

# Huntington High School – Entering 9<sup>th</sup> Graders

## SUMMER READING 2015

Dear Parent/Guardian,

We are pleased to present the updated Huntington High School Summer Reading Program. Summer is a time for happiness, and we hope that reading will be an important part of your child's summer activities. We have included a suggested reading list from which your child can select one of two books to read for English class, and a second text for his or her social studies class. **While all the books have literary merit, some may be suitable for more mature students. Therefore, we urge you to carefully review the list and help your son or daughter make a selection that is appropriate based on his or her interest, age, reading level, and maturity.**

Please note, each Regents level student entering grades 9-12 is strongly encouraged to complete TWO summer reading assignments, one for English class and one for social studies. The English and social studies reading assignments both ask students to keep a double-entry journal while reading the book. All students who complete the summer assignments will receive feedback and have the opportunity to earn extra credit in Quarter one. The full one page written assignment is to be submitted to turnitin.com. Students entering English honors courses and Advanced Placement English courses have different requirements.

Curl up with a good book this summer!

### English Summer Reading Assignment Directions

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#### DIRECTIONS:

Select **10 important lines/sections** in total from the book that you've read that relate to the grade-level theme. *For the fictional work*, choose quotes that show how a character acts, thinks, and feels, and/or specific plot events associated with the theme. The quotes *do not* have to be the actual character's dialogue and could be part of the narration.

**Please note:** Quotes must be spread evenly and chosen from pages throughout the book. For example, loosely three quotes from the beginning, three from the middle, and three from the end of the full-length text and a 10<sup>th</sup> quote from anywhere that strikes you as important. The reading quote organizer will be collected and may be used to construct an essay in class.

**THESE JOURNALS MUST BE TYPED. EACH STUDENT WILL SUBMIT THE ASSIGNMENT TO TURNITIN.COM BY SEPTEMBER 30<sup>TH</sup>. Submission instructions will be provided in September.**

Important Quote	Page #	Explanation/ Connection to Theme
"But it was a time of vague optimism for some of the people: Maycomb County had recently been told that it had nothing to fear but fear itself"	6	Harper Lee, in <u>To Kill a Mockingbird</u> , makes an allusion to FDR's famous speech "we have nothing to fear but fear itself". This reveals that the setting of the book is the 1930s. If citizens are scared after losing all of their money in the stock market crash they may be less likely to be heroes. It must be hard to stand up for what's right when you have no sense of security. That probably makes those good moral people who end up being heroes even better than the ordinary people in the town.

# English Course Reading Selection and Assignment

## Entering English Ninth Grade (Regents level)

*Thematic Focus: Recognizing the Hero through Crucial Decisions*

**Jay Asher- *Thirteen Reasons Why* (2006)**

Clay Jensen returns home from school and finds a mysterious box with cassette tapes inside. These tapes were recorded by Hannah Baker—his classmate and crush—who committed suicide two weeks earlier. On tape, Hannah explains that there are *thirteen reasons why* she decided to end her life. Clay is one of them.

**Laurie Halse Anderson- *Twisted* (2008)**

High school senior Tyler Miller used to be the kind of guy who faded into the background. But since he got busted for doing graffiti on the school, and spent the summer doing work to pay for it, he stands out. His new physique attracts the attention of queen bee Bethany Milbury, who just so happens to be his father's boss's daughter, the sister of his biggest enemy—and Tyler's secret crush. And that sets off a string of events and changes that have Tyler questioning his place in the school, in his family, and in the world.

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## Social Studies Summer Reading Directions

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Identify up to **5 pieces of evidence (important lines/sections, facts, ideas, etc)** from the book that you've read that relate to the reading theme. Record this evidence in your reading journal (use the same format as the English assignment) and explain how those pieces of evidence relate to the main theme. Your assignment is to connect the book to the theme in 400 words.

**Please note:** Evidence must be spread evenly and chosen from pages throughout the book. Find a few quotes from the beginning, middle, and end of the text. The quote organizer will be collected, along with the written reflection for extra credit in September. Simply, you must connect the information in the book to the theme in a several paragraph response.

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## Entering Ninth Grade Global I (Regents level)

*Theme: Development of civilization; Culture*

*A History of the World in Six Glasses* by Tom Standage

### READ FIRST TWO CHAPTERS

Throughout human history, certain drinks have done much more than just quench thirst. As Tom Standage relates with authority and charm, six of them have had a surprisingly pervasive influence on the course of history, becoming the defining drink during a pivotal historical period. *A History of the World in 6 Glasses* tells the story of humanity from the Stone Age to the 21st century through the lens of beer, wine, spirits, coffee, tea, and cola. For Standage, each drink is a kind of technology, a catalyst for advancing culture by which he demonstrates the intricate interplay of different civilizations. You may never look at your favorite drink the same way again.

# English Summer Reading Journal Format

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher:\_(tbd)\_\_\_\_\_

Period:\_(tbd)\_\_\_\_

Book Title:\_\_\_\_\_

Important Quote	Page #	Explanation/Connection to Theme

# Social Studies Summer Reading Journal Format

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher: (tbd) \_\_\_\_\_

Period: (tbd) \_\_\_\_\_ Book Title: \_\_\_\_\_

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# Huntington High School

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## English Course Reading Selection and Assignment

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### Entering Tenth Grade (Regents level)

*Thematic Focus: Identity*

#### **John Green- *Looking for Alaska* (2006)**

Miles "Pudge" Halter's whole existence has been one big nonevent. He heads off to the sometimes crazy, possibly unstable, and anything-but-boring world of Culver Creek Boarding School. His life becomes the opposite of safe because down the hall is the gorgeous, clever, funny, self-destructive, screwed-up, and utterly fascinating Alaska Young. She pulls Pudge into her world, launches him into the Great Perhaps, and steals his heart. Nothing is ever the same again.

#### **M.T. Anderson- *Feed* (2004)**

Identity crises, consumerism, and star-crossed teenage love in a futuristic society where people connect to the Internet via feeds implanted in their brains. For Titus and his friends, it started out like any ordinary trip to the moon - a chance to party during spring break. But that was before the crazy hacker caused all their feeds to malfunction, sending them to the hospital to lie around with nothing inside their heads for days. And it was before Titus met Violet, a beautiful, brainy teenage girl who has decided to fight the feed.

### Entering Eleventh Grade (Regents level)

*Thematic Focus: The American Experience*

#### **Julia Alvarez- *How the Garcia Girls Lost their Accent* (1992)**

The García sisters—Carla, Sandra, Yolanda, and Sofia—and their family must flee their home in the Dominican Republic after their father's role in an attempt to overthrow a tyrannical dictator is discovered. They arrive in New York City in 1960 to a life far removed from their existence in the Caribbean. In the wild and wondrous and not always welcoming U.S.A., their parents try to hold on to their old ways, but the girls try find new lives: by forgetting their Spanish, by straightening their hair and wearing fringed bell bottoms. For them, it is at once liberating and excruciating to be caught between the old world and the new.

#### **Reyna Grande-*The Distance between Us: A Memoir* (2013)**

When Reyna Grande's father leaves his wife and three children behind in a village in Mexico to make the dangerous trek across the border to the United States, he promises he will soon return with enough money to build them a dream house. His promises become harder to believe as months turn into years. When he summons his wife to join him, Reyna and her siblings are deposited in the already overburdened household of their stern, unsmiling grandmother. The three siblings look out for themselves; in childish games they find a way to forget the pain of abandonment and learn to solve very adult problems. Eventually a reunion between parents and children begins a dramatic new chapter in Reyna's life.

## **Entering Twelfth Grade**

*Thematic Focus: Varies by course selection, students will be in a paired set of selective courses.*

### **Barbara Ehrenreich- *Nickel and Dimed: On (Not) Getting By in America***

suggested for students entering Multicultural Literature/Holocaust in Literature  
and Journalism

Millions of Americans work for poverty-level wages, and one day Barbara Ehrenreich decided to join them. She was inspired by the rhetoric surrounding welfare reform, which promised that any job equals a better life. But how can anyone survive, let alone prosper, on \$6 to \$7 an hour?

### **Zora Neale Hurston- *Their Eyes Were Watching God***

suggested for students entering Bible as/in Literature/Humanities

One of the most important works of twentieth-century American literature, Zora Neale Hurston's beloved 1937 classic, *Their Eyes Were Watching God*, is an enduring Southern love story sparkling with wit, beauty, and heartfelt wisdom. Told in the captivating voice of a woman who refuses to live in sorrow, bitterness, fear, or foolish romantic dreams, it is the story of fair-skinned, fiercely independent Janie Crawford, and her evolving selfhood through three marriages and a life marked by poverty, trials, and purpose.

### **Mike Lupica - *Heat***

suggested for students entering Film & Short Story/Sports Literature

Michael Arroyo has a pitching arm that throws serious heat along with aspirations of leading his team all the way to the Little League World Series. But his firepower is nothing compared to the heat Michael faces in his day-to-day life. Newly orphaned after his father led the family's escape from Cuba, Michael's only family is his seventeen-year old brother.

# Social Studies Summer Reading Directions

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## Social Studies Course Reading Selections

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**Entering Tenth Grade** (Regents level)

*Theme: Revolution/Change*

*Animal Farm* by George Orwell

*Animal Farm* is the most famous by far of all twentieth-century political allegories. Its account of a group of barnyard animals who revolt against their vicious human master, only to submit to a tyranny erected by their own kind, can fairly be said to have become a universal drama. Taking as his starting point the betrayed promise of the Russian Revolution, Orwell lays out a vision that, in its bitter wisdom, gives us the clearest understanding we possess of the possible consequences of our social and political acts.

**Entering Eleventh Grade** (Regents level)

*Theme: Education/Ignorance*

*Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass* by Frederick Douglass

Former slave, impassioned abolitionist, brilliant writer, newspaper editor and eloquent orator whose speeches fired the abolitionist cause, Frederick Douglass (1818–1895) led an astounding life. Physical abuse, deprivation and tragedy plagued his early years, yet through sheer force of character he was able to overcome these obstacles to become a leading spokesman for his people. In this, the first and most frequently read of his three autobiographies, Douglass provides graphic descriptions of his childhood and horrifying experiences as a slave as well as a harrowing record of his dramatic escape to the North and eventual freedom.

**Entering Twelfth Grade** (Participation in Government or Economics, your fall class)

*Theme: Responsibility in Government and Economics*

*Naked Economics: Undressing the Dismal Science* by Charles Wheelan (Chapter 1)

Finally! A book about economics that won't put you to sleep. In fact, you won't be able to put this bestseller down. In our challenging economic climate, this perennial favorite of students and general readers is more than a good read, it's a necessary investment—with a blessedly sure rate of return. Demystifying buzzwords, laying bare the truths behind oft-quoted numbers, and answering the questions you were always too embarrassed to ask, the breezy *Naked Economics* gives readers the tools they need to engage with pleasure and confidence in the deeply relevant, *not* so dismal science.



# English Summer Reading Journal Format

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