

2020-2021 Granville High School Summer Reading List

Reading over the summer months is critical for students to maintain literary skill. Research shows that students who do not read over the summer demonstrate losses in reading achievement from the end of one school year to the beginning of the next. Therefore, we believe that summer reading is an essential component of the Granville High School curriculum.

Students entering grades 9-12 are required to complete their summer reading selections by the first day of the school year. Assessments will vary based on the level of the course, and the GHS Website contains assignments that are intended for completion in conjunction with the reading. Book summaries are provided below courtesy of *Barnes and Noble* in order to assist in making selections.

Works indicated with a (*) symbol are recommended for students enrolled in the Global Scholars Program.

Literature Survey and Composition

REQUIRED CHOICE READING:

Choose **ONE book** from the following list--you will also be required to **view a film version** of your chosen book in order to complete the summer assignment. See the film chart on page 2 for an overview. Students who were enrolled in Discovery may **not** choose *Call of the Wild* or *Tom Sawyer*.

Alcott, Lousia May - *Little Women*

Generations of readers young and old, male and female, have fallen in love with the March sisters. Here are talented tomboy and author-to-be Jo, tragically frail Beth, beautiful Meg, and romantic, spoiled Amy, united in their devotion to each other and their struggles to survive in New England during the Civil War.

Cline, Ernest - *Ready Player One*

In the year 2044, reality is an ugly place. The only time teenage Wade Watts really feels alive is when he's jacked into the virtual utopia known as the OASIS. Wade devotes his life to studying the puzzles hidden within this world's digital confines. But when Wade stumbles upon the first clue, he finds himself beset by players willing to kill to take this ultimate prize. Contains mature situations and language.

Crichton, Michael - *Jurassic Park*

An astonishing technique for recovering and cloning dinosaur DNA has been discovered. Now humankind's most thrilling fantasies have come true. Creatures extinct for eons roam Jurassic Park with their awesome presence and profound mystery, and all the world can visit them—for a price. Until something goes wrong. . . Contains mature situations and language.

Foer, Jonathan Safran - *Extremely Loud & Incredibly Close*

Nine-year-old Oskar Schell is an inventor, amateur entomologist, Francophile, letter writer, pacifist, natural historian, percussionist, romantic, Great Explorer, jeweler, detective, vegan, and collector of butterflies. When his father is killed in the September 11th attacks on the World Trade Center, Oskar sets out to solve the mystery of a key he discovers in his father's closet. His journey brings him ever closer to some kind of peace. Contains mature situations.

Jackson, Shirley - *The Haunting of Hill House*

First published in 1959, Shirley Jackson's *The Haunting of Hill House* has been hailed as a perfect work of unnerving terror. It is the story of four seekers who arrive at a notoriously unfriendly place called Hill House. At first, their stay seems destined to be merely a spooky encounter with inexplicable phenomena. But Hill House is gathering its powers—and soon it will choose one of them to make its own. Contains mature situations and language.

Kidd, Sue Monk - *The Secret Life of Bees*

Fourteen-year-old Lily Owens lost her beloved mother when she was only four, and later found a fiercely protective "stand-in," her abusive father's outspoken housekeeper, Rosaleen. Ignoring differences in age and color, these two unlikely companions set off on a seemingly aimless pilgrimage that ends at the home of a trio of eccentric bee-keeping black sisters. Contains mature situations.

Kipling, Rudyard - *The Jungle Book*

The Jungle Book's key characters are Mowgli, a boy raised by wolves and Sher Khan, the biggest tiger in India. As Baloo the sleepy brown bear, and his other animal friends teach their beloved "man-cub" the ways of the jungle, Mowgli gains the strength and wisdom he needs for his frightful fight with Shere Khan, the tiger who robbed him of his human family.

Lawrence, Jerome - *Inherit the Wind*

A classic work of American theatre, based on the Scopes Monkey Trial of 1925, which pitted Clarence Darrow against William Jennings Bryan in defense of a school teacher accused of teaching the theory of evolution. At stake was the freedom of every American. One of the most moving and meaningful plays of our generation.

Lewis, Michael - *The Blindside*

Michael Oher is one of thirteen children by a mother addicted to crack. He takes up football and school after a rich, white, Evangelical family plucks him from the streets. Two great forces alter Oher: the family's love and the evolution of professional football itself into a game in which the quarterback must be protected at any cost.

London, Jack - *Call of the Wild*

First published in 1903, *The Call of the Wild* is regarded as Jack London's masterpiece. Based on London's experiences as a gold prospector in the Canadian wilderness and his ideas about nature and the struggle for existence, *The Call of the Wild* is a tale about unbreakable spirit and the fight for survival in the frozen Alaskan Klondike.

Montgomery, L.M. - *Anne of Green Gables*

As soon as Anne Shirley arrives at the snug white farmhouse called Green Gables, she is sure she wants to stay forever . . . but will the Cuthberts send her back to the orphanage? Anne is not like anyone else, the Cuthberts eventually agree; she is special—a girl with an enormous imagination. This orphan girl dreams of the day when she can call herself Anne of Green Gables.

Twain, Mark - *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*

The Adventures of Tom Sawyer is a fun-filled book that shows life along the Mississippi River in the 1840s. Tom Sawyer is a young boy living with his Aunt Polly on the banks of the Mississippi River. He seems to most enjoy getting into trouble. Written by Mark Twain, the book shows masterfully-done satire, racism, childhood, and the importance of loyalty and courage- no matter the cost.

FILM AVAILABILITY		Rating	Public Library	Amazon Prime	Apple +	Crackle	Disney Plus	Google Play	HBO Now	Hulu	iTunes	Netflix	Vudu	YouTube TV
The following list indicates availability at the beginning of May. Obviously, availability on streaming services is subject to change each month. Be sure that you will have access to a film before you begin your summer reading assignment.														
<i>Little Women</i> (2019)	PG	✓	✓				✓						✓	✓
<i>Little Women</i> (1994)	PG	✓	✓		✓			✓			✓		✓	✓
<i>Little Women</i> (1949)	PG	✓	✓					✓		✓	✓		✓	✓
<i>Ready Player One</i> (2018)	PG-13	✓	✓											✓
<i>Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close</i> (2011)	PG-13	✓								✓			✓	✓
<i>The Haunting of Hill House</i> (2018) TV Series	TVMA	✓	✓				✓					✓	✓	✓
<i>The Haunting</i> (1999)	PG-13	✓	✓				✓			✓	✓		✓	✓
<i>The Secret Life of Bees</i> (2008)	PG-13	✓	✓				✓			✓	✓		✓	✓
<i>Jurassic Park</i> (1993)	PG-13	✓	✓							✓	✓		✓	✓
<i>The Jungle Book</i> (2016)	PG	✓	✓				✓			✓	✓		✓	✓
<i>The Jungle Book</i> (1994)	PG	✓	✓				✓	✓					✓	✓
<i>The Jungle Book</i> (1967) Animated	G	✓				✓							✓	
<i>Inherit the Wind</i> (1999) TV Movie	-	✓												
<i>Inherit the Wind</i> (1988) TV Movie	-		✓											
<i>Inherit the Wind</i> (1960)	PG	✓	✓					✓					✓	✓
<i>The Blind Side</i> (2009)	PG-13	✓	✓							✓			✓	✓
<i>The Call of the Wild</i> (2020)	PG	✓	✓				✓						✓	✓
<i>Call of the Wild</i> (2008)	PG	✓	✓											
<i>Call of the Wild</i> (2000) TV Series	-		✓											
<i>Call of the Wild</i> (1972)	PG	✓	✓											
<i>Call of the Wild</i> (1935)	NR	✓	✓				✓			✓			✓	✓
<i>Anne of Green Gables</i> (2016) TV Movie	-	✓					✓			✓			✓	✓
<i>Anne of Green Gables</i> (1985) TV Mini-Series	-	✓												
<i>Tom Sawyer</i> (2002)	PG	✓												
<i>Tom Sawyer</i> (1973)	G	✓	✓							✓	✓		✓	

Advanced Literature Survey and Composition:

In addition to one choice novel from the list above, students enrolled in **Advanced Literature Survey and Composition** should read *Our Town* by Thornton Wilder for a total of **TWO** books.

Wilder, Thornton - *Our Town*

First produced and published in 1938, this Pulitzer Prize-winning drama of life in the small village of Grover's Corners has become an American classic and is Thornton Wilder's most renowned and most frequently performed play.

REQUIRED CHOICE READING: Choose ONE book from the following list

Beah, Ishmael - *A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy Soldier* (*)

In the more than fifty conflicts going on worldwide, it is estimated that there are some 300,000 child soldiers. Ishmael Beah used to be one of them. What is war like through the eyes of a child soldier? How does one become a killer? How does one stop? Child soldiers have been profiled by journalists, and novelists have struggled to imagine their lives. But until now, there has not been a first-person account from someone who came through this and survived. In *A Long Way Gone*, Beah, now twenty-five years old, tells a riveting story: how at the age of twelve, he fled attacking rebels and wandered a land rendered unrecognizable by violence. By thirteen, he'd been picked up by the government army, and Beah, at heart a gentle boy, found that he was capable of truly terrible acts. Contains violence.

Berry, Steve - *The Romanov Prophecy*

In present day Moscow, Atlanta lawyer Miles Lord is thrilled to be in Moscow on the eve of a momentous event. After the fall of Communism and a succession of weak governments, the Russian people have voted to bring back the monarchy. The new tsar will be chosen from the distant relatives of Nicholas II by a specially appointed commission, and Miles's job is to perform a background check on the Tsarist candidate favored by a powerful group of Western businessmen. Research quickly becomes the least of Miles's concerns, and suddenly Miles is racing across continents, shadowed by nefarious henchmen. Contains mature situations.

Buck, Pearl - *The Good Earth* (*)

Wang Lung, rising from humble Chinese farmer to wealthy landowner, gloried in the soil he worked. Through this one Chinese peasant and his children, Nobel Prize-winner Pearl S. Buck traces the whole cycle of life: its terrors, its passion, its persistent ambitions, and its rewards. Her brilliant novel—beloved by millions of readers throughout the world—is a universal tale of the destiny of men. Pulitzer Prize and the Howells Medal winner.

Danticat, Edwidge - *The Farming of Bones* (*)

Amabelle Desir, a Haitian-born faithful maidservant, and her lover Sebastien, an itinerant sugarcane cutter, decide they will marry and return to Haiti at the end of the cane season. However, as rumors of Haitian persecution become fact and anxiety turns to terror, Amabelle and Sebastien's dreams are leveled to the most basic human desire: to endure. Based on a little-known historical event, this extraordinarily moving novel memorializes the forgotten victims of nationalist madness and the deeply felt passion and grief of its survivors. Contains violence and mature situations.

Hosseini, Khaled - *The Kite Runner* (*)

This is a story about friendship, betrayal, and the price of loyalty between two boys growing up in Kabul, Afghanistan. Amir is the son of a prominent and wealthy man, while Hassan, the son of Amir's father's servant, is a Hazara — a shunned ethnic minority. Their intertwined lives, and their fates, reflect the eventual tragedy of the world around them. Contains mature situations.

Kingsolver, Barbara - *The Poisonwood Bible* (*)

The Poisonwood Bible is a story told by the wife and four daughters of Nathan Price, a fierce, evangelical Baptist who takes his family and mission to the Belgian Congo in 1959. They carry with them everything they believe they will need from home, but soon find that all of it—from garden seeds to Scripture—is calamitously transformed on African soil. What follows is a suspenseful epic of one family's tragic undoing and remarkable reconstruction over the course of three decades in postcolonial Africa. The novel is set against one of the most dramatic political chronicles of the twentieth century: the Congo's fight for independence from Belgium, the order of its first elected prime minister, the CIA coup to install his replacement, and the insidious progress of a world economic order that robs the fledgling African nation of its autonomy.

Krakauer, John - *Into Thin Air*

A bank of clouds was assembling on the not-so-distant horizon, but journalist-mountaineer Jon Krakauer, standing on the summit of Mt. Everest, saw nothing that "suggested that a murderous storm was bearing down." He was wrong. The storm, which claimed five lives and left countless more—including Krakauer's—in guilt-ridden disarray, would also provide the impetus for *Into Thin Air*, Krakauer's epic account of the May 1996 disaster. Krakauer's highly personal inquiry into the catastrophe provides a great deal of insight into what went wrong. But for Krakauer himself, further interviews and investigations only lead him to the conclusion that his perceived failures were directly responsible for a fellow climber's death.

See, Lisa - *Snow Flower and the Secret Fan* (*)

In nineteenth-century China, when wives and daughters were foot-bound and lived in almost total seclusion, the women in one remote Hunan county developed their own secret code for communication: nu shu (“women’s writing”). Some girls were paired with laotongs, “old sames,” in emotional matches that lasted throughout their lives. With the arrival of a silk fan on which Snow Flower has composed for Lily a poem of introduction in nu shu, their friendship is sealed and they become “old sames” at the tender age of seven. As the years pass, through famine and rebellion, they reflect upon their arranged marriages, loneliness, and the joys and tragedies of motherhood. The two find solace, developing a bond that keeps their spirits alive. Contains mature situations.

Sepetys, Ruta - *Between Shades of Gray* (*)

Fifteen-year-old Lina is a Lithuanian girl living an ordinary life—until Soviet officers invade her home and tear her family apart. Separated from her father and forced onto a crowded train, Lina, her mother, and her young brother make their way to a Siberian work camp, where they are forced to fight for their lives. Lina finds solace in her art, documenting these events by drawing. Risking everything, she imbeds clues in her drawings of their location and secretly passes them along, hoping her drawings will make their way to her father's prison camp. But will strength, love, and hope be enough for Lina and her family to survive?

Yousafzai, Malala with Christina Lamb - *I Am Malala* (*)

When the Taliban took control of the Swat Valley in Pakistan, one girl spoke out. Malala Yousafzai refused to be silenced and fought for her right to an education. On Tuesday, October 9, 2012, when she was fifteen, she almost paid the ultimate price. She was shot in the head at point-blank range while riding the bus home from school, and few expected her to survive. Instead, Malala's miraculous recovery has taken her on an extraordinary journey from a remote valley in northern Pakistan to the halls of the United Nations in New York. At sixteen, she became a global symbol of peaceful protest and the youngest nominee ever for the Nobel Peace Prize.

Advanced World Literature and Composition:

In addition to one choice novel from the list above, students enrolled in **Advanced World Literature and Composition** should read *The Alchemist* by Paulo Coelho **for a total of TWO books.**

Coelho, Paulo - *The Alchemist* (*)

The Alchemist is the magical story of Santiago, an Andalusian shepherd boy who yearns to travel in search of a worldly treasure as extravagant as any ever found. From his home in Spain he journeys to the markets of Tangiers and across the Egyptian desert. The story of the treasures Santiago finds along the way teaches, as only a few stories have done, about the essential wisdom of listening to our hearts, learning to read the omens strewn along life's path, and, above all, following our dreams.

American Literature and Composition

REQUIRED CHOICE READING: Choose **ONE book** from the following list

Alexie, Sherman- *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian*

Alexie tells the story of Junior, a budding cartoonist growing up on the Spokane Indian Reservation. Determined to take his future into his own hands, Junior leaves his troubled school on the Rez to attend an all-white farm town high school where the only other Indian is the school mascot. Contains mature situations.

Anderson, Laurie Halse- *Speak*

In Laurie Halse Anderson's powerful novel, an utterly believable heroine with a bitterly ironic voice delivers a blow to the hypocritical world of high school. She speaks for many a disenfranchised teenager while demonstrating the importance of speaking up for oneself. Contains mature situations.

Angelou, Maya - *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*

Sent by their mother to live with their devout, self-sufficient grandmother in a small Southern town, Maya and her brother, Bailey, endure the ache of abandonment and the prejudice of the local "powhitetrash." At eight years old in St. Louis, Maya is attacked by a man—and has to live with the consequences for a lifetime. Years later, Maya learns about love for herself and the kindness of others, her own strong spirit, and the ideas of great authors will allow her to be free instead of imprisoned. Contains mature situations, language, and violence.

Capote, Truman - *In Cold Blood*

With the publication of this book, Capote permanently ripped through the barrier separating crime reportage from serious literature. As he reconstructs the 1959 murder of a Kansas farm family and the investigation that led to the capture, trial, and execution of the killers, Capote generates suspense and empathy. Contains mature situations, language, and violence.

Salinger, J.D. - *Catcher in the Rye*

Salinger's classic coming-of-age story portrays one young man's funny and poignant experiences with life, love, and sex. Read and cherished by generations, the story of Holden Caulfield is truly one of America's literary treasures. Contains mature situations and language. Contains mature language and situations.

Vonnegut, Kurt- *Slaughterhouse-Five*

Kurt Vonnegut's absurdist classic *Slaughterhouse-Five* introduces us to Billy Pilgrim, a man who becomes unstuck in time after he is abducted by aliens from the planet Tralfamadore. In a plot-scrambling display of virtuosity, we follow Pilgrim simultaneously through all phases of his life, concentrating on his (and Vonnegut's) shattering experience as an American prisoner of war who witnesses the firebombing of Dresden. Contains mature situations and language.

Walker, Alice - *The Color Purple*

Published to unprecedented acclaim, *The Color Purple* is foremost the story of Celie, a poor, barely literate Southern black woman who struggles to escape the brutality and degradation of her treatment by men. *The Color Purple* established Alice Walker as a major voice in modern fiction. Contains mature situations, language, and violence.

Advanced Placement (AP) Language and Composition:

In addition to one choice novel from the list above, students enrolled in **AP Language and Composition** should read the following **for a total of FOUR books.**

Strunk, William and E.B. White - *The Elements of Style*

Asserting that one must first know the rules to break them, this classic reference book is a must-have for any student and conscientious writer. Intended for use in which the practice of composition is combined with the study of literature, it gives in brief space the principal requirements of plain English style and concentrates attention on the rules of usage and principles of composition most commonly violated.

- Read this before *On Writing*; Stephen King makes reference to this book
- There will be a test in the first days of school over the content of *The Elements of Style*

King, Stephen - *On Writing*

Part memoir, part master class by one of the bestselling authors of all time, this superb volume is a revealing and practical view of the writer's craft, comprising the basic tools of the trade every writer must have. King's advice is grounded in his vivid memories from childhood through his emergence as a writer, from his struggling early career to his widely reported near-fatal accident in 1999 -- and how the inextricable link between writing and living spurred his recovery. Brilliantly structured, friendly and inspiring, *On Writing* will empower and entertain everyone who reads it -- fans, writers, and anyone who loves a great story well told.

Whitehead, Colson - *The Nickel Boys*

As the Civil Rights movement begins to reach the black enclave of Frenchtown in segregated Tallahassee, Elwood Curtis takes the words of Dr. Martin Luther King to heart: He is "as good as anyone." But for a black boy in the Jim Crow South in the early 1960s, one innocent mistake is enough to destroy the future. Elwood is sentenced to a juvenile reformatory called The Nickel Academy, whose mission statement says it provides "physical, intellectual and moral training" so the delinquent boys in their charge can become "honorable and honest men." Based on the real story of a reform school in Florida that operated for one hundred and eleven years and warped the lives of thousands of children. Contains mature situations, language, and violence.

REQUIRED CHOICE READING: Choose ONE book from the following list

Adam, Douglas - *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*

Seconds before the Earth is demolished to make way for a galactic freeway, Arthur Dent is plucked off the planet by his friend Ford Prefect, a researcher for the revised edition of *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy* who, for the last fifteen years, has been posing as an out-of-work actor. Together this dynamic pair begin a journey through space aided by quotes from *The Hitchhiker's Guide* and a galaxy-full of fellow travelers.

Fielding, Helen - *Bridget Jones's Diary*

Bridget Jones's Diary is the devastatingly self-aware, laugh-out-loud account of a year in the life of a thirty-something Singleton on a permanent doomed quest for self-improvement. With a blend of flighty charm, existential gloom, and endearing self-deprecation, *Bridget Jones's Diary* has touched a raw nerve with millions of readers the world round. Read it and laugh—before you cry, "Bridget Jones is me!" Contains mature situations.

Gaiman, Neil - *Ocean at the End of the Lane*

Sussex, England. A middle-aged man returns to his childhood home to attend a funeral. Although the house he lived in is long gone, he is drawn to the farm at the end of the road, where, when he was seven, he encountered a most remarkable girl, Lettie Hempstock, and her mother and grandmother. He hasn't thought of Lettie in decades, and yet as he sits by the pond (a pond that she'd claimed was an ocean) behind the ramshackle old farmhouse, the unremembered past comes flooding back. And it is a past too strange, too frightening, too dangerous to have happened to anyone, let alone a small boy.

Galbraith, Robert (J.K. Rowling) - *The Cuckoo's Calling*

After losing his leg to a land mine in Afghanistan, Cormoran Strike is barely scraping by as a private investigator. Strike is down to one client, and creditors are calling. He has also just broken up with his longtime girlfriend and is living in his office. Then John Bristow walks through his door with an amazing story: His sister, the legendary supermodel Lula Landry, known to her friends as the Cuckoo, famously fell to her death a few months earlier. The police ruled it a suicide, but John refuses to believe that. The case plunges Strike into the world of multimillionaire beauties, rock-star boyfriends, and desperate designers. Contains mature situations.

Gregory, Philippa - *The Other Boleyn Girl*

When Mary Boleyn comes to court as an innocent girl of fourteen, she catches the eye of Henry VIII. Dazzled by the king, Mary falls in love with both her golden prince and her growing role as unofficial queen. However, she soon realizes just how much she is a pawn in her family's ambitious plots as the king's interest begins to wane and she is forced to step aside for her best friend and rival: her sister, Anne. Then Mary knows that she must defy her family and her king, and take her fate into her own hands. Contains mature situations.

Hornby, Nick - *Fever Pitch*

In America, it is soccer. But in Great Britain, it is the real football. No pads, no prayers, no prisoners. And that's before the players even take the field. Nick Hornby has been a football fan since the moment he was conceived. *Fever Pitch* is his tribute to a lifelong obsession. Part autobiography, part comedy, part incisive analysis of insanity, Hornby's award-winning memoir captures the fever pitch of fandom — its agony and ecstasy, its community, its defining role in thousands of young men's coming-of-age stories. Contains mature situations and language.

Horowitz, Anthony - *House of Silk*

Sherlock Holmes is the greatest detective in literary history. For the first time since the death of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, a new Holmes story has been sanctioned by his estate, whetting the appetites of fans everywhere. Information about the book will be revealed as deliberately as Holmes himself would unravel a knotty case, but bestselling novelist and Holmes expert Anthony Horowitz is sure to bring a compelling, atmospheric story to life. With access to the estate's archives and careful study of the original stories, Horowitz is sure to weave a tale that satisfies new fans as well as the most dedicated Baker Street Irregular. Contains mature situations.

Ishiguro, Kazuo - *The Buried Giant*

In post-Arthurian Britain, the wars that once raged between the Saxons and the Britons have finally ceased. Axl and Beatrice, an elderly British couple, set off to visit their son, whom they haven't seen in years. And, because a strange mist has caused mass amnesia throughout the land, they can scarcely remember anything about him. As they are joined on their journey by a Saxon warrior, his orphan charge, and an illustrious knight, Axl and Beatrice slowly begin to remember the dark and troubled past they all share.

James, P.D. - *Death Comes to Pemberley*

In their six years of marriage, Elizabeth and Darcy have forged a peaceful, happy life for their family at Pemberley, Darcy's impressive estate. Her father is a regular visitor; her sister Jane and her husband, Bingley, live nearby; the marriage prospects for Darcy's sister, Georgiana, are favorable. And preparations for their annual autumn ball are proceeding apace. But on the eve of the ball, chaos descends. Lydia Wickham, Elizabeth's disgraced sister who, with her husband, has been barred from the estate, arrives in a hysterical state—shrieking that Wickham has been murdered. Plunged into frightening mystery and a lurid murder trial, the lives of Pemberley's owners and servants alike may never be the same.

McEwan, Ian - *Atonement*

On a hot summer day in 1935, thirteen-year-old Briony Tallis witnesses a moment's flirtation between her older sister, Cecilia, and Robbie Turner, the son of a servant. But Briony's incomplete grasp of adult motives—together with her precocious literary gifts—brings about a crime that will change all their lives. As it follows that crime's repercussions through the chaos and carnage of World War II and into the close of the twentieth century, *Atonement* engages the reader on every conceivable level, with an ease and authority that mark it as a genuine masterpiece. Contains mature situations.

Moyes, JoJo - *The Girl You Left Behind*

Paris, World War I. Sophie Lefèvre must keep her family safe while her adored husband, Édouard, fights at the front. When their town falls to the Germans, Sophie is forced to serve them every evening at her hotel. From the moment the new Kommandant sets eyes on Sophie's portrait—painted by her artist husband—a dangerous obsession is born. Almost a century later in London, Sophie's portrait hangs in the home of Liv Halston, a wedding gift from her young husband before his sudden death. After a chance encounter reveals the portrait's true worth, a battle begins over its troubled history and Liv's world is turned upside all over again. Contains mature situations.

Moyes, JoJo - *Me Before You*

Louisa Clark is an ordinary girl living an exceedingly ordinary life—steady boyfriend, close family—who has barely been farther afield than their tiny village. She takes a badly needed job working for ex-Master of the Universe Will Traynor, who is wheelchair bound after an accident. Will has always lived a huge life—big deals, extreme sports, worldwide travel—and now he's pretty sure he cannot live the way he is. Will is acerbic, moody, bossy—but Lou refuses to treat him with kid gloves, and soon his happiness means more to her than she expected. When she learns that Will has shocking plans of his own, she sets out to show him that life is still worth living. Contains mature situations.

Noah, Trevor - *Born a Crime* (*)

Trevor Noah's unlikely path from apartheid South Africa to the desk of *The Daily Show* began with a criminal act: his birth. Trevor was born to a white Swiss father and a black Xhosa mother at a time when such a union was punishable by five years in prison. Living proof of his parents' indiscretion, Trevor was kept mostly indoors for the earliest years of his life, bound by the extreme and often absurd measures his mother took to hide him from a government that could, at any moment, steal him away. Finally liberated by the end of South Africa's tyrannical white rule, Trevor and his mother set forth on a grand adventure, living openly and freely and embracing the opportunities won by a centuries-long struggle. Contains mature situations.

St. John Mandel, Emily - *Station Eleven*

An audacious, darkly glittering novel set in the eerie days of civilization's collapse, *Station Eleven* tells the spellbinding story of a Hollywood star, his would-be savior, and a nomadic group of actors roaming the scattered outposts of the Great Lakes region, risking everything for art and humanity. Spanning decades, moving back and forth in time, and vividly depicting life before and after the pandemic, this suspenseful, elegiac novel is rife with beauty. As Arthur falls in and out of love, as Jeevan watches the newscasters say their final good-byes, and as Kirsten finds herself caught in the crosshairs of the prophet, we see the strange twists of fate that connect them all. A novel of art, memory, and ambition, *Station Eleven* tells a story about the relationships that sustain us, the ephemeral nature of fame, and the beauty of the world as we know it. Contains mature situations.

Worth, Jennifer - *Call the Midwife: A Memoir of Birth, Joy, and Hard Times*

In the 1950s, twenty-two-year-old Jenny Lee leaves her comfortable home to move into a convent and become a midwife in London's East End slums. While delivering babies all over the city, Jenny encounters a colorful cast of women—from the plucky, warm-hearted nuns with whom she lives, to the woman with twenty-four children who can't speak English, to the prostitutes of the city's seedier side. Contains mature situations.

Advanced Placement (AP) Literature and Composition

Students enrolled in **AP Literature and Composition** should read the following as a required **FIRST** selection:

Foster, Thomas C. - *How to Read Literature Like a Professor*

In this practical and amusing guide to literature, Thomas C. Foster shows how easy and gratifying it is to unlock those hidden truths, and to discover a world where a road leads to a quest; a shared meal may signify a communion; and rain, whether cleansing or destructive, is never just rain. Ranging from major themes to literary models, narrative devices, and form, *How to Read Literature Like a Professor* is the perfect companion for making your reading experience more enriching, satisfying, and fun.

Students enrolled in **AP Literature and Composition** should also choose a second selection of **one pairing** for a total of **THREE books**:

PAIRING ONE

Austen, Jane - *Emma*

Jane Austen exercises her taste for cutting social observation and her talent for investing seemingly trivial events with profound moral significance as Emma traverses a gentle satire of provincial balls and drawing rooms, along the way encountering the sweet Harriet Smith, the chatty and tedious Miss Bates, and her absurd father Mr. Woodhouse—a memorable gallery of Austen's finest personages. Thinking herself impervious to romance of any kind, Emma tries to arrange a wealthy marriage for poor Harriet, but refuses to recognize her own feelings for the gallant Mr. Knightley. What ensues is a delightful series of scheming escapades in which every social machination and bit of "tittle-tattle" is steeped in Austen's delicious irony. Ultimately, Emma discovers that "Perfect happiness, even in memory, is not common."

Smith, Alexander - *Emma*

The summer after university, Emma Woodhouse returns home to the village of Highbury to prepare for the launch of her interior design business. As she cultivates grand plans for the future, she re-enters the household of her hypochondriac father, who has been living alone on a steady diet of vegetables and vitamin supplements. Soon Emma befriends Harriet Smith, the naïve but charming young teacher's assistant at an English-language school run by the hippie-ish Mrs. Goddard. Harriet is Emma's inspiration to do the two things she does best: offer guidance to those less wise in the ways of the world and put her matchmaking skills to good use.

PAIRING TWO

Austen, Jane - *Sense and Sensibility*

Jane Austen's first published novel, *Sense and Sensibility* is a wonderfully entertaining tale of flirtation and folly that revolves around two starkly different sisters, Elinor and Marianne Dashwood. While Elinor is thoughtful, considerate, and calm, her younger sister is emotional and wildly romantic. Both are looking for a husband, but neither Elinor's reason nor Marianne's passion can lead them to perfect happiness—as Marianne falls for an unscrupulous rascal and Elinor becomes attached to a man who's already engaged. Startling secrets, unexpected twists, and heartless betrayals interrupt the marriage games that follow. Filled with satiric wit and subtle characterizations, *Sense and Sensibility* teaches that true love requires a balance of reason and emotion.

Trollope, Joanna - *Sense and Sensibility*

From Joanna Trollope, one of the most insightful chroniclers of family life writing fiction today, comes a contemporary retelling of *Sense and Sensibility*, Jane Austen's classic novel of love, money, and two very different sisters. John Dashwood promised his dying father that he would take care of his half sisters. But his wife, Fanny, has no desire to share their newly inherited estate. When she descends upon Norland Park, the three Dashwood girls—Elinor, Marianne, and Margaret—are faced with the realities of a cold world and the cruelties of life without their father, their home, or their money.

PAIRING THREE

Bronte, Emily - *Wuthering Heights*

Emily Brontë's only novel, *Wuthering Heights*, remains one of literature's most disturbing explorations into the dark side of romantic passion. Heathcliff and Cathy believe they're destined to love each other forever, but when cruelty and snobbery separate them, their untamed emotions literally consume them. Set amid the wild and stormy Yorkshire moors, *Wuthering Heights*, an unpolished and devastating epic of childhood playmates who grow into soul mates, is widely regarded as the most original tale of thwarted desire and heartbreak in the English language.

Wyler, Susan M. - *Solsbury Hill*

The windswept moors of England, a grand rustic estate, and a love story of one woman caught between two men who love her powerfully—all inspired by Emily Brontë's beloved classic, *Wuthering Heights*. *Solsbury Hill* brings the legend of Catherine and Heathcliff, and that of their mysterious creator herself, into a contemporary love story that unlocks the past. When a surprise call from a dying aunt brings twenty-something New Yorker Eleanor Abbott to the Yorkshire moors, and the family estate she is about to inherit, she finds a world beyond anything she might have expected. Having left behind an American fiancé, here Eleanor meets Meadowscarp MacLeod—a young man who challenges and changes her. Here too she encounters the presence of Brontë herself and discovers a family legacy they may share.

PAIRING FOUR

Forster, E.M. - *Howards End*

Considered by many to be E. M. Forster's greatest novel, *Howards End* is a beautifully subtle tale of two very different families brought together by an unusual event. The Schlegels are intellectuals, devotees of art and literature. The Wilcoxes are practical and materialistic, leading lives of "telegrams and anger." When the elder Mrs. Wilcox dies and her family discovers she has left their country home—Howards End—to one of the Schlegel sisters, a crisis between the two families is precipitated that takes years to resolve.

Smith, Zadie - *On Beauty*

On Beauty is the story of an interracial family living in the university town of Wellington, Massachusetts, whose misadventures in the culture wars—on both sides of the Atlantic—serve to skewer everything from family life to political correctness to the combustive collision between the personal and the political. Full of dead-on wit and relentlessly funny, this tour de force confirms Zadie Smith's reputation as a major literary talent.

PAIRING FIVE

Shakespeare, William - *Taming of the Shrew*

Love and marriage are the concerns of Shakespeare's *The Taming of the Shrew*. Lucentio's marriage to Bianca is prompted by his idealized love of an apparently ideal woman. Petruchio's wooing of Katherine, however, is free of idealism. Petruchio takes money from Bianca's suitors to woo her, since Katherine must marry before her sister by her father's decree; he also arranges the dowry with her father. Petruchio is then ready to marry Katherine, even against her will. Katherine, the shrew of the play's title, certainly acts much changed. But have she and Petruchio learned to love each other? Or is the marriage based on terror and deception?

Tyler, Anne - *Vinegar Girl*

Pulitzer Prize winner Anne Tyler brings an inspired, witty and irresistible contemporary take on one of Shakespeare's most beloved comedies. Kate Battista feels stuck. How did she end up running house and home for her eccentric scientist father and uppity, pretty younger sister Bunny? Plus, she's always in trouble at work – her pre-school charges adore her, but their parents don't always appreciate her unusual opinions and forthright manner. Dr. Battista has other problems. After years out in the academic wilderness, he is on the verge of a breakthrough. His research could help millions. There's only one problem: his brilliant young lab assistant, Pyotr, is about to be deported. And without Pyotr, all would be lost. When Dr. Battista cooks up an outrageous plan that will enable Pyotr to stay in the country, he's relying – as usual – on Kate to help him. Kate is furious: this time he's really asking too much. But will she be able to resist the two men's touchingly ludicrous campaign to bring her around?

PAIRING SIX

Shakespeare, William - *The Tempest*

Putting romance onstage, *The Tempest* gives us a magician, Prospero, a former duke of Milan who was displaced by his treacherous brother, Antonio. Prospero is exiled on an island, where his only companions are his daughter, Miranda, the spirit Ariel, and the monster Caliban. When his enemies are among those caught in a storm near the island, Prospero turns his power upon them through Ariel and other spirits. The characters exceed the roles of villains and heroes. Prospero seems heroic, yet he enslaves Caliban and has an appetite for revenge. Caliban seems to be a monster for attacking Miranda, but appears heroic in resisting Prospero, evoking the period of colonialism during which the play was written. Miranda's engagement to Ferdinand, the Prince of Naples and a member of the shipwrecked party, helps resolve the drama.

Atwood, Margaret - *Hagseed*

William Shakespeare's *The Tempest* retold as *Hag-Seed*. Felix is at the top of his game as Artistic Director of the Makeshiweg Theatre Festival. His productions have amazed and confounded. Now he's staging a *Tempest* like no other: not only will it boost his reputation, it will heal emotional wounds. Or that was the plan. Instead, after an act of unforeseen treachery, Felix is living in exile in a backwoods hovel, haunted by memories of his beloved lost daughter, Miranda. After twelve years, revenge finally arrives in the shape of a theatre course at a nearby prison. Here, Felix and his inmate actors will put on his *Tempest* and snare the traitors who destroyed him. It's magic! But will it remake Felix as his enemies fall? Margaret Atwood's novel take on Shakespeare's play of enchantment, retribution, and second chances leads us on an interactive, illusion-ridden journey filled with new surprises and wonders of its own. Contains mature situations.

PAIRING SEVEN

Wilde, Oscar - *The Picture of Dorian Gray*

Oscar Wilde brings his enormous gifts for astute social observation and sparkling prose to *The Picture of Dorian Gray*, his dreamlike story of a young man who sells his soul for eternal youth and beauty. This dandy, who remains forever unchanged—petulant, hedonistic, vain, and amoral—while a painting of him ages and grows increasingly hideous with the years, has been horrifying, enchanting, obsessing, even corrupting readers for more than a hundred years. Contains Mature Situations.

Reed, Rick - *A Face without a Heart*

A modern-day and thought-provoking retelling of Oscar Wilde's *The Picture of Dorian Gray* that esteemed horror magazine Fangoria called "...a book that is brutally honest with its reader and doesn't flinch in the areas where Wilde had to look away.... A rarity: a really well-done update that's as good as its source material." A beautiful young man bargains his soul away to remain young and handsome forever, while his holographic portrait mirrors his aging and decay and reflects every sin and each nightmarish step deeper into depravity... even cold-blooded murder. Prepare yourself for a compelling tour of the darkest sides of greed, lust, addiction, and violence. Contains Mature Situations.

PAIRING EIGHT (This may ONLY be chosen by SENIORS enrolled in the course)

Paton, Alan - *Cry the Beloved Country* (*)

The most famous and important novel in South Africa's history, and an immediate worldwide bestseller when it was published in 1948, Alan Paton's impassioned novel about a black man's country under white man's law is a work of searing beauty. *Cry, the Beloved Country* is the deeply moving story of the Zulu pastor Stephen Kumalo and his son, Absalom, set against the background of a land and a people riven by racial injustice. Remarkable for its lyricism, unforgettable for character and incident, *Cry, the Beloved Country* is a classic work of love and hope, courage and endurance, born of the dignity of man. Contains mature situations.

Noah, Trevor - *Born a Crime* (*)

Trevor Noah's unlikely path from apartheid South Africa to the desk of *The Daily Show* began with a criminal act: his birth. Trevor was born to a white Swiss father and a black Xhosa mother at a time when such a union was punishable by five years in prison. Living proof of his parents' indiscretion, Trevor was kept mostly indoors for the earliest years of his life, bound by the extreme and often absurd measures his mother took to hide him from a government that could, at any moment, steal him away. Finally liberated by the end of South Africa's tyrannical white rule, Trevor and his mother set forth on a grand adventure, living openly and freely and embracing the opportunities won by a centuries-long struggle. Contains mature situations.