



## ORHS Pre-AP English II Summer Reading Assignment 2019

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:

- Be prepared to write a brief synopsis and a personal reflection over each section upon your return to school in August. Thinking through the questions below will help you be prepared to write these reflections.
  - 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:** Reflections will be assigned during class beginning Sept. 4th/5th.

Students will choose **one** of the following non-fiction titles to read as well.

- *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: This book 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. Warning: this book contains graphic descriptions of violence.
- *Every Falling Star: The True Story of How I Survived and Escaped North Korea* by Sungju Lee- is the intense memoir of a North Korean boy named Sungju who is forced at age twelve to live on the streets and fend for himself. To survive, Sungju creates a gang and lives by thieving, fighting, begging, and stealing rides on cargo trains. Sungju richly re-creates his scabrous story, depicting what it was like for a boy alone to create a new family with his gang, his "brothers"; to be hungry and to fear arrest, imprisonment, and even execution. This riveting memoir allows young readers to learn about other cultures where freedoms they take for granted do not exist.
- *Born a Crime: Stories From a South African Childhood* by Trevor Noah - Born a Crime is the story of a mischievous young boy who grows into a restless young man as he struggles to find himself in a world where he was never supposed to exist. It is also the story of that young man's relationship with his fearless, rebellious, and fervently religious mother—his teammate, a woman determined to save her son from the cycle of poverty, violence, and abuse that would ultimately threaten her own life. Warning: this book contains some violence and profanity.
- *When I Was Puerto Rican* by Esmeralda Santiago - Santiago's story begins in rural Puerto Rico, where her childhood was full of both tenderness and domestic strife, tropical sounds and sights as well as poverty. As she enters school we see the clash, both hilarious and fierce, of Puerto Rican and Yankee culture. Santiago brilliantly recreates the landscape and family life of her tremendous journey from the barrio to Brooklyn.

All descriptions from: *Goodreads*, [www.goodreads.com/](http://www.goodreads.com/). Accessed 29 March 2019.

### **Non-Fiction Assignment:**

- We will use nonfiction to discuss both memoir writing and argumentation. As you read this book, keep a running list/mark the passages that you find the most engaging/intriguing, etc as well as the places where you feel that the author is making the strongest argument. We will be using these passages for analysis and to guide your own writing during the first nine weeks.
- We will be using these passages in class beginning the 16th of August.

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 14, 2019. These books will be used throughout the first nine weeks. 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 questions, feel free to join our ORHS Pre-AP Summer Reading Remind: Text @papreads to 81010

Or email: [cvarnell@conroeisd.net](mailto:cvarnell@conroeisd.net)