

May 1, 2018

Dear Junior Honors English Student:

Welcome to Junior English! As a part of next year's course, you are required to read at least two or more books before the end of summer and keep a reading log of each of the books that you read over the summer.

You may read whatever you like for the first choice. Your choice should be at your reading level. You may reread favorite books from the past. The second choice should be some sort of classic or AP level book to prepare you for the AP test your senior year. Please choose one from the attached list or email me by August 17, 2018, if you have a book that you want to read and feel is AP worthy yet not on the list.

You may abandon books if they don't keep your interest, but please add these to your book log.

You must finish at least two books. You will turn in your book log by the end of the first week of school. You will receive points for the log.

You may also keep a "Someday List" for books that you want to read in the future. I have included it in this packet. This is not required, but it may help you throughout the year in my class.

Please know that I will conference with each student individually during the first week or two of school. I will discuss your summer reading adventures with you during this conference and you will receive points. You may write down anything interesting about the books you are reading so that you have something to discuss during the conference but you are not required to do so.

Bonus Opportunity: You may want to consider signing up for the summer reading program at your local library. They offer prizes and activities throughout the summer.

Visit <https://www.libraryvisit.org/our-happenings/summer-discovery/> for more information. The program runs May 1st-July 31st.

You get one extra credit point for every book you read and review, up to ten books (so up to ten points). So not only do you get a free book from the library, you get ten bonus points from me! Be sure you print your reading history by July 31st. I'm unsure if the program locks out once the Summer Reading Challenge is complete, so don't wait until the school year to print this! If you don't have the documentation, you will not receive any points.

* I believe you have other great community options, but I'm only looking for books. Upon registering with the library you get their goodie program:

At registration – get a Chick-fil-A coupon and a Mahoning Valley Scrappers game voucher.

Read 5 books – earn a 5 in 1 USB charger cable

Read 10 books – get your choice of a FREE book.

Read 15 books – get your name entered into a prize drawing for a \$25 Amazon gift certificate.

Reading books that you enjoy over the summer is just the beginning of the independent reading program that I am excited to implement again for juniors this coming year. You will be given time daily to read books that you want to read with minimal assignments attached to them. My hope is that more of you will reignite a love for reading, and for those of you that aren't avid readers, you may just catch the reading bug in my class. I hope you are as excited as I am about this opportunity!

Because you chose to sign up for honors English, during the school year, you will have an AP text reading requirement. If you have met the number of books/pages for that 9 weeks requirement, you will then be allowed to read whatever you like during your independent reading time. I am doing this to raise the bar for reading and learning at the honors level. If this seems to be too challenging or something you don't think you will enjoy, you may want to consider transferring into my college English class.

Why am I implementing independent reading again this year? I thought that it was a success last year, and research shows it is the best thing that I can do to prepare you for your future, college and beyond. "In *The Power of Reading*, his meta-analysis of research investigating independent reading over the past forty years, Stephen Krashen reveals that no single literacy activity has a more positive effect on students' comprehension, vocabulary, knowledge, spelling, writing ability, and overall academic achievement than free voluntary reading" (Miller 51).

A list of AP books is attached to this packet. Remember, you only have to choose one for this summer, and feel freed to abandon them until you get one that resonates with you. I suggest checking out a few books at a time from the library.

If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to email me at CMullane@springfieldlocal.us.

Have a great summer!

Mrs. Mullane

