



ORHS Pre-AP English II ORHS & GOHS Summer Reading Assignment 2018

In Conroe ISD, we encourage all students to read over the summer in order to enrich learning and provoke thought. Summer reading strengthens reading skills, increases academic achievement, fosters a love for reading, and empowers students to become lifelong learners. Additionally, students who enroll in a Pre AP or AP English course are expected to engage in summer reading as it prepares students for the upcoming school year and creates an initial common framework for classroom discussion and instruction.

“A mind needs books as a sword needs a whetstone, if it is to keep its edge.” – George R.R. Martin

In an effort to keep your mind sharp this summer and to continue your preparation as a Pre-AP student, you will be reading the fiction novel *Fahrenheit 451* and a nonfiction work of your choice from the attached list.

Fahrenheit 451

By Ray Bradbury



This novel can be picked up at new and used book stores alike and at the public library. If at all possible, try to obtain your own copy. Any edition of the novel will work – the story doesn’t change.

Fiction Assignment:

Section Reflections:

- For each section of the novel (3 sections), write a brief synopsis and a personal reflection. The reflection should include the answer to the following questions:
 - Which character did you find the most interesting?
 - Which event impacted you the most?
 - Which event did you think moved the plot in the most meaningful way?
 - How can you connect the events in that section to your own life/current reality?
 - If you were to title the sections, what would you title them?

Due Date: August 29th/30th

Pre-AP English II Non-Fiction Novel Choice

Students will choose one of the following non-fiction titles to read as well. Each of these novels are connected to *Fahrenheit 451* in some thematic way.

- *The Glass Castle* by Jeanette Walls- A tender, moving tale of unconditional love in a family that, despite its profound flaws, gave the author the fiery determination to carve out a successful life on her own terms. This story is a collection of vignettes from Walls' childhood. Warning: The novel does contain profanity, alcoholism, molestation, and parental neglect.

- *Night* by Elie Wiesel- Born into a Jewish ghetto in Hungary, as a child, Elie Wiesel was sent to the Nazi concentration camps at Auschwitz and Buchenwald. This is his account of that atrocity: the ever-increasing horrors he endured, the loss of his family and his struggle to survive in a world that stripped him of humanity, dignity and faith.

- *Hiroshima* by John Hersey- On August 6, 1945, Hiroshima was destroyed by the first atom bomb ever dropped on a city. This book, John Hersey's journalistic masterpiece, tells what happened on that day. Told through the memories of survivors, this timeless, powerful and compassionate document has become a classic "that stirs the conscience of humanity" (*The New York Times*).

- *Reading Lolita in Tehran: A Memoir in Books* by Azar Nafisi- Every Thursday morning for two years in the Islamic Republic of Iran, a bold and inspired teacher named Azar Nafisi secretly gathered seven of her most committed female students to read forbidden Western classics. As Islamic morality squads staged arbitrary raids in Tehran, fundamentalists seized hold of the universities, and a blind censor stifled artistic expression, the girls in Azar Nafisi's living room risked removing their veils and immersed themselves in the worlds of Jane Austen, F. Scott Fitzgerald, Henry James, and Vladimir Nabokov. In this extraordinary memoir, their stories become intertwined with the ones they are reading. *Reading Lolita in Tehran* is a remarkable exploration of resilience in the face of tyranny and a celebration of the liberating power of literature.

All descriptions from: *Goodreads*, www.goodreads.com/. Accessed 29 March 2018.

Non-Fiction Assignment:

- Write three theme statements for the novel and pull a quote from the novel that best supports this theme. When writing these themes, be sure to remember:
 - Themes are NEVER one word.
 - Themes should contain the author's big message to the reader.
 - Themes should NOT be cliches.
 - Themes should be universal and NOT absolute.
 - Example: In William Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*, he clearly portrays how tragedy can occur when lust is confused for love through the impetuous actions of both main characters. ("tragedy can occur when lust is confused for love" is the theme)
- **Due Date:** September 5th/6th

It is best if all students enrolled in Pre-AP English II for the upcoming school year have these two books read prior to the first day of school, August 15, 2018, and assignments complete. These assignments will be due within the first three weeks, leading to a major grade assessment the 4th week. Thank you for your cooperation and continuing interest in your education, and we look forward to seeing you in our classrooms next year!

If you have any question, feel free to email:

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