



Honors and AP Summer Assignments

If you are taking an Honors or AP class in High School next year, High School honors and AP classes cover a dense amount of material during the school year. In order for students to help themselves be as prepared as possible, recommended summer assignments have been created by district teachers.

PLEASE NOTE! This packet contains the assignments for Honors and AP courses grades 9-12. Please make sure the assignment you complete is the one that corresponds with the course you are enrolled in for the 2020-2021 school year. Completing a different course's assignment could result in you needing to do additional work at the start of the year so that you are ready to participate in class activities.

Olathe Schools Freshman Summer Reading Assignment

Olathe North	Olathe South	Olathe East	Olathe Northwest	Olathe West
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2020-2021

Hello, and welcome to high school. The writer and illustrator Roald Dahl once said, “If you are going to get anywhere in life you have to read a lot of books.” You may be asking why you’re being tasked with completing a summer assignment. According to research, the volume of daily reading has a direct correlation to success both in and outside of school.

Why Read for 20 Minutes a Day?

Student A	Student B	Student C
20 minutes per day	5 minutes per day	1 minute per day
1,800,000 words per year	282, 000 words per year	8,000 words per year
Scores in the 90 th percentile on standardized tests	Scores in the 50 th percentile on standardized tests	Scores in the 10 th percentile on standardized tests

Below, you will find the instructions for the Honors English I summer assignment. Please read all instructions carefully and complete the assignment to the best of your abilities. We’re glad you chose to take Honors English I at your respective high school and look forward to meeting you.

Please follow the instructions below to complete the Honors English I summer assignment:

1. First, you will select a novel from the list provided below. To challenge yourself and to give your teacher an accurate picture of where you’re at as a student, please select a book that you have not previously read.

Book List

1. *The Secret Life of Bees* by Sue Monk Kidd
2. *The Book Thief* by Markus Zusak
3. *The House on Mango Street* by Sandra Cisneros
4. *The Hate U Give* by Angie Thomas
5. *Into the Wild* by Jon Krakauer

2. While reading, take notes on significant moments from the book, and pay special attention to the growth of characters who are central to the text.
 - a. Annotations and notes should be detailed and include page numbers and citations from the text.

- b. An important side note: while it may seem obvious, do not annotate or write on the actual pages of the book if you are borrowing it from the library or from an Olathe High School. If you need to annotate in a borrowed book, write on a post-it note or other piece of paper and place it on the appropriate page.
3. Reading the novel you select from the provided list, creating effective annotations, and taking notes will prepare you for a timed writing, which will occur at the beginning of the semester.
4. After the timed writing, you will be tasked with choosing a **second** book from the provided list. You will read this **outside of class** and will need to annotate for the same things that you focused on for the first novel. You will complete a second timed writing over your second novel.
5. Consider reading and annotating a second book over the summer. This will give you the option of which book you choose to focus on for your first timed writing.

You are highly encouraged to have your first novel completed by the first full day of school. Also, keep in mind that the more in-depth you go with annotations and notetaking, the easier it will be for you to complete the timed writing. Do your best work, do your own work, and enjoy. Good luck!

Your Honors 9 Teachers:

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Great places to find books: Axis360 (public library app), thriftbooks.com, Half Price Books, Barnes & Noble, Amazon, or any other book seller!

Note: If you need to borrow a book, please contact a teacher from your building. They will provide you directions.