About the Bike by Lance Armstrong. The autobiography of cyclist Lance Armstrong, tracks the beginnings of his career, his triumphs in the Tour de France, his marriage, and his battle with cancer. 1</p>

<p>Life as We Knew It—(series of three) by Susan Beth Pfeffer. An asteroid crashes into the moon, and it knocks it out of orbit. What follows is horrific as the entire world is affected. Follow the story of a teenage girl as she deals with her new, terrible world. 1</p>
<p>Lockdown by Walter Dean Myers. This book, a finalist for the National Book Award, follows Reese Anderson as he navigates the juvenile detention system. Reese must make a choice between defending a friend – and risking his release for fighting – or standing silently by as the friend is bullied. Highly recommended: this author is a teen favorite. 1</p>
<p>Lost in Place by Mark Salzman. A thirteen year-old boy decides that he wants to quit school and commit his life to Kung Fu. His parents agree to let him as long as he finishes high school. 2</p>
<p>Loving Will Shakespeare by Carolyn Meyer. Agnes Hathaway’s childhood, adolescence, and young adulthood have plenty of Cinderella elements: a wicked stepmother, at least one wicked sister, and an eventual rescue by an immature 18-year-old Will Shakespeare. (Booklist) 1</p>
<p>Marcelo in the Real World by Francisco Stork. Seventeen-year-old Marcelo makes a deal with his dad: a summer in the mailroom at his law firm means he can go to the school he wants to for senior year. What Marcello doesn’t realize is that this deal will land him in the middle of a legal mess. <u>The New York Times</u> calls this a “brisk, brilliant” novel. 1</p>
<p>Milkweed by Jerry Spinelli. This is the story of a young boy who is trying to survive the Holocaust in Germany by himself, stealing food and wandering around uncertain of who he really is. “Spinelli allows the reader to hear, see and smell the insanity of the Holocaust. This is a book everyone should read. This story is timely, important and compelling.” – Amazon.com review. 2</p>
<p>Million Dollar Throw by Mike Lupica. When Nate Brodie is given a chance to win a million dollars by throwing a football pass, the pressure builds. His golden arm begins to fail him. Will her be able to save his family’s house? 1</p>
<p>Quiver by Stephanie Spinner. Staying very close to the known story [of Atalanta] Spinner gives this Greek myth a fresh face and makes Atalanta a strong heroine. The gods are omnipresent, advancing the plot and commenting on the lives of the characters. The setting is well done, putting readers easily into the ancient world. (School Library Journal) 1</p>
<p>Rebecca by Daphne du Maurier. A young woman tries to unravel the mystery of her husband’s past that haunts her. 3</p>
<p>The Red Pyramid by Rick Riordan. This adventure story follows two siblings, descendants of Egyptian royalty/gods, who must discover and master powers they never knew they had or lose their father and the world as they know it. 1</p>
<p>Romiette and Julio by Sharon Draper. When Romiette Capelle, aka Afroqueen, and Julio Montague, aka Spanishloer, meet in an Internet chat room, neither of them has any idea they both go to the same Cincinnati high school. Afroqueen is from a prominent African American family; Spanishlover is Hispanic and the new kid in town. When Romiette and Julio meet in person, they know they are fated</p>

to be together. (Booklist) 1.
The Rule of Four by Ian Caldwell, Dustin Thomason. This suspenseful work of fiction exposes you to an Ivy League murder, a mysterious coded manuscript, and the secrets of a Renaissance prince. It combines the best of history and mystery. 1
Runaways Volumes 1 and 2 by Brian Vaughn and Adrian Alphona. In this graphic novel six young friends discover their parents are super-powered villains, they band together to help one another overcome this evil legacy. 1 (Only one (1) of your selections may be a graphic novel.)
The Silver Kiss by Annette Klause. Zoe is wary when Simon, a beautiful vampire arrives at her house as her mother lies dying. Will Zoe help Simon get revenge for his mother's gruesome death centuries ago? 1
Stargirl by Jerry Spinelli. This is a story of an unusual young woman who arrives at a suburban Arizona high school and amazes everyone with her unique style and approach to others. She quickly becomes everyone's friend but some of her not-so-popular attitudes end up causing her trouble. 1
Terrier (The Legend of Beka Cooper, Book 1) by Tamora Pierce. Orphaned Beka Cooper, 16, is a trainee—a "Puppy" in the Provost's Guard. Having spent the first half of her life in Tortall's slums, she is driven by the need to do what is right and see justice done. Paired with two of the best Guards, or "Dogs," in the organization and aided by her own gifts of magic, Beka learns her job, makes friends with two mages and a thief, and uncovers two serial killers who prey on the poor and unnoticed. 1
Thirteenth Child by Patricia Wrede. Eff was born a thirteenth child. Her twin brother, Lan, is the seventh son of a seventh son, which means he is supposed to possess amazing talent. Eff is supposed to bring only bad luck to her family and town. What happens when her family moves to the frontier where her father will be a professor of magic? 1
A Tree Grows in Brooklyn by Betty Smith. A poignant novel of childhood and family relationships. Narrated by imaginative and resourceful Francie Nolan, this story of an impoverished childhood will keep you turning pages. 2
Troy by Adele Geras. Geras recreates the sage of the Trojan War by delving into the hearts and minds of the women of Troy. 1
The Two Loves of Will Shakespeare by Laurie Lawlor. The still-unexplained existence of marriage-license applications made out on consecutive days for Shakespeare and two different women makes a promising historical tidbit for any storyteller. Lawlor makes good on that promise, portraying 18-year-old Will as a restless but well-meaning wastrel with a gift for words, raging hormones, remarkably poor judgment, and the attention span of a flea. (Booklist) 1
Unwind by Neal Shusterman. World War 3 was fought over reproductive rights. The resulting law is that abortion is illegal, but after age 13, parents can choose to have their teenagers unwound—or harvested completely. Three teenagers are sent to an unwinding camp where they are scheduled to meet their doom. This follows their adventure. A can't-put-it-down book. 1

What I Saw and How I Lied by Judy Blundell. Evie Spooner falls in love with glamorous Peter, an army buddy of her father's whom he is none too happy to see. After a boating accident results in a suspicious death and an inquest, Evie is forced to revisit her romance with Peter and her relationships with Joe and her mother, and to consider that her assumptions about all three may have been wrong from the beginning. 1

Wintergirls by Laurie Halse Anderson. A captivating story about a young woman who is suffering with an eating disorder. 1