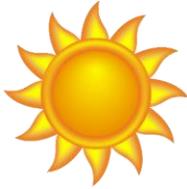




*In Conroe ISD, we encourage all students to read over the summer in order to enrich learning and provoke thought. Summer reading strengthens reading skills, increases academic achievement, fosters a love for reading, and empowers students to become lifelong learners. Additionally, students who enroll 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.*



# English I Level Summer Reading



Dear future students,

We have carefully prepared this summer reading assignment for you to best prepare for the transition to high school this fall. You will read **one book from the list**. Choose the book that you are most excited about! You will then complete the characterization chart provided with this assignment for the main character in your book.

Happy reading and we look forward to discussing all of your novels this fall!

-The English I Team

## Parent Note

The books on our list have been carefully selected. As you and your student go through this list and choose a book to read, please use discretion for subject matter and appropriateness for you and your student.



For Any Questions Regarding the Summer Reading Assignment, Please Contact:

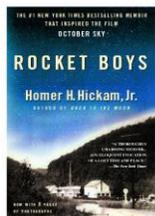
Mrs. Kaur

[kbains@conroeisd.net](mailto:kbains@conroeisd.net)

## Book Options – Choose One

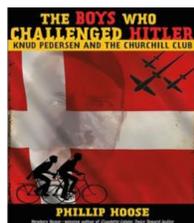
### Nonfiction:

#### ***Rocket Boys* by Homer Hickam**



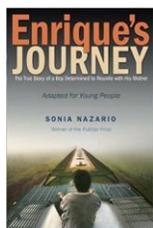
A memoir from Homer Hickam, this novel is about Homer “Sonny’s” life as a teenager in the coal mining town of Coalwood. His father is the superintendent of the mine and expects Sonny to become an engineer in order to join the coal mining company. However, Sonny has other plans as he discovers rockets, and, with the help of his friends, learns how to build their very own rockets that will eventually get them out of their small town and into a better life.

#### ***The Boys who Challenged Hitler* by Phillip Hoose**



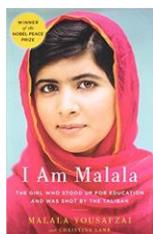
A thrilling story about a real-life group of young teens that decided to take their country's identity into their own hands. The backdrop is Denmark at the start of World War II. Nazi forces were piling into the country, but the Danish government chose not to fight the invasion. The protagonist, Knud Pedersen, and a group of his friends realized that if the government would not stop the Nazis, then perhaps, they could. Armed with bicycles and the desire to make a difference, the boys - dubbed the Churchill Club - hit the streets of Denmark and began to systematically destroy the enemy from the inside-out. The Churchill Club made such an impact that Germany eventually declared Denmark "enemy territory". This is a powerful and true account of how the young are capable of claiming their identity and inciting a change that can greatly impact society.

#### ***Enrique's Journey: The True Story of a Boy Determined to Reunite with his Mother* (The Young Adult Adaptation) by Sonia Nazario**



Enrique, a teenage boy, leaves Honduras on a quest to find his mother. Hoping to provide for her family by finding a new job and earning more money, Enrique's mother left Honduras while he was a young child to find work in the United States. Enrique's story conveys the challenges migrant lives and the life-altering decisions that must be made in order to survive.

#### ***I Am Malala: The Girl Who Stood up for Education and was Shot by the Taliban* (original or young adult adaptation) by Malala Yousafzai**



This book tells the powerful story of Malala's life. At first simply a young girl in Pakistan, Malala's bravery places her in harm's way where she courageously makes a statement to the world about the value of education. Following, the course of her life changes forever as she is asked to visit the United Nations and becomes the spokesperson for the importance of girls' education.

## **Fiction:**

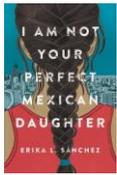
### **The Poet X by Elizabeth Acevedo**



Xiomara Batista feels unheard and unable to hide in her Harlem neighborhood. Ever since her body grew into curves, she has learned to let her fists and her fierceness do the talking.

But Xiomara has plenty she wants to say, and she pours all her frustration and passion onto the pages of a leather notebook, reciting the words to herself like prayers—especially after she catches feelings for a boy in her bio class named Aman, who her family can never know about. With Mami's determination to force her daughter to obey the laws of the church, Xiomara understands that her thoughts are best kept to herself.

### **I am Not Your Perfect Mexican Daughter by Erika L. Sanchez**

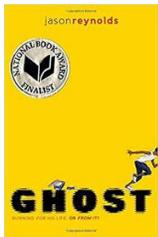


Perfect Mexican daughters do not go away to college. And they do not move out of their parents' house after high school graduation. Perfect Mexican daughters never abandon their family.

But Julia is not your perfect Mexican daughter. That was Olga's role.

Then a tragic accident on the busiest street in Chicago leaves Olga dead and Julia left behind to reassemble the shattered pieces of her family. And no one seems to acknowledge that Julia is broken, too. Instead, her mother seems to channel her grief into pointing out every possible way Julia has failed.

### **Ghost by Jason Reynolds**



Ghost has a crazy natural talent, but no formal training. If he can stay on track, literally and figuratively, he could be the best sprinter in the city. But Ghost has been running for the wrong reasons—it all started with running away from his abusive father. Since then, Ghost has been the one causing problems—and running away from them—until he meets Coach, an ex-Olympic Medalist who blew his own shot at success by using drugs, and who is determined to keep other kids from blowing *their* shots at life.

### **Red Queen by Victoria Aveyard**



Mare Barrow lives in a world where one's lot in life is determined by the color of one's blood. She was born a Red and has to make a living by pickpocketing and trying to dodge "the conscription" and being sent off to fight an ongoing war. Mare's resigned herself to the fact that she'll always serve the Silver, a genetically gifted group of people with supernatural abilities. A chance encounter with the prince causes Mare to suddenly find herself at the royal palace as a servant, where she discovers in front of everyone that she also has a unique gift. She is Red and Silver, and could be just the spark the Reds need to rise up against the oppressive Silvers. The king and queen quickly cover up Mare's anomaly by presenting her to the rest of the Silvers as a long-lost princess and betroth her to their second-born son. Now Mare is torn between playing the part of a Silver, and helping out the Scarlet Guard rebellion.

Name:

Date:

Book:

### After Reading: Character Chart

**Eyes:** Explain how the main character perceives their primary conflict(s). What is their attitude toward it?

**Hands:** List two consequences your character faces as a result of their actions.

**Head:** Describe two lessons the main character has learned from the struggles they have faced throughout the book.

Book Book

**Heart:** Explain what motivates the main character to keep moving forward in difficult times.

**Feet:** Describe the impact of the places/events the main character has experienced on who they are.

