

English 10

2018-2019 Summer Reading Requirements

Dear Students,

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 Question:

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

Assignment:

- 1) Choose **one book of your choice** to read this summer. It could 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!
- 2) Complete the attached **graphic organizer** to help you remember important details about the characters, setting, and plot of the book.
- 3) Record **meaningful quotes** on the attached handout that connect with the essential questions above.

The graphic organizer and quotes must be completed by the first day of class. You may hand write or fill them out electronically and either print or share them with your teacher on the first day of class.

You will use your notes to share your book with the class and to complete an assessment.

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: 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.

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.)

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

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 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?

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.

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

3	
END	
1	
2	
3	