

## English I Summer Reading Choices

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Students in **regular English I** will choose **one** novel from the list to read over the summer and complete **one** of the three assignment options.

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### ***Night* by Elie Wiesel**

*Night* is Elie Wiesel's masterpiece, a candid, horrific, and deeply poignant autobiographical account of his survival as a teenager in the Nazi death camps. This new translation by Marion Wiesel, Elie's wife and frequent translator, presents this seminal memoir in the language and spirit truest to the author's original intent. And in a substantive new preface, Elie reflects on the enduring importance of *Night* and his lifelong, passionate dedication to ensuring that the world never forgets man's capacity for inhumanity to man.

### ***Unbroken*- Hillenbrand**

In boyhood, Louis Zamperini was an incorrigible delinquent. As a teenager, he channeled his defiance into running, discovering a talent that had carried him to the Berlin Olympics. But when World War II began, the athlete became an airman, embarking on a journey that led to a doomed flight on a May afternoon in 1943. When his Army Air Forces bomber crashed into the Pacific Ocean, against all odds, Zamperini survived, adrift on a foundering life raft. Ahead of Zamperini lay thousands of miles of open ocean, leaping sharks, thirst and starvation, enemy aircraft, and, beyond, a trial even greater. Driven to the limits of endurance, Zamperini would answer desperation with ingenuity; suffering with hope, resolve, and humor; brutality with rebellion.

### ***Donbas*- Sandulescu**

A true story of the escape from the Soviet Union. The almost unbelievable, but true story of a teen-age boy's survival and triumph over hardship in a Russian slave labor camp -- ending in a breathtaking escape.

### ***The Five People You Meet in Heaven*-Mitch Albom**

Eddie is a grizzled war veteran who feels trapped in a meaningless life of fixing rides at a seaside amusement park. His days are a dull routine of work, loneliness, and regret. Then, on his 83rd birthday, Eddie dies in a tragic accident, trying to save a little girl from a falling cart. He awakens in the afterlife, where he learns that heaven is not a lush Garden of Eden, but a place where your earthly life is explained to you by five people. These people may have been loved ones or distant strangers. Yet each of them changed your path forever.

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## Summer Reading Assignment Options for All English 9 Students

### Option 1: Original Movie Trailer

If you think the book you just read would make a great movie, create a movie trailer to sell it to a larger audience. Use technology to create a movie trailer (1-3 minutes) that highlights the theme of the novel, and the pivotal moments when characters made specific choices that changed the outcome of the work. Use Animoto or a similar online tool, or the Movie option on iMovie. Make sure there is music and the trailer appropriately matches the book you are basing it on. Include at least one significant quote to add to the trailer.

See an example: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y-PZnRlqa8c>

### Option 2: Infographic

Using an infographic template like easl.ly or piktochart, create a diagram, timeline, or other graphic for the novel you chose. Your graphic can chart how a favorite character changes throughout the story, how major events contribute to the theme of the novel, or how the author structures the text to create mystery, tension, or surprise. You must have at least 7 different points, and each must correspond to a quote from the novel. (include page numbers)

### Option 3: Character Autopsy

Directions: For each body part listed, you are to artistically and symbolize the protagonist from your summer reading novel. For example, a hard-hearted or stubborn character may have a heart made from stone. On a separate sheet of paper, for each body part, give a quotation supporting your illustration, and explain that illustration and quote/metaphor.

#### **Body Parts:**

- The heart should represent what this character loves most. Decide what it should look like (whole, broken, "hardened," etc.). Write a quote next to it from the text, and explain why it is drawn that way or why he loves this person/thing/idea.
- The backbone should convey what motivates the character most. Think about ways to show why your character does what he or she does. Write a quote next to it from the text, and explain why it shows what motivates him.
- The head represents his dreams, philosophy or vision. Support this with a quote(s) from the text.
- The mouth represents the character's point of view. It could be the characters use of irony, understatement, satire, or sarcasm. Support this with a quote(s) from the text.
- The hands should be holding literal (real) or figurative (symbolic) items associated with the character.
- The hands should be the conflict with which the character must deal. Please support with a quote and explanation from the text.
- The legs represent the actions of the character in the text. You may paraphrase here, but cite the page number(s) from the text.
- The feet should be a symbolic representation of the character's most fundamental beliefs about life. Explain what is most important to them based on a quote(s) and why.
- The background should include elements that suggest the novel's theme or central idea.