

**Summer Reading Assignments
for 9th-12th Grade English
Corvian Community School
2025-2026**

Grade 9

All 9th grade students will read [*Tune for Bears to Dance To*](#), by Robert Cormier. Students should bring a hard copy of this novella to class on the first day.

In addition, **Honors 9 students** are required to read [*Lord of the Flies. Casebook Edition*](#), by William Golding. Students must have a paper copy of **this edition** for use in class. Students do not need to read any of the essays included in this book. They only need to read the actual novel. They will read some of the essays during the school year.

Grades 10-12

Choose and read one of the books featured below. **You must choose a book that you have not already read.** Be sure to choose wisely. The worst way to select a book is based on length. Instead, consider the plot, setting, and writing style. Go to the library or bookstore and read the first couple of chapters of the books and see which ones grab your interest. Look up the books on Amazon, read the summaries, and view the first few pages. We have given you the opportunity to choose because we want you to enjoy your summer reading!

In addition to the assignment above, students enrolled in any **Honors English** will have additional reading assignments.

Assessment: You will take a test on your summer reading book(s) as early as the first week of school. You can prepare for this test by carefully reading and even annotating your text. Reading online study notes or watching film versions of the book will not prepare you for this test. The summer reading test will include multiple choice questions, speaker identification, and short answer questions.

Ways to remember what you read:

- Tell someone about the story. As you read, tell your sister, mom, grandfather--somebody--what is happening in the story and how you feel about the characters. Encourage them to ask you questions that start with the word, "Why?"
- Start a reading club. Find several other students who want to read the same book. Set up a reading schedule and get together every week to discuss the chapters you have read.
- Keep a reading journal. After you read a few chapters, write an entry in your journal. Summarizing the reading is a good idea, but go even further and predict what might happen next. Explain how you feel about the action and the characters.
- Read aloud with a parent or friend.

A quick note to parents: All of the books on this list are college-prep and have wide appeal to teen readers. They have been chosen based on their literary and educational value; but be aware, there is some mature language, themes, and content in some of the works. Be sure to research the choices with your student so that you can help select the one that is most appropriate for him or her.

Grade 10

Select and read one of the following books.

- [*I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*](#), by Maya Angelou
- [*Neverwhere*](#), by Neil Gaiman
- [*When I was Puerto Rican*](#), by Esmeralda Santiago
- [*Autobiography of a Face*](#), by Lucy Grealy
- [*Swimming to Antarctica*](#), by Lynne Cox
- [*A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy Soldier*](#), by Ishmael Beah
- [*Girl in Translation*](#), by Jean Kwok
- [*Klara and the Sun*](#), by Kazuo Ishiguro

In addition, **Honors 10 students** are required to read [1984: 75th Anniversary](#), by George Orwell. Students must have a paper copy of **this edition** for use in class.

Grade 11

Select and read one of the following books.

- [I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings](#), by Maya Angelou
- [Woman Warrior](#), by Maxine Hong Kingston
- [American Chica: Two Worlds, One Childhood](#), by Marie Arana
- [When I Was Puerto Rican](#), by Esmeralda Santiago
- [Angela's Ashes](#), by Frank McCourt
- [Educated](#), by Tara Westover
- [The Other Wes Moore](#), by Wes Moore
- [Unlikely Disciple](#), by Kevin Roose
- [I'm Glad My Mom Died](#), by Jennette McCurdy
- [Klara and the Sun](#), by Kazuo Ishiguro
- [Girl in Translation](#), by Jean Kwok
- [Autobiography of a Face](#), by Lucy Grealy

In addition, **Honors 11 students** are required to read [Purple Hibiscus](#), by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie

Grade 12

Select and read one of the following books.

- [I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings](#), by Maya Angelou
- [Woman Warrior](#), by Maxine Hong Kingston
- [American Chica: Two Worlds, One Childhood](#), by Marie Arana
- [Angela's Ashes](#), by Frank McCourt
- [Educated](#), by Tara Westover
- [Autobiography of a Face](#), by Lucy Grealy
- [Unlikely Disciple](#), by Kevin Roose
- [Smoke Gets in Your Eyes](#), by Caitlin Doughty
- [The Other Wes Moore](#), by Wes Moore
- [The Cat Who Saved Books](#), by Sosuke Natsukawa
- [The 57 Bus](#), by Dashka Slater
- [I'm Glad My Mom Died](#), by Jennette McCurdy
- [When I Was Puerto Rican](#), by Esmeralda Santiago
- [Klara and the Sun](#), by Kazuo Ishiguro
- [Cat's Cradle](#), by Kurt Vonnegut
- [Wuthering Heights](#), by Emily Brontë
- Honors Students Extra Option: [The Dark Descent of Elizabeth Frankenstein](#) by Kiersten White

In addition, **Honors 12 students** are required to read [Frankenstein](#) by Mary Shelley. Students must have a copy of **this edition** for use in class.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

It's summer break. Why do I have to read?

Reading--during any time of the year--can help you grow personally and academically. Here are five other terrific reasons for college-bound students to read during summer break:

- It improves performance on standardized tests, like SAT and ACT.
- It keeps students from losing what they've learned so they are ready to get back into the groove when school starts.
- It gives students the opportunity to explore new points of view and to learn new things.
- It prepares students for next year's English course.
- It prepares students for college-level work which will require reading across all subjects.

After you have finished your assigned summer reading, don't stop! Feel free to read more than one book off of the summer reading list, pick one off of the College Board's [Top 100 list of books for College-Bound readers](#), or just find something that interests you at the library or bookstore.

Why did you pick these books?

These books were selected using the same [criteria](#) that the English department uses to select all books for inclusion in the curriculum. However, as these are books assigned for summer reading, special consideration has been given to the degree to which the works will appeal to students. We want you to enjoy reading this summer!

Will there be a test?

Yes. Students in standard and honors English will take an assessment on the summer reading book(s) during the first week of school. Reading online study guides or watching film versions of the book will not prepare you for this assessment. Be sure to read the book. In addition, you will participate in discussions and other learning activities related to summer reading during the first few weeks of class.

Why do honors students have an extra assignment?

The summer reading assignment reflects the difference between the Standard and Honors English courses. Throughout the year, Honors English students will read additional texts and complete additional and more rigorous assignments.

Help! School is about to start and I just enrolled. Do I still have to do this assignment?

It depends. If you are new to Corvian this year and are **enrolled in standard English** do not have to complete the summer reading assignment. We do, however, strongly advise new enrollees to complete this assignment if possible. If you are new to Corvian this year and **enrolled in Honors or AP English**, you are required to complete all summer reading assignments. If you enroll on or after August 4, you will have a three week extension.

What if I change my schedule?

Students will not be granted summer reading extensions or exemptions due to schedule changes. For example, if you change from standard to honors English during the add/drop period, you will still be required to complete the honors assignment by the due date.

Do I have to purchase my book on Amazon?

Links to Amazon have been provided for your convenience only. The school is not paid any referral fees for purchases from Amazon. You may purchase your book(s) from any seller that you choose. While [Amazon](#) does offer competitive prices, you should be able to find these books at other local bookstores including Barnes & Noble, Books-a-Million, and even used at [2nd & Charles](#).

Is it cheating to listen to the audiobook?

Audiobooks are great! But, in order to use them effectively to prepare for English class, you need to read along as you are listening to the audiobook. This is a great way to enjoy the book and it is also a powerful way to improve fluency and reading comprehension. Try it!

I am enrolled in an AP course. Do I have a summer assignment?

Yes! All AP courses have summer assignments. These will be posted on the school website prior to the end of the start of summer break.

What should I do if I have other questions?

If you have questions, please email [Ms. DiGavero](#).

CAMP CORVIAN

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Do you **struggle** with reading comprehension?

Are you **worried** about passing the test?

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