

A.P.A. Summer Reading Program 2017

Honors English II

(Mr. Steve Logan)

I. INTRODUCTION

Arendell Parrott Academy's high school Summer Reading Program has two objectives: First, *to foster students' enjoyment of reading*, and, secondly, *to strengthen their reading strategies and skills*. We believe that summer is a wonderful time to rest and relax from academic endeavors. Second, we also believe that reading is an important source of relaxation that everyone should enjoy, and that practicing reading skills is fundamental to success in high school and college . . . and life!

II. TWO CHOICE BOOKS

Over the course of the summer, read as many of the books as possible from the list below. **TWO of the books you read will be the subjects of an essay** that you will write during the first week of class. The essay will count as a regular first marking period grade. **(No summer reading test.)** You may want to purchase your own copies so that you can mark notes in the books. Here's the list:

1. Alexie, Sherman. *Absolutely True Diary of a Part-time Indian*.
2. Angelou, Maya. *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*.
3. Bradbury, Ray. *The Martian Chronicles*.
4. Bryson, Bill. *A Walk in the Woods*.
5. Capote, Truman. *In Cold Blood*.
6. Conroy, Pat. *The Water is Wide*.
7. Crane, Stephen. *The Red Badge of Courage*.
8. Ellison, Ralph. *Invisible Man*.
9. Gibbons, Kaye. *Ellen Foster*.
10. Heller, Joseph. *Catch-22*.
11. Hemingway, Ernest. *In Our Time*.
12. Kesey, Ken. *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*.
13. King, Stephen. *The Shining*.
14. Kuralt, Charles. *Charles Kuralt's America*.
15. London, Jack. *The Sea Wolf*.
16. Malamud, Bernard. *The Natural*.
17. Momaday, N. Scott. *House Made of Dawn*
18. Morrison, Toni. *The Bluest Eye*.
19. McCarthy, Cormac. *All the Pretty Horses*.
20. O'Brien, Tim. *The Things They Carried*.
21. Patchett, Anne. *Bel Canto*.
22. Philbrick, Nathaniel. *In the Heart of the Sea*.
23. Plath, Sylvia. *The Bell Jar*
24. Plimpton, George. *Paper Lion*
25. Salinger, J.D. *The Catcher in the Rye*.
26. Sinclair, Upton. *The Jungle*.
27. Steinbeck, John. *Travels with Charley*
28. Tan, Amy. *The Joy Luck Club*.
29. Thurber, James. *Thurber on Crime*.
30. Twain, Mark. *Life on the Mississippi*.
31. Vonnegut, Kurt. *Slaughterhouse-Five*.
32. Wharton, Edith. *Ethan Frome*
33. Colson Whitehead. *The Underground Railroad*.
34. Woodward, Bob, and Bernstein, Carl. *All the President's Men*.
35. Wright, Richard. *Black Boy*.

III. NOTE ABOUT THE BOOK SELECTIONS

These "choice" selections represent a variety of genres, student interests, and reading levels. Students should read two of the books during the summer before the first day of school. The choice books are the only component of the summer reading for the summer of 2017. However, **we also encourage students to read** any or all of the listed books, any personal selections, and to read magazines, newspapers, and other non-book content throughout the summer. **REMEMBER, only TWO of the books listed above will be subjects of the essay written in class in August.**

IV. FINAL THOUGHTS

Important Points about the Summer Reading Program:

*The program is not an extra credit option. **All students are expected to participate** in all parts of the program, and the summer reading test with essay will be given during the first few days of the 2017 school year.

* While it is clear to all that some of the books have been made into motion pictures, the English Dept. advises all students to read the book first, before experiencing its movie counterpart. The comparison of the book to the film can be a highly interesting experience.

*Before choosing from the list of choice books, parents and students are encouraged to gather descriptions and information about the books from friends, family, websites (including Amazon.com), and other reviews. Check out a book, try a chapter or two, and if it doesn't interest you, switch to a different selection.

***Book choices represent a range of tastes and a range of maturity. Each student and his or her parents must decide if a given book contains objectionable material and choose a different selection.**

