

SUMMER READING - 2021

Welcome 9th graders to Literature at EPS! We solicited book recommendations from the class of 2021 for your summer reading options. These are some books these students read for fun outside school, loved, and thought you'd like too. You can see their reviews to the right of the titles. We've chosen these particular books from their list because they attend to our big 9th grade question in the Humanities:

When disparate groups of people interact, what tensions arise and how do they form a common narrative?

Maybe you've read one or two of these, so pick a new one you haven't read yet. The **assignment** for this book is on the next page. If you have any questions, reach out to your fall term literature teacher!

Happy reading!



BOOK OPTIONS

<i>Kindred</i> by Octavia Butler	I really liked that this was a historical fiction book, but also had elements of science fiction and time travel. It parallels themes of race, racism, slavery, throughout the present and past - showing how they affect us years after slavery is abolished.
<i>I Am Not Your Perfect Mexican Daughter</i> by Erika L. Sanchez.	This book is a coming of age novel that talks about Julia and her journey to college. In the beginning, she is very angry and depressed person. Through grit and working hard...she becomes better mentally and physically for her next chapter of life. This book was so amazing, I could often relate to Julia and her issues. Also, I really enjoyed the storyline and progression of each part of the novel. This was also one of those books that I could not put down and I even read twice in a row in my EBC trip.
<i>The Hate U Give</i> by Angie Thomas	It's about a serious topic that is going on today, is full of relatable characters, and really makes you think about other people's lives and your personal privilege. I also cried multiple times which I like.
<i>The 57 Bus</i> by Dashka Slater	It's an awesome retelling of a true story- has great queer characters and raises a lot of important questions about discrimination and prosecution in the US.
<i>Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe</i> by Benjamin Alire Saenz	It was so beautiful and poignant and powerful and really gives an insight into the immigrant experience in America in the 1950s as well as Mexican-American identity.



ASSIGNMENT

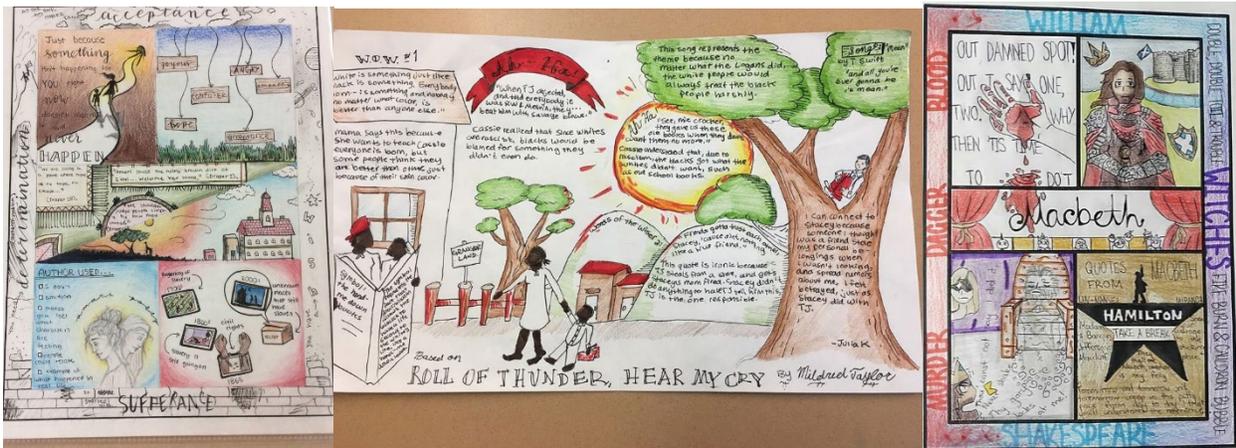
1. Choose a book from the list.
2. Read and annotate the book.
3. Create a “one-pager” for the book (directions below)
4. Be ready to discuss the book in a salon-style discussion in our first week of class!

SUMMER READING ONE-PAGER:

For your summer reading book, create a “one-pager” of where you depict your ideas on theme, character, and plot, along with a few (3-5) quotations you find interesting or important, and be ready to discuss your book in class.

Structure and format for your one-pager is up to you (this can be digital, drawn on paper, or mixed media). You may include images and create an image-word collage, or you can make a mind-map, you can draw a central image and organize your notes around it, or you can put together a page of notes with an organization that makes sense to you (you are not required to include images if you don’t want to!).

The goal for this is to capture a part of your book on one single page – it might be hard to capture the *whole novel*, so don’t be afraid to focus your one page (this could be a character, a theme, a motif, a big idea, a moment of action, a link to today’s world). In other words, there are lots of possibilities—do what is interesting and makes sense for you, and be creative and have fun too.



Annotation Guidelines¹

What are annotations?

Annotations are the outward manifestation of your thoughts concerning a book and consist of coded marks, summaries of what's happening, and inferences that you make as you read. Annotating is chiefly used to help us read more deeply and identify what's important in a text. It is, at its core, a form of graffiti, an act of organized defacement, a means by which to make a text your own by mapping it. With that said, please be advised that annotating is *NOT* the simply the art of personally responding to the text. If a character makes you mad or sad or you think he's boring, put that in your notes. Writing "ha, ha," "crazy," or "WOW" is ultimately unproductive.

What do annotations look like?

Margin Comments: these are the heart of annotations. Turn your book *sideways* to summarize what's happening or make inferences about what's important. They are always complete ideas, but don't have to be complete sentences. For example, in a paragraph where a character is kidnapped, you might write: "robbers take Jack" or "Jack kidnapped!" If you read a section about a bus boycott, you might make an inference "power in numbers" or "non-violent form of protest."

Underlining/Bracketing: If you find one or two sentences that are important, underline them. If you find a whole paragraph that's important, put a line or bracket down the margin. Too much underlining can be confusing when you're looking back through the book. Pretty much anytime you underline or bracket a section, you need to write a margin note explaining why it's important.

Symbols: Symbols are an easy way to classify your annotations. When you're going back through the book to find something, you'll have an extra hint. Below are general symbols that are helpful. You can create your own symbols, too. For example, if you have an essential question of "How should we **b**ehave," you might write "B=" next to places where you find an example. Just like underlining, symbols should always be accompanied by margin comments next to them.

- ! Use an exclamation point when you find important points or exciting events.
- = Use an equals sign to note connections. The connection could be to the essential question, a theme, another book, another time period, a current event, etc.
- ? Use a question mark to note the places where you have questions. Be sure to write the question in your notebook with the page number. Keep your margins question-free.
- ☉ Use a bulls-eye for parts of the text where you find a "kernel of truth." This is something that you read that you think brings an idea to life perfectly. For example, if a character talks about his or her feelings in a way that makes you feel the same way; or if an event is a turning point.

Most importantly, annotations should help you understand your reading fully, and allow you to find the important parts of the text quickly. At first, it might seem that annotations slow your reading down. Don't give up! Be sure to annotate as you go, and you will get quicker with practice.

¹ Adapted from Rainier Scholars, Summer 2013