

9th Grade Summer Reading Assignment

Dear 9th Grader,

Welcome to 9th Grade English! I am excited to be teaching you in the upcoming school year.

Before we come back in August, you will need to complete a summer reading assignment. All students will be required to choose one book from the list below. When you read your novel, do so very carefully. You should take notes in your book, underlining key lines or writing notes in the margin that help you to process the work—or use post-its to mark/comment on important passages. Look for patterns (repeated words, images, references); be sure to mark them. Write down main characters' names so you can review them before the quiz. Also, highlight events important to the plot. Be prepared to show me your book if asked and to use highlights and notes to study for the quiz on your novel(s) in the first few days of class.

You may show me your highlights and notes IN YOUR BOOK if you fail the essay quiz for some of your missed points (notes taken in a notebook will not be accepted; if you read your book on a Kindle, you may show me notes you took electronically in the Kindle). Your grade for the summer reading will be based on the thoroughness of your reading/understanding of the book as shown in an essay test—you will not need to show notes unless you wish to recover points for a failing grade.

Your reading selections include (choose one of the following, and, optionally, a second for extra credit*):

Before We Were Free – Julia Alvarez

Murder on the Orient Express – Agatha Christie

The Hiding Place – Corrie ten Boom

The Good Earth – Pearl Buck

The Book Thief – Markus Zusak

Hidden Figures – Margot Lee Shetterly

The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind – William Kamkwamba

The Farming of Bones – Edwidge Danticat

* *Extra credit will be given for any student who reads an extra novel and marks it up.*

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at vdavis@scs.edu.do.

See you in the fall!

Valerie Davis