

# Summer Reading

10TH GRADE  
SUMMER  
READING

## CHECK LIST

- Choose one book to read
- Set up a reading schedule and time line
- Complete the attached graphic organizer
- Record meaningful quotes on the attached handout
- Bring your materials to the first day of class

**RECOMMENDED BOOKS  
ARE AVAILABLE AT YOUR  
SCHOOL & TOWN  
LIBRARIES.**



### Town Libraries

|           |          |
|-----------|----------|
| Gilford   | 524-6042 |
| Gilmanton | 364-2400 |

## SOPHOMORES!

### Welcome to English 10!

We look forward to reading, writing, and having discussions with all of you next year. Our work in class will center around the following Essential Questions:

***When faced with adversity, what causes some individuals to thrive while others struggle?***

***What factors affect one's ability to thrive or struggle?***

### Your Assignment:

Choose one book of your choice to read this summer. It should be a realistic fiction, nonfiction, or memoir novel about a character or multiple characters who face some kind of adversity. The attached list offers some good possibilities of appropriate length and reading level, but **you don't have to choose from these titles.** Mostly, we want you to find something that you will enjoy reading!

**If you have any questions about book selection or the assignment, please see a 10th grade teacher before the end of school. If you have questions over the summer, you may email one of the teachers below. We hope you have a great summer- relax, have fun, and enjoy your reading!!**

Sincerely,

Emily Wolpin, Scott Hutchison, Deb LaLiberte

**Parents,**

**All of the options on the following book list address the essential question of one's response to adversity. Each book provides students engaging opportunities to think more about adversity and to examine truths about how human beings either thrive or struggle in the face of it. Your student is not limited to the texts listed below, but may choose another text that addresses this essential question of adversity. In your student's selection process, please be aware that the literature may contain mature content including but not limited to, violence, language, and/or sexual content. If you have any concerns, please feel free to contact your student's English teacher.**

**Please consider the following titles or something comparable:**

- The Sun Is Also a Star**
- All the Bright Places**
- The Way I Used to Be**
- All American Boys**
- Challenger Deep**
- Elena Vanishing: A Memoir**
- The Running Dream**
- The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time**
- I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings**

**Go to the GHS website ([ghs.sau73.org](http://ghs.sau73.org))  
for book descriptions.**

## **Tips for Reading Actively**

- 1. Mark or Highlight - Use a highlighter or a pen to mark important words, phrases, and sentences. If you can't mark in a book, write on sticky notes and attach them on the page.**
- 2. Ask questions - Ask the questions that occur to you as you read. This can help you think more critically about a text.**
- 3. Clarify - A lot happens when you read. You are taking in information and responding to it at the same time. Keep track of your reading by making notes that clarify ideas and details.**
- 4. React and Connect - Listen to your own thoughts and feelings as you read. Think about how the writing makes you feel. Create connections in one of three ways: text-to-self, text-to-text, text-to-world.**
- 5. Visualize - Visualize the people, places, and action an author describes. Visualizing helps you "see" and remember the author's most important ideas. Make quick sketches in your journal.**
- 6. Predict - Ask yourself, "How will things turn out? What will happen next?" Write your predictions as you work your way through a text.**

**Parents:** The following texts have been selected to help students explore the concept of adversity and possibly a context different from the one they have personally experienced. Your student is not limited to these texts listed below, but may choose another text that addresses the essential question of adversity. These books are intended for high school age students and therefore may contain mature content including but not limited to, language, violence and sexual content. Please help your son/daughter choose the book that is best for him/her and feel free to preview any of the texts. If you have any questions or concerns please contact your student's English teacher.

\* IL and BL = Interest Level and Book Level - there is an overview of each at the end of the list

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***The Sun Is Also a Star***

**By Nicola Yoon**

**IL - UG BL - 4.7**

**Fiction**

It is Natasha's last day in New York City, where she has lived for 10 years. Her family, living as undocumented immigrants in a small Brooklyn apartment, are being deported to Jamaica after her father's arrest for drunk driving. Natasha is scouring the city for a chance to stay in the United States legally. She wants the normal teen existence of her peers. Meanwhile, poetic Daniel is on his way to an interview as part of his application process to Yale. He is under great pressure to get in because his parents (who emigrated from South Korea) are adamant that he become a doctor. Events slowly conspire to bring the two leads together. When Daniel and Natasha finally meet, he falls in love immediately and convinces her to join him for the day. They tell their stories in alternating chapters. Additional voices are integrated into the book as characters interact with them.

***All the Bright Places***

**by Jennifer Niven**

**IL - UG BL - 5.3**

**Fiction**

Theodore Finch is fascinated by death. Every day he thinks of ways he might kill himself, but every day he also searches for—and manages to find—*something* to keep him here, and alive, and awake. Violet Markey lives for the future, counting the days until graduation, when she can escape her small Indiana town and her aching grief in the wake of her sister's recent death. When Finch and Violet meet on the ledge of the bell tower at school—six stories above the ground—it's unclear who saves whom. Soon it's only with Violet that Finch can be himself. And it's only with Finch that Violet can forget to count away the days and start living them. But as Violet's world grows, Finch's begins to shrink. . . .

## **The Way I Used to Be**

**by Amber Smith**

**IL - UG BL - 4.4**

### **Fiction**

Eden was always good at being good. Starting high school didn't change who she was. But the night her brother's best friend rapes her, Eden's world capsizes. What was once simple, is now complex. What Eden once loved—who she once loved—she now hates. What she thought she knew to be true, is now lies. Nothing makes sense anymore, and she knows she's supposed to tell someone what happened but she can't. So she buries it instead. And she buries the way she used to be. Told in four parts—freshman, sophomore, junior, and senior year—this provocative debut reveals the deep cuts of trauma. But it also demonstrates one young woman's strength as she navigates the disappointment and unbearable pains of adolescence, of first love and first heartbreak, of friendships broken and rebuilt, all while learning to embrace the power of survival she never knew she had hidden within her heart.

## **All American Boys**

**by Jason Reynolds and Brendan Kiely**

**IL - UG BL - 4.9**

### **Fiction**

A bag of chips. That's all sixteen-year-old Rashad is looking for at the corner bodega. What he finds instead is a fist-happy cop, Paul Galluzzo, who mistakes Rashad for a shoplifter, mistakes Rashad's pleadings that he's stolen nothing for belligerence, mistakes Rashad's resistance to leave the bodega as resisting arrest, mistakes Rashad's every flinch at every punch the cop throws as further resistance and refusal to STAY STILL as ordered. But how can you stay still when someone is pounding your face into the concrete pavement?

There were witnesses: Quinn Collins—a varsity basketball player and Rashad's classmate who has been raised by Paul since his own father died in Afghanistan—and a video camera. Soon the beating is all over the news and Paul is getting threatened with accusations of prejudice and racial brutality. Quinn refuses to believe that the man who has basically been his savior could possibly be guilty. But then Rashad is absent. And absent again. And again. And the basketball team—half of whom are Rashad's best friends—start to take sides. As does the school. And the town. Simmering tensions threaten to explode as Rashad and Quinn are forced to face decisions and consequences they had never considered before.

## **Challenger Deep**

**by Neal Shusterman**

**IL - UG BL - 5.5**

### **Fiction**

A captivating novel about mental illness that lingers long beyond the last page, Challenger Deep is a heartfelt tour de force by New York Times bestselling author Neal Shusterman. Caden Bosch is on a ship that's headed for the deepest point on Earth: Challenger Deep, the southern part of the Marianas Trench. Caden Bosch is a brilliant high school student whose friends are starting to notice his odd behavior. Caden Bosch is designated the ship's artist in residence to document the journey with images. Caden Bosch pretends to join the school track team but spends his days walking for miles, absorbed by the thoughts in his head. Caden Bosch is split between his allegiance to the captain and the allure of mutiny. Caden Bosch is torn.

## ***Elena Vanishing: A Memoir***

**by Elena and Clare Dunkle**

**IL - UG BL -4.6**

### **NonFiction**

This is the story of seventeen-year-old Elena, whose armor against anxiety becomes artillery against herself as she battles on both sides of a lose-lose war in a struggle with anorexia. Told entirely from Elena's perspective and co-written with her mother, Elena's memoir is a fascinating and intimate look at a deadly disease, and a must-read for anyone who knows someone suffering from an eating disorder.

## **The Running Dream**

**By Wendelin Van Draanen**

**IL - MG+ BL - 4.1**

### **Fiction**

Jessica thinks her life is over when she loses a leg in a car accident. She's not comforted by the news that she'll be able to walk with the help of a prosthetic leg. Who cares about walking when you live to run? As she struggles to cope, Jessica feels that she's both in the spotlight and invisible. People who don't know what to say act like she's not there. Jessica's embarrassed to realize that she's done the same to a girl with CP named Rosa. A girl who is going to tutor her through all the math she's missed. A girl who sees right into the heart of her. With the support of family, friends, a coach, and her track teammates, Jessica may actually be able to run again. But that's not enough for her now. She doesn't just want to cross finish lines herself—she wants to take Rosa with her.

## ***Between Shades of Gray***

**By Ruta Sepetys**

**IL - MG+ BL - 3.6**

### **Fiction**

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 embeds 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?

## ***The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time***

**By Mark Haddon**

**IL - UG BL - 5.4**

### **Fiction**

Christopher John Francis Boone knows all the countries of the world and their capitals and every prime number up to 7,057. He relates well to animals but has no understanding of human emotions. He cannot stand to be touched. And he detests the color yellow. This improbable story of Christopher's quest to investigate the suspicious death of a neighborhood dog makes for one of the most captivating, unusual, and widely heralded novels in recent years.

## ***I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings***

**By Maya Angelou**

**IL - UG BL - 6.7**

### **Fiction**

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 and back at her mother's side in St. Louis, Maya is attacked by a man many times her age—and has to live with the consequences for a lifetime. Years later, in San Francisco, Maya learns that love for herself, the kindness of others, her own strong spirit, and the ideas of great authors ("I met and fell in love with William Shakespeare") will allow her to be free instead of imprisoned.

## ***Breaking Night: A Memoir of Forgiveness, Survival and My Journey from Homeless to Harvard***

**By Liz Murray**

**IL - UG BL - 6.8**

### **NonFiction**

Liz Murray was born to loving but drug-addicted parents in the Bronx. In school she was taunted for her dirty clothing and lice-infested hair, eventually skipping so many classes that she was put into a girls' home. At age fifteen, Liz found herself on the streets when her family finally unraveled. She learned to scrape by, foraging for food and riding subways all night to have a warm place to sleep. When Liz's mother died of AIDS, she decided to take control of her own destiny and go back to high school, often completing her assignments in the hallways and subway stations where she slept. Liz squeezed four years of high school into two, while homeless; won a *New York Times* scholarship; and made it into the Ivy League. *Breaking Night* is an unforgettable and beautifully written story of one young woman's indomitable spirit to survive and prevail, against all odds.

**Description from Accelerated Reader: a subscription service we use to help facilitate reading records, track comprehension and progress, etc...**

### **What is Interest Level (IL)?**

Interest level is based on a book's content including theme, characterization, and plot. The interest level attached to the book indicates age group appropriateness. Interest level designations reflect the judgment of the book's publisher and the professionals at Renaissance Learning. We group content appropriateness into these categories: LG = Lower Grades (K-3); MG = Middle Grades (4-8); MG+ = Upper Middle Grades (6 and up); and UG = Upper Grades (9-12). Most MG+ books are marketed as YA (Young Adult) for Interest Level. However, the final decision as to whether the content of a specific book is appropriate for a particular student is the responsibility of school librarians, teachers, and parents.

### **What is ATOS Book Level (BL)?**

ATOS Book Levels are reported using the ATOS readability formula and represent the difficulty of the text. For example, a book level of 4.5 means the text could likely be read independently by a student whose reading skills are at the level of a typical fourth grader during the fifth month of school. (Of course the content may or may not be appropriate for a fourth grader which is why we also use Interest Levels.)





**II. Divide your book into three sections: beginning, middle, and end. As you read, record 3 quotes from each section that provide evidence of how and why characters are thriving or struggling through adversity. You will use your notes to complete an assessment**

| <b>Quote:</b><br>Record exact line from text with quotation marks & page number | <b>Explanation:</b><br>Describe the situation (who's involved/what's happening)<br><br>Why is it important/what does it show us about characters struggling/thriving through adversity? |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>BEGINNING</b>                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 1                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 2                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 3                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>MIDDLE</b>                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 1                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                         |

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**END**

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