



South Cobb High School English Summer Reading Assignments 2013-2014



Dive into the pool. Dive into a good book.

The South Cobb High School English Department knows that reading will increase students' vocabulary, spelling, and writing skills, as well as help students gain new perspectives on life situations. The more reading people do, the more information they gain, and the better their reading skills become. Reading is an effective means of preparing for standardized tests such as the SAT, ACT, and AP exams. All literature students are therefore encouraged to read one selection from the appropriate course list. Each list includes a variety of both classic and contemporary titles—take the time to select a book you will truly enjoy reading!

Please note that some books may contain explicit language, sexual references, or mature subject matter. Thus, parents are encouraged to discuss book choices with their children. If you are unhappy with your choice, feel free to make another selection from the list provided.

Optional extra credit assignment:

All literature students have the *option* to complete an extra credit assignment. Students will turn in the assignment during the first week of the semester. While the assignment is not required, all students are encouraged to take advantage of this excellent opportunity to start the semester on a positive note.

1. **Book Summary** - Write a summary of the novel from one character's point-of-view (500- 700 words). At the end of the summary, a personal critique should be offered.
2. **Compare/Contrast** - Write an essay in which you compare and/or contrast this novel with the film version of this book OR with a novel by the same or different author (300-500 words). Consider why certain scenes were left out of added, and why things were presented in the movie differently than you imagined when reading the book
3. **F.Y.I.** - Research a topic connected to your novel and create an informational brochure. Be sure to include a Works Cited page (found on Cobb County District Website: Research Paper) of your sources.
4. **Interview** - After studying a written interview in a newspaper or magazine, write a fictional interview between you and a character from the book (two pages).
5. **Letter** - Compose a letter to the author of the book. Use business letter format and address specifics from the novel (250-500 words).
6. **Newspaper Article** - Study a news article to familiarize yourself with the format and write a detailed news article about an event from the book. Include a heading and the 5 W's—Who, What, When, Where, and Why.
7. **Review** - Write a book review of your summer reading selection. Find examples of other book reviews in a newspaper, magazine, or on-line to use as a template for your work (300-500 words).
8. **Storyboard** - Create a story board that depicts important scenes from the book as they might be included in a film.
9. **X-ray** - Look beyond the literal meaning and write an essay about the theme, specific symbolism, imagery, figurative language, and/or allegory of your summer reading selection (300-500 words).

TITLE	AUTHOR	LEXILE LEVEL*
<i>NINTH GRADE</i>		
<i>Long Way Gone</i>	Ishmael Bah	920
<i>Notes from the Midnight Driver</i>	Jordan Sonnenblick	930
<i>The Fault in Our Stars</i>	John Green	850
<i>So B. It!</i>	Sarah Weeks	860
<i>The Perks of Being a Wallflower</i>	Stephen Chbosky	720
<i>The Keeper</i>	Mal Peet	780
<i>A Separate Peace</i>	John Knowles	1110
<i>TENTH GRADE</i>		
<i>The Joy Luck Club</i>	Amy Tan	930
<i>Like Water for Chocolate</i>	Laura Esquivel	1030
<i>The Book Thief</i>	Markus Zusak	730
<i>The Alchemist</i>	Paulo Coelho	910
<i>The Hole in my Life</i>	Jack Gantos	840
<i>Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children</i>	Ransom Riggs	890
<i>Things Fall Apart</i>	Chinua Acheve	890
<i>ELEVENTH GRADE</i>		
<i>The Things They Carried</i>	Tim O'Brien	880
<i>One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest</i>	Ken Kesey	1110
<i>The Old Man and the Sea</i>	Ernest Hemingway	1370
<i>Their Eyes Were Watching God</i>	Zora Neale Hurston	1080
<i>Catcher in the Rye</i>	J.D. Salinger	790
<i>TWELFTH GRADE</i>		
<i>Dracula</i>	Bram Stoker	800
<i>Rebecca</i>	Du Maurier	880
<i>The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time</i>	Mark Haddon	1180
<i>Grendel</i>	John Gardner	920
<i>Slam</i>	Nick Hornby	740
<i>Ethan Frome</i>	Edith Wharton	1200
<i>Great Expectations</i>	Charles Dickens	880
<i>AP LIT</i>		
<i>Black Boy</i>	Richard Wright	950
<i>Native Son</i>	Richard Wright	700

- For more information on Lexile Levels and Common Core Standards, visit the following web page: <http://www.lexile.com/using-lexile/lexile-measures-and-the-ccssi/>