

Supply List for English IV

1 inch binder with dividers

Loose leaf paper

Composition notebook (stitched binding, not spiral)

Blue or black pens and/or pencils

Flash drive

A box of Kleenex or Clorox Wipes

Summer Reading English IV (12th grade)

Students, be prepared to complete an assessment of your summer reading upon your return to school. Choose one book to read from the following list. You will be asked to reflect on conflict, character, theme, setting, and style through an assignment completed the first full week of school. Please read through the list carefully and choose a book you can work with on an intimate level. You will be spending quite a bit of time with your chosen book. The first assignment is due the first day of school on August 15! The instructions follow the book list. If you have a different book you would like to read, please let me know the title and author. You can text this to me along with your name at 660-654-2673.

Strategies for Planning Summer Reading

DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE WEEK BEFORE SCHOOL!!

1. Buy your book early.
2. Add up all the pages that need to be read.
3. Add up all the days of summer vacation.
4. Subtract days you will need for writing assignments and days that it will not be possible to read.
5. The total number of days left are "reading days."
6. Divide the total reading days by the total number of pages. That is how much time is needed to read each day in order to stay on track.

1. *The Passage* by Cronin, Justin

In a dystopian future, a virus found in a South American jungle has been used to create a super soldier with great strength and healing abilities. The virus causes an epidemic, and infected people become bloodthirsty monsters. Normal humans are hiding in fortresses trying to survive.

2. *Room: A Novel* by Donoghue, Emma

Five-year-old Jack has lived his whole life entirely within the walls of a small room where he and his mother are held prisoner. The imaginary world that she creates for him makes it bearable . . . for a while.

3. *City of Veils* by Ferraris, Zoe

In this fascinating mystery, policeman Osama Ibrahim, forensic scientist Katya Hijazi, and Bedouin guide Nayir Sharqi investigate the murder of a young Muslim woman washed up on the shores of Jeddah beach. Series

4. *The Elfstones of Shannara* by Brooks, Terry

Ancient Evil threatens the Elves: The ancient tree created by long-lost Elven magic, is dying. When Wil Ohmsford is summoned to guard the Amberle on a perilous quest to gather a new seed for a new tree, he is faced with the Reaper, the most fearsome of all Demons. And Wil is without power to control them....

5. *A Prayer for Owen Meany* by Irving, John

Tells the story of Owen Meany who believes he is God's instrument and his friendship with John Wheelwright; beginning at age eleven when Owen hits a foul ball that kills John's mother during a Little League game in 1953.

6. *The Notebook* by Sparks, Nicholas

At thirty-one, Noah Calhoun, back in coastal North Carolina after World War II, is haunted by images of the girl he lost more than a decade earlier. At twenty-nine, socialite Allie Nelson is about to marry a wealthy lawyer, but she cannot stop thinking about the boy who long ago stole her heart.

7. *Water for Elephants: A Novel* by Gruen, Sara

Jacob Jankowski, a penniless orphan forced to drop out of veterinary school during the Great Depression, joins a traveling circus. He forges a bond with Rosie the elephant and Marlena, the beautiful star of an equestrian act, whose husband is a handsome circus boss with a violent temper. Alex Award 2007

8. *Unbroken: A World War II Story of Survival, Resilience and Redemption* by Hillenbrand, Laura

This biography chronicles the life of World War II bombardier Louis Zamperini from his wild youth to becoming a world-class runner in the 1936 Olympic Games to his enlistment in the U.S. Air Forces where he must survive for forty-seven days in the Pacific Ocean when his plane goes down.

9. *The Stand* by King, Stephen

After an accident at an army laboratory lets loose a virus that kills nearly the entire U.S., the survivors cross vast, horrifying wastelands to band together in Colorado, and Las Vegas facing off to decide the fate of the humanity.

10. *The Blind Side: Evolution of the Game* by Michael Lewis

When we first meet Michael Oher is one of thirteen children by a mother addicted to crack; he does not know his real name, his father, his birthday, or how to read or write. He takes up football, and school, after a rich, white, Evangelical family plucks him from the streets. Then two great forces alter Oher: the family's love and the evolution of professional football itself into a game in which the quarterback must be protected at any cost. Our protagonist becomes the priceless package of size, speed, and agility necessary to guard the quarterback's greatest vulnerability: his blind side.

11. *Bryan's Song* by Blinn, William

Two men. Once names Gale Sayers, the other Brian Piccolo. They came from different parts of the country. They competed fiercely for the same job. One liked to talk; the other was shy. One was white; the other black. This is the story of how they came to know each other, fight each other, and help each other...

12. *American Sniper: The Autobiography of the Most Lethal Sniper in U.S Military History* by Chris Kyle and Scott McEwen

From 1999 to 2009, U.S. Navy SEAL Chris Kyle recorded the most career sniper kills in United States military history. The Pentagon has officially confirmed more than 150 of Kyle's kills (the previous American record was 109), but it has declined to verify the astonishing total number for this book. Iraqi insurgents feared him so much they placed a bounty on his head. Kyle earned legendary status among his fellow U.S. warriors, whom he protected with deadly accuracy from rooftops and stealth positions.

Reader Response Questions/Prompts for Fiction

Directions: Answer on a separate sheet of paper. Answer each of the following questions thoroughly using a minimum of 3-5 sentences. You will be using this assignment to complete a Book Project and a written essay.

1. Explain a character's problem and then offer your character advice on how to solve his/her problem.
2. Explain how a character is acting and why you think the character is acting that way.
3. Pick one character and explain why you would/would not like to have him/her as a friend.
4. Describe and explain why you would/would not like to have lived in the time or place of the story.
5. What real-life people or events are you reminded of by characters or events in the story? Explain why.
6. Write about what would happen if you brought one of your characters to school or home for a day.
7. Pick a scene in which you disagreed how a character handled a situation/person and rewrite it in the way you think it should have happened.
8. What quality of which character strikes you as a good characteristic to develop within yourself over the years? Why? How does the character demonstrate this quality?
9. Who tells the story? Is this the best person to tell it? Why?
10. How would the story be different if told through another character's eyes?
11. Why do you think the author wrote this story?
12. If you were the author, would you have ended the story in a different way? Why? How so?
13. How do the character's actions affect other people in the story?
14. How does the author provide information or details to make the story seem realistic?

15. How does the author help you feel that you are really there (in both realistic stories and fantasy)?

16. Do you have any unanswered questions about the story? Explain.

17. Copy an interesting/confusing/important/enjoyable passage and explain why you chose it.