

English 11 Summer Reading Program 2021

For the summer of 2021, the English department is providing rising juniors with the following list of books and requiring each of them to choose **one book from either of the lists presented below** to read before the start of school. You will need to have access to the book you selected during the first two weeks of school next fall, so if you check a book out from the library, you will need to make sure that you can access the book for most of September. You will also be given an assessment on the summer reading in the opening weeks of the school year. Your English 11 teacher will provide you with more details about that assessment on the first day of classes.

We have embedded links to book reviews for each of the following choices. These reviews are meant to pique your interest in the individual books. Students should feel free to use all of the web-based resources at their disposal to help them find a book that excites and interests them. Students should also look to their teachers as resources to help them find a book to enjoy. In short, we want all of our students to spend some time browsing this list, turning their choices over in their minds, and discovering new and exciting books to devour this summer!

English 11 Summer Reading Books

Fiction

[*McSweeney's Mammoth Treasury of Thrilling Tales*](#) ed. by Michael Chabon *

[*The Scarlet Letter*](#) by Nathaniel Hawthorne *[]

[*The Sun Also Rises*](#) by Ernest Hemingway []

[*The Talented Mr. Ripley*](#) by Patricia Highsmith *[]

[*One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*](#) by Ken Kesey *[]

[*The Other Americans*](#) by Laila Lalami *

[*The Dispossessed*](#) by Ursula K. Le Guin *[]

[*Bark: Stories*](#) by Lorrie Moore *

[*Mama Day*](#) by Gloria Naylor *[]

[*Everything I Never Told You*](#) by Celeste Ng *[]

[*Wise Blood*](#) by Flannery O'Connor *[]

[*True Grit*](#) by Charles Portis *[]

[*Such a Fun Age*](#) by Kiley Reid *

[*Gilead*](#) by Marilynne Robinson *[]

[*The Age of Innocence*](#) by Edith Wharton *[]

[*The Underground Railroad*](#) by Colson Whitehead *[]

Nonfiction/Memoir

[*Go Ahead in the Rain: Notes to a Tribe Called Quest*](#) by Hanif Abdurraqib *

* Available on [Overdrive](#) ebook/audiobook
[] Available in [Learning Ally](#)

[*My Losing Season*](#) by Pat Conroy *[]
[*Wait Till Next Year*](#) by Doris Kearns Goodwin *[]
[*Summer of '49*](#) by David Halberstam *[]
[*Woman Warrior*](#) by Maxine Hong Kingston []
[*Into the Wild*](#) by Jon Krakauer *[]
[*In the Heart of the Sea*](#) by Nathaniel Philbrick *[]
[*Ordinary Light*](#) by Tracy K. Smith *
[*Brothers and Keepers*](#) by John Edgar Wideman

Poetry

[*Selected Poems*](#) by Gwendolyn Brooks []
[*American Sonnets for My Past and Future Assassin*](#) by Terrance Hayes
[*Collected Poems*](#) by Jane Kenyon []
[*A New Selected Poems*](#) by Galway Kinnell *
[*Bright Dead Things*](#) by Ada Limon
[*Digest: Poems*](#) by Gregory Pardlo
[*The Best of It: New and Selected Poems*](#) by Kay Ryan
[*Life on Mars: Poems*](#) by Tracy K. Smith

[Black Lives Matter Literature List](#) - The English Department has compiled this list of recommended novels, story collections, memoirs, literary nonfiction, poetry collections, and plays by Black authors to accompany the summer reading selections for the summer of 2021. You may choose your summer read from this list.

* Available on [Overdrive](#) ebook/audiobook
[] Available in [Learning Ally](#)