



The School District of Newberry County

Honors Summer Reading

Honors and college English classes are rigorous and demanding, even in the summer! Studies show that the more students read, the more successful they are in school. Therefore, we want to encourage students to read all year long and for the rest of their lives, introduce them to curriculum topics, enhance specific skills, and prepare them for more meaningful study. As such, there are required summer assignments specifically for honors and college English students.

Purposes:

- Honors English students are expected to read widely and deeply as well as to communicate effectively in writing. Summer reading allows for the opportunity to read more literature in preparation for the next grade level.
- Writing and/or projects assigned based on summer reading requirements align to curricular objectives to which students have already been introduced. This provides the teacher with a formative assessment tool for identifying present levels for reading and writing, strengths, and areas for potential growth.
- Summer reading requirements are designed to introduce students to the task of handling independent work which requires students to be motivated and to develop the time management skills necessary to handle extended academic deadlines.

Requirements:

We have chosen a variety of literature selections for you to read this summer in preparation for our class. All are fairly representative of the types of literature we will be experiencing in class.

1. Honors students will read one book from their grade level, and be prepared to complete a written task when returning to school.

Honors English 2:

I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings by Maya Angelou
A Lesson Before Dying by Ernest J. Gaines

A Raisin in the Sun by Lorraine Hansberry
A Separate Peace by Knowles

Honors English 3

The Color Purple by Alice Walker
Cold Sassy Tree by Olive Burns

The Things They Carried by Tim O'Brien
Adventures of Huckleberry Finn, Mark Twain

Honors English 4

Pygmalion by George Bernard Shaw
Jane Eyre by Bronte

The Poisonwood Bible by Barbara King Solver
Pride and Prejudice by Jane Austen

In addition, when students return to school next year, they will be responsible for responding to one of the books they read by completing one of the activities listed on the back of this letter. Our hope is that discussion of pleasurable reads and related articles will continue to promote lifelong reading habits and allow students to learn from one another.