



2000-2010 SUMMER READING

Summer reading in the High School is designed to promote pleasure in reading, enabling students both to explore intellectual interests related to their course work and to discover books and subjects they might not otherwise encounter.

To accomplish these goals, each student is asked to read three books from the lists for his or her grade level next year. At least one of these books must be chosen from the English list; the other two books may be chosen from either the general list or the English list.

Advanced Placement courses, intended to be more rigorous than courses in the regular curriculum, may require additional summer assignments.

Tenth Grade English Summer Reading List (British Literature)

Titles marked with a + are plays or collections of poems—please read two of these selections in lieu of a novel. We strongly urge you to investigate as many of these books as possible through your favorite library, bookstore or website.

Anonymous, *Beowulf* (Seamus Heaney translation)
Austen, *Pride and Prejudice*
Bronte, *Wuthering Heights*
Collins, *The Moonstone* (mystery)
Defoe, *Robinson Crusoe*
Dickens, *Great Expectations*
Eliot (George), *Silas Marner*
Eliot, T. S., *Murder in the Cathedral* (a poetic drama) +
Forster, *A Room with A View*
Greene, *Brighton Rock*
Herriot, *All Things Bright and Beautiful*
Housman, *A Shropshire Lad* (poems) +
Huxley, *Brave New World*
James (P.D.), *Devices and Desires* or *Unnatural Causes* (mystery)
Joyce, *The Dubliners* (short story collection)
Lewis, *Mere Christianity* or *The Screwtape Letters*
Sayers, *Strong Poison* (mystery)
Stoppard, *Arcadia* (drama) +
Thomas, *Under Milkwood* (drama) +
Waugh, *Brideshead Revisited*
Wells, *War of the Worlds*
Wodehouse, *Carry On, Jeeves* (British humor)
Woolf, Virginia, *The Complete Shorter Fiction of Virginia Woolf* (short story collection)

Tenth Grade General Summer Reading List

Edward Abbey, *Desert Solitaire*

A classic and entertaining work by an unusual environmentalist writing about his experiences as a park ranger in Arches National Monument. (Steve Robins)

Isabel Allende, *The House of the Spirits* (English version)

Allende, niece of the assassinated Chilean president Salvador Allende, tells the life of a family in an unnamed South American country during moments of political upheaval and economic instability. Allende uses magical and realistic elements and a multi-generational plot to develop the story. (Lourdes Cuellar)

Connie Barlow, *The Ghosts of Evolution: Nonsensical Fruit, Missing Partners, and Other Ecological Anachronisms*

This book explains strange fruits of our region and their animal dispersers. (Lorrna Morris)

K.C. Cole, *The Universe and the Teacup: The Mathematics of Truth and Beauty*

If you've ever wondered why math matters, this is the book for you. Without an equation or formula in sight (but with a good deal of humor), K.C. Cole shows how the kinds of patterns mathematics reveals help us understand the world around us. (Ann Wheeler)

Charles Dickens, *Hard Times*

A biting satire on many aspects of the Victorian Age: its morals; the ramifications of the Industrial Revolution; its education system; relationships—marriage, family and friends. And, as usual, Dickens creates unforgettable characters, each possessed of both quirks and frailties. (Elizabeth Coble)

Peter Duffy, *The Bielski Brothers*

Historical account of Jewish brothers during World War II who escape to the Belarusian forests, where they establish a remarkably large, mobile community and from which they wage war against the Nazis while saving over a thousand Jews. (Steve Robins)

Elizabeth George, *A Great Deliverance*

George's first mystery novel introduces us to the central characters of many novels to come. The complex plot drives the story, but it's the development of the characters that makes this mystery truly satisfying. (Mary Pravit)

Jane Goodall, *In the Shadow of Man*

Jane Goodall was a young secretary when the legendary Louis Leakey chose her to undertake a landmark study of chimpanzees in the Gombe Stream Reserve. *In the Shadow of Man* is an account of her early years at the Reserve, where she was the first person to document that chimpanzees make tools and display many complex behaviors indicative of significant cognitive abilities. (Tamara Berthel)

Jonathan Harr, *The Lost Painting*

The true story of the "discovery" of a lost Caravaggio masterpiece by graduate art history students--a "joys of research" book. (Marc Lavine)

Tony Hawks, *Round Ireland with a Fridge*

True story of the author's attempt to win a bet that he could hitchhike around Ireland with a mini-fridge in tow. (Matthew Haber)

Robert Hicks, *The Widow of the South*

The story of Carrie McGavock and her servant Creole of Carnton Plantation in Franklin, Tennessee. Overwhelmed by life and unable to cope with her personal tragedies, Carrie had withdrawn into herself. Then a disaster of tremendous magnitude knocked on her door and forced her to rejoin the world. The deaths of so many during the Battle of Franklin gave Carrie a purpose in life. (Penny Phillips)

A.J. Jacobs, *The Year of Living Biblically: One Man's Humble Quest to Follow the Bible as Literally as Possible*

The often funny, always heartfelt story of *Esquire* writer A. J. Jacobs' attempt to spend a year of his life following the rules of the Bible as closely as possible. (Matthew Haber)

Lisa Jardine, *Worldly Goods*

A new historical interpretation of the Renaissance based on analysis of the consumer culture of the age-- who bought what, for whom, and why? (Marc Lavine)

Steve Jones, *Darwin's Ghost*

Wonderful, updated version of *Origin of Species*, using Darwin's exact table of contents and many of his original words but replacing 1800s examples with modern ones that support *Origin's* arguments concerning natural selection. (Tamara Berthel)

Laurie King, *The Bee Keeper's Apprentice*

What if Sherlock Holmes came out of retirement to work on cases with an intelligent young woman? "The game is afoot" in the first of a clever and entertaining series of novels. (Elizabeth Coble)

Ross King, *Brunelleschi's Dome*

A highly readable and interesting history of the events surrounding the construction of the Duomo in Florence in the 15th century. (Matthew Haber)

Barbara Kingsolver, *Poisonwood Bible*

A novel about the lives of women in an American missionary family and their interactions with the people, nature and politics in the Belgian Congo in the latter half of the 20th century. (Lorna Morris)

James Michener, *Space*

This book explores the time between V-E Day in 1944 and the heyday of the United States Space Program in the 1970's through the lives of 5 families. Provides an interesting look at how culture changed in those years and also explains how the technology we take for granted today came to be. (Penny Phillips)

Sharon Kay Penman, *The Sunne in Splendour*

An exciting novel set in the world of England's Richard III. While fiction, the book is rich with historic details, including exciting battles, scheming royalty, and romantic figures. (Elizabeth Coble)

Robert Pirsig, *Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance*

As the title suggests, Pirsig investigates the Zen approach to existence and other central philosophical issues through a comparison with motorcycle maintenance. (Gus Gillette)

Cokie Roberts, *Founding Mothers*

An in-depth, meticulously researched look at the lives of the wives of the founding fathers. The responsibilities they bore and the influence they exerted during the birth of our nation are eye-opening. These are not the demure, uninformed, un-empowered New England housewives of myth and legend. These women are the real thing! (Penny Phillips)

Luis Rodriguez, *Always Running: La Vida Loca*

The attraction and the dangers of the “crazy life” as a gang member in Los Angeles. (Steve Robins)

Ole Edvart Rolvaag, *Giants in the Earth*

This novel follows Norwegian settlers to the western US, where they struggle to scrape survival out of nothing, living in sod houses through blizzards, famine, locusts, and human imperfections. (Lorna Morris)

Marta de Rosa, *El Secuestro* by (ISBN 0-8442-7060-1)

A comic mystery in which two detectives try to get to the bottom of a kidnapping in Colombia. (In Spanish) (Rhonda Prater)

Arturo de Rosa, *La Momia Desaparece* (ISBN 0-8442-7055-5)

A comic mystery taking place in Mexico, where two detectives search for a mummy missing from the Museum of Anthropology. (In Spanish) (Rhonda Prater)

Oliver Sacks, *The Man Who Mistook His Wife for a Hat*

Stories of bizarre symptoms in patients with brain injuries, encountered by a neurologist. (Matthew Haber)

Arlene Schrade, *El Ojo de Agua* (ISBN 0-8442-7212-4)

An American exchange student’s adventures in Costa Rica. (In Spanish) (Rhonda Prater)

Diane Setterfield, *The Thirteenth Tale: A Novel*

Margaret Lee, the daughter of a bookseller, is hired to write the biography of an aging and mysterious author. As she sorts through all the stories this writer has told about her life, she becomes immersed in stories of supernatural occurrences in a gothic mansion. (Maura Rankin and Elizabeth Coble)

Dodie Smith, *I Capture the Castle*

Any book that begins, “I write this sitting in the kitchen sink . . .” is sure to be entertaining. An aspiring writer, 17 year old Cassandra lives with her peculiar family in an old English castle, and this book chronicles six months in her life complete with struggles, frustrations, and first love. (Elizabeth Coble)

Brenda Rickman Vantrease, *The Illuminator*

Set in 14th century England, this novel focuses on the literal value of the written word to medieval people. Plenty of historic detail plus an exciting and dangerous mission combine to create a book that one will race through to the end. (Elizabeth Coble)

Edward O. Wilson, *Naturalist*

Today, Edward O. Wilson is a renowned scientist who has written widely about biology and evolutionary theory--but in the 1930s he was a little Alabama boy with a fascination for ants. His autobiography, *Naturalist*, tells the story of his discovering his own interests as a boy, and, as an adult, eventually pursuing those scientific interests in places such as the South Pacific and the Florida Keys. (Ann Wheeler)

Simon Winchester, *The Map That Changed the World*

A humble and observant canal engineer in England draws the world's first geological map, puts the Earth sciences at the forefront of academia, initiates the Industrial Revolution, then has his ideas ignored and stolen, which puts him in debt and jail. A classic hero's journey mixing science, art, logical observation, determination and redemption. (Steve Smail)

Carl Zimmer, *Parasite Rex: Inside the Bizarre World of Nature's Most Dangerous Creatures*

A thorough and cool look at the world of parasites. (Tamara Berthel)