



Georgetown County School District's **SUMMER READING PROGRAM** is an integral part of the Honors ELA curriculum. The "summer effect" on student achievement is well documented. Summer reading loss is cumulative. Students simply don't "catch up" in fall when they return to

school. Their classmates who read over the summer are moving ahead with their skills and increasing their comprehension, vocabulary, and fluency. Based upon these considerations, the **Summer Reading Program** serves as a vehicle to promote literacy.

This year, students in Honors English I will read a memoir of their choice for summer reading. A memoir is a narrative that reveals experiences within the author's lifetime. Unlike an autobiography, which is typically a chronological telling of one's life experiences, a memoir captures specific experiences in a person's life that he/she considers most significant.

To choose a memoir for summer reading, students may explore these and other websites to select and purchase their texts:

<http://memorywritersnetwork.com/blog/eight-benefits-of-reading-memoirs/>

<http://www.amazon.com/b?node=11021806011>

In addition, the ELA department chairs at each school will have texts available to check out, and the media specialists will also be

able to assist students with options available in the school libraries. Local libraries and bookstores are also resources for students.

**ASSIGNMENT:** While reading the memoir, students should pay close attention to the author's craft: the techniques he or she uses to create a memoir, such as descriptive/figurative language, sentence structure, dialogue, and theme. Students may notice how the author blends details with reflection, or builds suspense through the omission or emphasis on events.

After reading, students are required to write:

1. A brief memoir (**minimum 2 pages, double-spaced, Times New Roman**) about an incident in his or her life that was transformative.
2. A **one page** reflection explaining how the memoir they read influenced their personal memoir. This one page reflection should include **evidence from the text read (quotes and examples)**. **TOTAL: 3 pages minimum**

The written assignment is due on the day the students return to school, **August 22, 2017**. Students should turn in their assignments to their ELA teacher or the Department Chair. **\*\*\*Please note: Even if the student is not enrolled in English during first semester, he or she is required to turn in his or her assignment on August 22, 2017.**

**The written assignment will count as a test grade for the first marking period. 10 points will be deducted per day for late work.**