

Kinnelon High School

2009 English Department Summer Reading List

Purpose - A summer reading program is a tradition at Kinnelon High School. The purpose is threefold:

To maintain the continuity of the educational program started during the school year.

To engage students with classic works of literature which supplement the school-based English program.

To encourage independent student critical thinking and learning.

Assessment –It is important for all students to attend the half day session on Friday, June 26, move-up day, to receive summer assignments from their new teacher.

English IV AP

Required Reading

Frankenstein, Mary Shelley

The Scarlet Letter, Nathaniel Hawthorne

Pride and Prejudice, Jane Austen

Assignment

1. Write a 3-5 page essay on **one** of these novels. Discuss an overarching theme of the book. Consider such issues as identity, family relationships, ambition, pride, fate and free will, or the role of the outsider.
2. Cite five passages from each of the two works that you did not use for your paper. Explain why these passages are important to the work as a whole.

English IV Honors

Bonfire of the Vanities, Tom Wolfe

The Piano Lesson, August Wilson

The Kite Runner, Hosseini

The Fountainhead, Ayn Rand (readers are eligible to enter a Rand Corp contest for cash prizes)

**The Odyssey*, trans. Fagles (This is taught next year within the course and does not count as summer reading, but you may wish to read it to get a jump on senior English work load.)

Assignment

Read three books and complete the Summer Reading Assessment Form [The form is on the back of this packet]

English IV CP

Morality Play, Barry Unsworth

It's Not About the Bike, Lance Armstrong

Way of the Peaceful Warrior, Dan Millman

A Clockwork Orange, Anthony Burgess

The Fountainhead, Ayn Rand (Readers are eligible to enter a Rand Corp contest for cash prizes)

**The Odyssey*, trans. Fagles (This is taught next year within the course and does not count as summer reading, but you may wish to read it to get a jump on senior English work load.)

Assignment

Read two books and complete at least one Summer Reading Assessment Form [Form is on the back of this packet]

English IV CP Ms. Denman Only

Choose two novels from this list:

In Cold Blood- Truman Capote

Night-Elie Weisel

Tuesdays With Morrie- Mitch Albom

The Alchemist-Paula Coehlo

Generate a list of 5 discussion questions and a one page typed essay discussing what you believe the theme of the novel to be.

Please be ready to hand in the first day of school.

English III AP

Required Reading

Grendel, John Gardner

Beowulf: A New Verse Translation, Seamus Heaney

Suggested Reading

Brave New World, Aldous Huxley

A History of Britain I, Simon Schama (1000 B.C. to 1603)

Literary Theory, an Introduction, Terry Eagleton

The Fountainhead, Ayn Rand (readers are eligible to enter a Rand Corp contest for cash prizes)

Assignment

Write a 3-5 page essay in which you examine how *Beowulf* and *Grendel* define what it means to be human.

English III Honors

Required Reading

Grendel, John Gardner

Beowulf: A New Verse Translation, Seamus Heaney

And one book from following list:

Oliver Twist, Charles Dickens

The Alchemist, Paulo Coehlo

Pride and Prejudice, Jane Austen

The Fountainhead, Ayn Rand (Readers are eligible to enter a Rand Corp contest for cash prizes.)

Assignment

Write a typed essay, ready for the first day of school. It should have an original and clear thesis; include and analyze quotes within the body text that support your argument; use clear transitions and organization.

1. Compare the world as seen through the eyes of *Beowulf* and *Grendel*. Or:
2. Compare and contrast the treatment of the hero and the monster in *Beowulf* and *Grendel*.

English III CP

Required: Grendel, John Gardner

Optional: A Passage to India, E.M. Forester

1984, George Orwell

Beloved, Toni Morrison

The Bell Jar, Sylvia Plath

Assignment

1. Read *Grendel* by John Gardner.
2. Write a 2 page typed essay that explores a major theme found in *Grendel*.
3. Read one other book on the list and be prepared to discuss it on the first day of school.

English II Honors

A Farewell to Arms, Ernest Hemingway

My Antonia, Willa Cather

A Prayer for Owen Meaney, John Irving

The Scarlet Letter, Nathaniel Hawthorne

The Things they Carried, Tim O'Brien

In Cold Blood, Truman Capote

Night, Eli Weisel

The Road, Cormac McCarthy

Water for Elephants, Sara Gruen

Anthem, Ayn Rand (Students are eligible for a Rand contest with cash prizes.)

Assignment

Read three books and complete the Summer Reading Assessment [Form is on the back of this packet]

English II CP

A Farewell to Arms, Ernest Hemingway

The Scarlet Letter, Nathaniel Hawthorne

The Natural, Bernard Malamud

A Prayer for Owen Meaney, John Irving

The Things They Carried, Tim O'Brien

Alive, Piers Paul Read

Anansi Boys, Neil Gaiman

Assignment

Read two books and complete at least one Summer Reading Assessment [Form is on the back of this packet]

English I Honors

The Hobbit, J.R. Tolkein

Treasure Island, Robert Louis Stevenson

The Last of the Mohicans, James Fenimore Cooper

Nation, Terry Pratchett (winner of 8 awards for best books for young adult readers)

The Pox Party: The Astonishing Life of Octavian Nothing, M.T. Anderson

The Book Thief, Markus Zusak

Assignment

Read three books and complete the Summer Reading Assessment [Form is on the back of this packet]

English I CP

The Hobbit, J.R. Tolkein

Treasure Island, Robert Louis Stevenson

The Last of the Mohicans, James Fenimore Cooper

Children of the River, Linda Crew

Among Friends, Caroline Cooney

Assignment

Read two books and complete at least one Summer Reading Assessment [Form is on the back of this packet]

Kinnelon High School English Department: Summer Reading Assignment

ENGLISH TEACHER SCHEDULED FOR SEPTEMBER 2009: _____

Student Name: _____

Title: _____

Author: _____

Parent's Signature: _____

Summary:

Student Name: _____

Title: _____

Author: _____

Parent's Signature: _____

Summary:

Student Name: _____

Author: _____

Parent's Signature: _____

Summary:
