

Ninth Grade

***The Hiding Place* by Corrie ten Boom. (Nonfiction)**

Corrie ten Boom was a Dutch watchmaker who was a survivor of Hitler's concentration camps, and she became an evangelist. In World War II she and her family risked their lives to help Jews and underground workers escape from the Nazis, and for their work they were tested in the infamous Nazi death camps. Corrie survived to tell the story of how faith triumphs over evil.

***Divergent* by Veronica Roth. (Fiction)**

Beatrice Prior's futuristic society is divided into five factions—Candor (the honest), Abnegation (the selfless), Dauntless (the brave), Amity (the peaceful) and Erudite (the intelligent). Beatrice must choose between her Abnegation family and transferring to other factions. Her choice will shock her community and herself. But the newly christened Tris also has a secret that she is determined to keep hidden because what makes you different in this world makes you dangerous.

***The Help* by Kathryn Stockett. (Fiction)**

A 1960's-era Mississippi debutante sends her community into an uproar by conducting a series of probing interviews with the black servants behind some of her community's most prominent families. Skeeter has just graduated from college, and she's eager to launch her career as a writer. She decides to focus her attention on the black female servants who work in her community. They tell their stories about their employers. Along the way, unlikely friendships are forged and a new sisterhood emerges, but not before everyone in town has a thing or two to say themselves when they become unwittingly -- and unwillingly -- caught up in the changing times.

9th Grade Honors Students MUST read ONLY the following novel:

***The Pearl* by John Steinbeck. (Fiction-classic)**

A Mexican diver Kino discovers a magnificent pearl from the Gulf beds which means the promise of a better life for his impoverished family. His dream blinds him to the greed and suspicions the pearl arouses in him, his neighbors and his wife Juana who cannot temper his obsession or stem the events leading to tragedy. The book examines the fallacy of the American dream, and illustrates the fall from innocence experienced by people who believe that wealth erases all problems.

Tenth Grade

***Murder on the Orient Express* by Agatha Christie. (Fiction-classic)**

A lavish trip through Europe quickly unfolds into a race against time to solve a murder aboard a train. When an avalanche stops the Orient Express dead in its tracks, the world's greatest detective -- Hercule Poirot -- arrives to interrogate all passengers and search for clues before the killer can strike again.

***The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* by Mark Twain. (Fiction-classic)**

Huckleberry Finn is a rebel who inherits gold and becomes a rafter of the Mississippi and savior of Jim the runaway slave. Fleeing the respectable society that wants to civilize him, Huck Finn shoves off with Jim on a raft journey. Huck learns about love, responsibility and morality; the trip becomes a metaphoric voyage through his own soul.

***The Alchemist* by Paulo Coelho. (Fiction-classic)**

Paulo Coelho's masterpiece tells the mystical story of Santiago, an Andalusian shepherd boy who yearns to travel in search of a worldly treasure. His quest will lead him to riches far different—and far more satisfying—than he ever imagined. Santiago's journey teaches us about the essential wisdom of listening to our hearts, of recognizing opportunity and learning to read the omens strewn along life's path, and, most importantly, to follow our dreams.

10th Grade Honors Students MUST read ONLY the following novel:

***Cry, the Beloved Country* by Alan Paton. (Political Fiction)**

This novel brought attention to South Africa's tragic history of the brutality of segregation. It is the story of a father's journey from rural South Africa to Johannesburg in search of his son. The father, a Zulu pastor, Stephen Kumalo finds his son in a prison cell, who is facing trial for the murder of a white man—a man who ironically had been an advocate for South Africa's plight. The father of this victim comes to know Kumalo. Alan Paton's faith in human dignity in the worst of circumstances is poignant and uplifting. This novel is a cry for its people, land and hope for freedom from hatred, poverty and fear.

Eleventh Grade

***The Old Man and the Sea* by Ernest Hemingway. (Fiction)**

The Old Man and the Sea is one of Hemingway's most enduring works. Told in language of great simplicity and power, it is the story of an old Cuban fisherman, down on his luck, and his supreme ordeal—a relentless, agonizing battle with a giant marlin far out in the Gulf Stream. Here Hemingway, recasts, in strikingly contemporary style, the classic theme of courage in the act of defeat, of personal triumph won from loss.

***The Reivers* by William Faulkner. (Fiction)**

Faulkner's great comic novel moves on the wheels of breathless suspense. Lucius Priest, Boon Hogganbeck and Ned McCaslin "borrow" Lucius' grandfather's automobile at the beginning of a hilarious journey that pales in comparison to what awaits the reivers (plunderers or freebooters) in Memphis. Ned trades the auto for a most dubious racehorse. How the reivers grapple with the crisis is the mainspring of the story which leads from a brothel to a brush with the law to the most bizarre horse racing in fact or fiction. The wild humor and the frenetic action will not, however, obscure to the listener that "The Reivers," like all of Faulkner's work, is about moving and tender human relationships and moral insights into human conduct.

***The Power of Half* by Kevin and Hannah Salwe. (Nonfiction)**

A book written by Kevin Salwen and his 14-year-old daughter Hannah in 2010. It describes how the Salwen family came to decide to sell their home, so that they could donate half the proceeds to charity. The family then bought a new home for themselves, half the size. It also discusses what the family went through in selling their home, donating half the sales price, down-grading to a smaller home and what they learned in the process.

***Buddy: How a Rooster Made Me a Family Man* by Brian McGrory. (Nonfiction)**

In this touching tale of how a feisty rooster, who constantly peers at the columnist through the window, made MacGrory a better man, the columnist succeeds in telling the story of change with a healthy dose of humor. Is there room for two? Not at first. "As far as I could tell, Buddy seemed to blame me for every ounce of his anxiety, and it wasn't lost on me that I was basically blaming him for mine," McGrory writes. "He hated me. To be fair, he didn't really understand the point of me. If he was already living on Sawmill Lane, the self-designated head of the flock, what was I doing around? What purpose did I serve?" Lessons are learned here and often the hard way.

11th Grade Honors Students MUST read ONLY the following novel:

***To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee. (Fiction)**

Scout, Jem, and Dill become fascinated with their mysterious neighbor Boo Radley and have an escalating series of encounters with him. Meanwhile, Atticus is assigned to defend a black man, Tom Robinson against the spurious charges.

Twelfth Grade

***Great Expectations* by Charles Dickens. (Fiction)**

Charles Dickens's thirteenth novel which is a bildungsroman or a coming-of-age novel, is a classic work of Victorian literature. It depicts the growth and personal development of an orphan named Pip.

***The Screwtape Letters* by C.S. Lewis. (Fiction)**

This novel is a classic masterpiece of religious satire that entertains readers with its sly and ironic portrayal of human life and foibles from the vantage point of Screwtaper, a highly placed assistant to "our Father Below."

***The Hound of Baskervilles* by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle. (Fiction)**

The third of the four crime novels written by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle featuring the detective Sherlock Holmes. Originally serialized in *The Strand Magazine* from August 1901 to April 1902, it is set largely on Dartmoor in Devon in England's West Country and tells the story of an attempted murder inspired by the legend of a fearsome, diabolical hound of supernatural origin. Sherlock Holmes and his companion Dr. Watson investigate the case.

***The Warrior's Heart--Becoming a Man of Compassion and Courage* by Eric Greitens. (Nonfiction)**

Readers will share in Eric's evolution from average kid to globe-traveling humanitarian to warrior, training and serving the most elite military outfit in the world: the Navy SEALs. Along the way, they'll be asked to consider the power of choices, of making the decision each and every day to act with courage and compassion so that they grow to be tomorrow's heroes.

12th Grade Honors Students MUST read ONLY the following novel:

***Heart of Darkness* by Joseph Conrad (Fiction)**

When Marlow accepts a job that will take him into the interior of Africa to bring back a rogue ivory trader, he witnesses the inhumanity and the absurdity of the colonial exploitation. He also confronts his own desire to have the unholy power the trader, Kurtz, has claimed over the natives. *Heart of Darkness* is Marlow's account of his experiences, and the restraint and the attention to practical details that saved him from wanting Kurtz' power for himself.

Novel Assessment

***9th—12th grade students will be assigned a teacher-made test the first week of school on the book read from the Summer Reading list. This grade will be averaged in the 1st grading period of the students' English class.**

While reading the literature students need to make note of the Elements of Fiction, including but not limited to

- Setting
- Characters
- Plot
 - A. Exposition
 - B. Rising Action
 - C. Climax
 - D. Falling Action
 - E. Resolution
 - F. Conflict—types of conflict
- Point of View
- Theme
- Symbolism

Novel Assignment During English Course

Thinking Maps and Write...for the Future* content taught in previous English courses will be utilized in order to complete the following activities **during the students' English course.

1. Write a character analysis, focusing on character attributes, how the character changes over the course of the reading, their interactions and the author's meaning of the literature. Support your interpretation with quotations, paraphrasing, figurative language, literary devices, examples and details from the literature.
2. Write a 5 paragraph essay to exhibit comprehension of the novel read. Make connections between the thesis and supporting evidence.
3. Write a novel synopsis to exhibit your understanding of the novel read. Your focus is to outline the characters, setting, plot, conflicts and theme of your novel.
4. Create a works cited entry for the novel read.

2018—2019

9th—12th Grades

Summer Reading Novels



English Instructors

Maxine Manuel—English I and II

Wanda Joubert—English II (H)

Jeanite Fontenot—English III and IV