



2021 Summer Reading- English IV

Welcome to **English IV**! One of the primary concerns of this course is the journey through life and the experiences along the way. We will begin the year with reading and writing activities focused on our own individual stories, experiences and unique viewpoints. But first, we would like you to consider some other perspectives and ways authors tell their stories.

Your assignment is to choose a book, either fiction or nonfiction, with a storyline that involves some type of journey. Since English IV is traditionally a British literature course, we strongly encourage you to read authors that are not American, although it is not mandatory. Some things to consider as you read:

- Storytelling and individual perspective
- Journeys (physical, psychological, and/or spiritual)
- Challenges and overcoming obstacles
- Author's writing style

You may purchase a hard copy or digital version of your novel. To help with your selection, you will need to do some research on authors, reviews, and story summary. Amazon or Goodreads are good places to start this process.

SOME TITLES TO CONSIDER

(These are just suggestions; you are not required to read one of these novels. Please keep your personal and family values in mind as you choose a title.)

Never Let Me Go by Kazuo Ishiguro
The English Patient by Michael Ondaatje
Warlight by Michael Ondaatje
The Blind Assassin by Margaret Atwood
Life of Pi by Yann Martel
The Conservationist by Nadine Gordimer
Midnight's Children by Salman Rushdie
The Sense of an Ending by Julian Barnes
The God of Small Things by Arundhati Roy
Disgrace by J.M. Coetzee
Atonement by Ian McEwan
The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time by Mark Haddon
The Namesake by Jhumpa Lahiri
A Bend in the River by V. S. Naipaul
The Glass Palace by Amitav Ghosh
Love in the Time of Cholera by Gabriel Garcia Marquez
One Hundred Years of Solitude by Gabriel Garcia Marquez
Fly by Night by Frances Hardinge
I am Thunder by Muhammad Khan
The Girl in the Broken Mirror by Sarita Kalhan

Blue Highways by William Least Heat-Moon
On the Road by Jack Kerouac
Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance by Robert M. Pirsig
The Hobbit by J.R.R. Tolkien
Around the World in 80 Days by Jules Verne
Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy by Douglas Adams
Siddhartha by Hermann Hesse
Way of the Peaceful Warrior by Dan Millman
Heart of Darkness by Joseph Conrad
Don Quixote by Miguel de Cervantes
All Quiet on the Western Front by Erich Maria Remarque
To Your Scattered Bodies Go by Philip Jose Farmer
I Was Told to Come Alone: My Journey Behind the Lines of Jihad by Souad Mekhennet
Hello World: How to Be Human in the Age of the Machine by Hannah Fry
The Iceberg: A Memoir by Marion Coutts
Everest: The First Ascent by Harriet Tuckey

ASSESSMENT

Within the first full week of school (**the week of August 23rd**), you will be expected to discuss and write about your summer reading. The tips below will help you prepare for those summer reading activities.

- read with a “pencil in hand,” meaning:
 - highlight/underline specific parts of the book that stand out to you
 - make notes in the margins (either directly on the page or on a Post-It note) about something you want to comment on - what seems interesting? unusual? funny? Surprising?
- think about what you would want to say about this book, considering these questions:
 - How would you briefly tell someone else about the book without telling the whole story?
 - What would you say is the big idea/theme of the book?
 - In general, did you enjoy the book? Why or why not?
 - How does this book compare with others you have read?
 - How would you describe the style of the book?

If you have any questions about the summer reading assignment, please contact one of the English IV teachers: Ms. Taylor, btaylor2@eanesisd.net; Mr. Baker, jbaker@eanesisd.net; Ms. Adams, eadams@eanesisd.net.

