



Honors English 11

Summer Reading 2011 - 2012

Welcome to your junior year—

Your first assignment in Honors English 11 is summer reading. For this year’s summer reading assignment, you will read two literary works of your choice from the Honors English 11 Summer Reading List (attached). The intent of this assignment is to create an opportunity for you to choose literary works which are of particular interest to you and to expand the number of literary works you will encounter; therefore, although there is value revisiting previously encountered literary works, **a re-read of works you have already read is not acceptable for this assignment.**

As you read each book, look for text connections. A text connection helps a reader develop a unique insightful understanding of the literary work. Here are three types of text connections:



Text to World

This is a connection you can make between the literary work and the world outside of your own experience or a book. For example, text to world connections reference significant moments in sports or history. They can also reference places in our world or current events.



Text to Self

This is a connection you can make between the literary work and your own personal experiences. *Note: This text connection must be significant. A “text to self” connection which indicates that you are a student and the main character is as well, is not a significant connection.*



Text to Text

This is a connection you can make between the literary work and another book, short story, film, song, poem or work of art.

For each summer reading book, you will need to document (in the manner indicated below) a minimum of:

- Two “text to world” connections
- Two “text to self” connections
- Two “text to text” connections

Organize and type up your information in the manner indicated below with a separate file/document for each summer reading book:

Your Name
 Teacher Name
 Honors English 11
 July 20, 2011

Summer Reading - Book # 1
Novel/Work: *To Kill A Mockingbird*
Author: Harper Lee

“Text to World” Connection # 1

The Great Depression connects to this novel because it impacts Atticus, a lawyer, who despite the socio-economic status of lawyers at that time, must “tighten his belt”. Some of his clients have been forced to pay him in goods (ie. food left on his back porch).

“Text to World” Connection # 2

cont. ...

Once the 11-12 academic year begins, you will be assigned something interesting, enlightening and intellectually challenging to do with your summer reading and text connections. Enjoy your summer and enjoy your reading! We look forward to seeing you in class and remember - this assignment must be completed and handed in at the start of your Honors English 11 class on the first day of classes for the 2011-2012 academic year.

Mrs. Juster & Mr. Smith
 Honors English 11 Teachers



WHAT SHOULD I DO IF I HAVE CONCERNS RELATED TO THIS ASSIGNMENT?

If you have concerns related to this assignment, you must contact Dr. Lindley-Soucy, Curriculum Coordinator, via email klindley-soucy@londonderry.org or phone 432-6941 ext. 2014 before the start of the 2010-2011 academic year.



Honors English 11 Summer Reading List 2011-2012

Note: If you would like to read a work by an American author who does not appear on this list, contact your teacher via email for expressed written approval.

Mrs. Juster's email address: ejuster@londonderry.org

Mr. Smith's email address: msmith@londonderry.org

- This list has been designed to provide students with a broad range of reading choices in terms of subject matter, genre and complexity. It reflects the position on reading of the *National Council of Teachers of English* by providing an opportunity for students to “access...a wide range of texts that mirror the range of students’ abilities and interests (as well as) ample time to read a wide range of materials from the very simple to the very challenging” (NCTE Position Statement on Reading).
- Descriptions of literary works are from the following sources: Sundance Publishing Company, American Library Association, Amazon.com and Barnes and Noble publisher annotations and editor reviews.

Classic Fiction

The Age of Innocence- Wharton Brilliant portrayal of New York Society in the 1870's, where money counted more than manners or morals.

As I Lay Dying – Faulkner At the heart of this 1930 novel is the Bundren family's bizarre journey to Jefferson to bury Addie, their wife and mother. Faulkner lets each family member — including Addie — and others along the way tell their private responses to Addie's life.

The Catcher in the Rye - Salinger Holden Caulfield is the quintessentially alienated, private school rebel in this controversial 1945 classic.

Catch-22 - Heller A savagely funny war novel: military madness and civilian insanity in World War II.

Ethan Frome - Wharton This tragic love story set in New England has become a timeless classic.

For Whom the Bell Tolls – Hemingway This masterpiece of time and place tells a profound and timeless story of courage and commitment, love and loss, that takes place over a fleeting 72 hours. Drawing on Hemingway's own involvement in the Spanish Civil War, *For Whom the Bell Tolls* reflects his passionate feelings about the nature of war and the meaning of loyalty.

Invisible Man- Ellison Strange, gripping saga of a black man who struggles from the South to the North, always encountering other people's preconceived notions about him.

A Tree Grows in Brooklyn - Smith The Nolans lived in Brooklyn slums from 1902 to 1919. This is the story of Francie, their daughter, and the beginnings of wisdom.

Winesburg, Ohio – Anderson Sherwood Anderson's masterpiece, a cycle of short stories concerning life in a small Ohio town at the end of the nineteenth century.

ExxonMobil Masterpiece Theatre American Collection

Learn more about this collection at: www.pbs.org/wgbh/masterpiece/americancollection/

Almost a Woman – Santiago In her new memoir the author of *When I Was Puerto Rican* continues the chronicle of her emergence from the barrios of Brooklyn to the theaters of Manhattan, a brave and heartfelt immigrant story.

The American – James Christopher Newman, a wealthy American businessman, descends on Europe in search of a wife to make his fortune complete. In Paris, he is introduced to Claire de Cintré daughter of the ancient House of Bellegarde, and to Valentin, her charming young brother. His bid for Claire's hand receives an icy welcome from the heads of the family, an elder brother and their formidable mother, the old Marquise. Can they stomach his manners for the sake of his dollars? Out of this classic collision between the old world and the new, James weaves a fable of thwarted desire that shifts between comedy, tragedy, romance, and melodrama.

A Death in the Family – Agee Agee's great novel of a loving, close-knit family and the courage they display when tragedy suddenly changes their lives.

The Ponder Heart – Welty A comic work of fiction about a small-town Southerner who had a penchant for giving things away.

Song of the Lark – Cather In the Cather tradition, a memorable heroine emerges as a woman of strength and hope who works to build a life that affirms her unflagging spirit.

Fiction

A Painted House- Grisham A story inspired by Grisham's own childhood in rural Arkansas. The seven year old narrator, Luke, sees and hears things no seven-year-old could possibly be prepared for, and finds himself keeping secrets that not only threaten the crop but will change the lives of the Chandlers forever.

The Aguero Sisters - Williams-Garcia A lyrical story of family secrets and cultural boundaries. Reina and Constanca are sisters who reunite after a thirty-year estrangement. NYT Notable.

All the Pretty Horses- McCarthy John Grady Cole is a young Texas rancher who sets off for adventure in the beautiful but dangerous borderland of Mexico. National Book Award.

Anywhere But Here - Simpson Adele, a larger-than-life American dreamer, and her wise child Ann August follow their perennial urge to keep moving on the open road.

Black Elk Speaks - Neihardt The life story and personal vision of a Sioux warrior and medicine man who lived through the Battle of Little Big Horn, the massacre at Wounded Knee, and the death of his people.

Charming Billy – McDermott Resonant with the voices of its bereaved characters and fueled by nostalgia and lost love, *Charming Billy* is the story of the life and tragic death of Billy Lynch. *National Book Award*.

A Civil Action - Harr The true courtroom drama of a grieving community's struggle for justice in the face of corporate power and a legal system gone awry. It is also the story of an unlikely hero and how one person can make a difference.

Cold Mountain- Frazier Inman, a wounded Civil War soldier, endures the elements, the Guard, and his own weakness and infirmity to return to his sweetheart, Ada, who is fighting her own battle to survive while farming the mountainous North Carolina terrain.

The DaVinci Code – Brown While in Paris on business, Harvard symbologist Robert Langdon receives an urgent late-night phone call: the elderly curator of the Louvre has been murdered inside the museum. In a breathless race through Paris, London, and beyond, Langdon and cryptologist Neveu match wits with a faceless powerbroker who seems to anticipate their every move. Unless Langdon and Neveu can decipher the labyrinthine puzzle in time, the Priory's ancient secret -- and an explosive historical truth -- will be lost forever. **Note:** any book by Brown is acceptable.

Everything That Rises Must Converge - O'Connor Stories about misfits in small Southern towns force the reader to confront hypocrisy and complacency.

Falling Man – DeLillo *Falling Man* is a magnificent, essential novel about the event that defines turn-of-the-century America. It begins in the smoke and ash of the burning towers and tracks the aftermath of this global tremor in the intimate lives of a few people. Brave and brilliant, *Falling Man* traces the way the events of September 11 have reconfigured our emotional landscape, our memory and our perception of the world. It is cathartic, beautiful, heartbreaking.

A Gathering of Old Men – Gaines In this eloquent novel, set in Louisiana in the 1970's, eighteen old, black men each claim to have shot a white man and, in the process, experience their first taste of power and pride.

Going After Cacciato – O'Brien O'Brien captures the peculiar blend of horror and hallucinatory comedy that marked the Vietnam War in his fictional account of one private's sudden decision to lay down his rifle and begin a quixotic journey from the jungles of Indochina to the streets of Paris. *National Book Award*.

How the Garcia Girls Lost Their Accents - Alvarez Fifteen interconnected stories portray the immigrant experience with humor and insight as the four Garcia sisters and their family come to America in 1960 from the Dominican Republic.

In Country- Mason Sam Hughes, a contemporary girl, searches to understand who her father was and what the Vietnam War that killed him was about.

In the Time of Butterflies – Alvarez Dede, the only survivor of the four Mirabel sisters, code named Mariposas or butterflies, reveals their role in the liberation of the Dominican Republic from the dictator Trujillo.

Into the Wild – Krakauer In April 1992, a young man from a well-to-do family hitchhiked to Alaska and walked alone into the wilderness north of Mt. McKinley. He had given \$25,000 in savings to a charity, abandoned his car and most of his possessions, burned all the cash in his wallet and invented a life for himself. Four months later, his decomposed body was found by a moose hunter. Jon Krakauer brings Chris McCandless's uncompromising pilgrimage out of the shadows and illuminates it with meaning in this mesmerizing and heartbreaking tour de force.

Juneteenth - Ellison Everyone is shocked when Senator Sunraider, mortally wounded by an assassin's bullet, calls an old black minister to his deathbed. A story emerges of how the senator, an orphan raised by the minister, denied everything to achieve his goals. NYT Bestseller.

Lake Wobegone – Keillor Garrison Keillor's fictional Midwestern town, Lake Wobegon, has long since passed into literary legend. *Lake Wobegon Days*, his first unforgettable portrait of life in the American small-town named after an Indian word meaning 'Here we are!' or 'We sat all day in the rain waiting for you', is a modern classic of warmth, humor and tenderness which introduces the reader to 'a cast of characters to rival Mark Twain' (Daily Mail)

The Lovely Bones- Sebald In the hands of a brilliant new novelist, and through the eyes of her winning young heroine, this story of seemingly unbearable tragedy is transformed into a suspenseful, touching, even funny novel about family, memory, love, heaven, and living.

My Sister's Keeper- Picoult Known for writing novels with provocative themes centered on family conflict and difficult moral choices, Jodi Picoult presents the story of a child whose sole reason for existence is to assure a genetic match for her terminally ill sibling. **NOTE:** Any fiction by Picoult is acceptable.

Nineteen Minutes- Picoult Jodi Picoult refuses to tiptoe around volatile issues... *Nineteen Minutes* recounts a deadly high school shooting rampage, its causes, and its aftermath. In flashbacks, we witness the deepening alienation of teen killer Peter Houghton, a helpless victim who sinks steadily into the execution mode of his combat video games. Standing in literal judgment over this teen killer is Alex Cormier, the judge who presides over his trial. Cormier struggles hard to balance her professional duties with her relationship with her daughter, Josie, a former friend of Houghton's and a survivor of the mass slaying. Torn from the headlines and humanized. **NOTE:** Any fiction by Picoult is acceptable.

Shadow of the Dragon -Garland Sixteen-year-old Danny Vo is caught between two worlds: He fits in with his American friends, yet they don't understand his traditional Vietnamese home life.

Snow in August – Hamill It's Christmas time, 1946. A blizzard has hit Brooklyn, but altar boy Michael Devlin, 12, is determined to be on time to serve the eight o'clock mass. On his way, he passes the local synagogue, where he sees old Rabbi Hirsch gesturing to him. It is the Jewish Sabbath, and the rabbi needs a non-Jew to switch on the light. Michael does, and is rewarded with a nickel. Hamill, in this beautifully woven tale, captures perfectly the daily working-class world of postwar Brooklyn. Sounding religious overtones that will thrill believers and make non-believers pause, he examines with a cool head and a big heart the vulnerabilities and inevitable oneness of humankind.

The Women of Brewster Place - Naylor Weaving together the lives of six women, Naylor creates a powerful and moving portrait of the strengths, struggles and hopes of black women in today's America.

The World According to Garp – Irving This comic and compassionate coming-of-age novel established John Irving as one of the most imaginative writers of his generation. Irving's classic is filled with stories inside stories about the life and times of T.S. Garp, novelist and illegitimate son of Jenny Fields – a feminist leader ahead of her time. *National Book Award*.

Non- Fiction

A Brief History of Time: From the Big Bang to Black Hole - Hawking Cosmology becomes understandable as the author discusses the origin, evolution, and fate of our universe.

Dear America: Letters Home from Vietnam - American Service Personnel, Edelman, ed Letters from those who made it back and from those who did not return provide a glimpse into the lives of the men and women who served during the Vietnam War.

Hate Mail from Cheerleaders – Reilly Each week, when Sports Illustrated's 21 million readers open up their magazine, many turn right to the last page because that's where to find SI's most popular feature: the "Life of Reilly" column written by bestselling author Rick Reilly. A 21-year veteran of the magazine and 10-time Sportswriter of the Year, Reilly took over SI's back page in 1998, and his column immediately attracted a devoted audience who helped make his 1990 book, *The Life of Reilly*, a New York Times bestseller.

This new collection includes 100 of Reilly's favorite columns from the last six years, along with an Introduction by Lance Armstrong. The title of the book signifies the strong reader response his columns typically generate (he wrote a column saying that cheerleading isn't a sport and there was a light-hearted backlash). Alternately side-splitting and heart-warming, but always opinionated and provocative, this book brings together the best work by the best columnist in the business.

Opposite of Fate: A Book of Musings – Tan Novelist Amy Tan began her musings by asking how hope changes according to life's circumstances. "And what," she continues, "of the circumstances themselves: Do we believe they are simply a matter of fate? Or do we view them as the Chinese concept of luck, the Christian concept of God's will, the American concept of choice? And depending on what we believe, how can we then find balance in our lives? What do we accept? What do we feel we can still change? In these ruminations, the author of *Joy Luck Club* finds answers and lessons in everyday actions and attitudes.

The Innocent Man – Grisham John Grisham's first work of nonfiction, an exploration of small town justice gone terribly awry, is his most extraordinary legal thriller yet. If you believe that in America you are innocent until proven guilty, this book will shock you. If you believe in the death penalty, this book will disturb you. If you believe the criminal justice system is fair, this book will infuriate you.

Into Thin Air- Krakauer The tragedy that took the lives of experienced mountain guides and novice climbers in a raging blizzard atop Mt. Everest in 1996 is chronicled with clarity, poignancy, and brutal honesty by one who witnessed the event first-hand.

Longitude: The Story of a Lone Genius Who Solved the Greatest Scientific Problem of His Time - Sobel A self-taught eighteenth-century English clockmaker succeeded where the scientific community failed.

Biography

Angela's Ashes- McCourt Born in Depression-era Brooklyn to Irish immigrants, Frank McCourt tells the story of his poverty-stricken childhood years after his family returned to the slums of Limerick, Ireland. Pulitzer Prize.

The Autobiography of Malcom X - Malcom X and Alex Haley The absorbing personal story of Malcom X's rise from hoodlum ... to dynamic leader of the black revolution. Brilliant, painful, honest.

Coming of Age in Mississippi - Moody Anne Moody writes unforgettably and courageously about what it was like to grow up black in Mississippi in the fifties and early sixties.

Growing Up - Baker A columnist with a sense of humor takes a gentle look at his childhood in Baltimore during the Depression.

Moving Violations: War Zones, Wheelchairs, and Declarations of Independence – Hockenberry Journalist Hockenberry is fearless and funny as he relates the personal and professional experiences he encounters from his wheelchair.

Surely You're Joking, Mr. Feynman: Adventures of a Curious Character - Feynman as told to Ralph Leighton This Nobel Prize-winning physicist was also a bongo drummer, a practical joker, and a loving husband.

This Land Was Made For You and Me: The Life & Songs of Woody Guthrie - Partridge

When I Was Puerto Rican - Santiago Esmeralda Santiago's coming-of-age memoir begins in rural Puerto Rico and follows her to New York City, where the rules and language are bewilderingly different.

Woman Warrior: Memoirs of a Girlhood Among Ghosts - Kingston Vivid and poetic account of what it was like to grow up in California as the daughter of a traditional Chinese family that found women inferior to men and considered all non-Chinese "ghosts".

Science Fiction & Fantasy

Jurassic Park - Crichton The cloning of dinosaur DNA brings dinosaurs back to Earth, bringing unexpected disasters.

Sphere – Crichton A group of American scientists are rushed to a huge vessel that has been discovered resting on the ocean floor in the middle of the South Pacific. What they find defies their imaginations and mocks their attempts at logical explanation. It is a spaceship of phenomenal dimensions, apparently, undamaged by its fall from the sky. And, most startling, it appears to be at least three hundred years old.

The Man in the High Castle- Dick Imagine it's 1962 in America, slavery is legal once again, and the few surviving Jews hide under assumed names. It's all because the United States lost a war and is now occupied jointly by Nazi Germany and Japan. Hugo Award Winner.

Spinners – Napoli Love, greed, magic and revenge all come together in this elaborate retelling of a tale in which a young woman must spin straw into gold.

Something Wicked This Way Comes - Bradbury October is the season of mystery and dying, and when Halloween brings the Pandemonium Shadow Show to town, two fourteen-year-old boys discover its sinister secrets.

Wicked: The Life and Times of the Wicked Witch of the West- Maguire When Dorothy triumphed over the Wicked Witch of the West in L. Frank Baum's classic tale, we heard only her side of the story. But what about her arch-nemesis, the mysterious witch? Where did she come from? How did she become so wicked? And what is the true nature of evil?

A Wizard of Earthsea – LeGuin Ged was the greatest sorcerer in all Earthsea, but once he was called Sparrowhawk, a reckless youth, hungry for power and knowledge, who tampered with long-held secrets and loosed a terrible shadow upon the world. This is the tale of his testing, how he mastered the mighty words of power, tamed an ancient dragon, and crossed death's threshold to restore the balance.

Sports Literature

Eight Men Out: The Black Sox and the 1919 World Series - Asinof It's all here: the players, the scandal, the shame, and the damage the 1919 World Series caused America's national pastime.

In These Girls, Hope Is a Muscle - Blais Learn about the year of heart, sweat and muscle that transformed the Amherst Lady Hurricanes basketball team into state champions.

Life at These Speeds – Jackson Debut novelist Jeremy Jackson has written a haunting yet gentle and truly wondrous novel of self-discovery, one that refuses to minimize the impact of sudden tragedy but ultimately celebrates a marvelous triumph of the nobility of the human spirit against formidable odds.

Seabiscuit: An American Legend – Hillenbrand Seabiscuit was an unlikely champion: a roughhewn, undersized horse with a sad little tail and knees that wouldn't straighten all the way. But, thanks to the efforts of three men, Seabiscuit became one of the most spectacular performers in sports history. The rags-to-riches horse emerged as an American cultural icon, drawing an immense following and becoming the single biggest newsmaker of 1938 -- receiving more coverage than FDR or Hitler. Laura Hillenbrand beautifully renders this story of one horse's journey from also-ran to national luminary.

Mystery

A is for Alibi - Grafton Laurence Fife was a slick divorce lawyer and slippery ladies' man. Until someone killed him. The jury believed that it was his pretty young wife Nikki, so they sent her to prison for eight years. Now, Nikki's out on parole and Kinsey Millhone's in for trouble. Nikki hires Kinsey to discover who really killed her husband. But the trail is eight years cold, and at the end is a chilling twist even Kinsey doesn't suspect—a second eight-year-old murder and a brand new corpse.

NOTE: Any book in this series (*B is for Burglar*, *C is for Corpse* etc. ...) by Grafton is acceptable.

Back Story – Robert B. Parker In 1974, a revolutionary group called The Dread Scott Brigade burst into a Boston bank, held up the tellers, and shot one woman dead. Now, the daughter of Emily Gordon, the innocent victim, searches for closure, and Paul Giacomin, Spenser's surrogate son, comes to the rescue. Asked to help, our favorite Boston P.I. struggles with missing evidence and a paucity of clues. Is he dealing with a threat more potent than a nest of self-styled extremists? Taut, tense, and surprising.

NOTE: Any book in Parker's Spenser series is acceptable.

The Body Farm - Cornwell Dr. Kay Scarpetta, consulting pathologist for the FBI Forensic Science Unit, must deal with the truly horrific as she seeks to understand the murder of an eleven-year-old girl in rural North Carolina. The details remind her of a serial killer who has eluded the unit for years. What is required is a series of grisly experiments at a little known facility called the Body Farm. Scarpetta must re-interpret some badly botched evidence and interpret the forensic hieroglyphics to reveal an answer that is as stunning as it is horrifying. **NOTE:** Any book in Cornwell's Scarpetta series is acceptable.

A Thief of Time – Hillerman A noted anthropologist vanishes at a moonlit Indian ruin where "thieves of time" ravage sacred ground for profit. When two corpses appear amid stolen goods and bones at an ancient burial site, Navajo Tribal Policemen Lt. Joe Leaphorn and Officer Jim Chee must plunge into the past to unearth the astonishing truth behind a mystifying series of horrific murders. **NOTE:** Any book in Hillerman's Joe Leaphorn series is acceptable.
