



Hampton City Schools Administrative Center

ONE FRANKLIN STREET

Hampton, Virginia 23669-3570

June 17, 2020

Dear Students and Parents/Guardians:

Hampton City Schools encourages students and their families to continue with their reading through the summer months. Many studies have shown that students need to read over the summer to sustain their reading and writing abilities. Students who read during the summer tend to start ahead and stay ahead.

Hampton City Schools implements required summer reading for all high school students. The required list, per grade level, is on the back of this page. Books are identified as fiction or nonfiction and provide the *Lexile* (complexity level) of the book. Each student will need to know the level and grade of his/her first semester English course in order to choose the correct titles and required number of books.

Parents and students are encouraged to examine books and reviews in advance, as some of the selected books contain mature language and/or content. Students may borrow a book from the public library, share with a peer, or purchase their own. Used books are often available from sites such as [betterworldbooks.com](http://betterworldbooks.com), [amazon.com](http://amazon.com), and [ebay.com](http://ebay.com). Many titles are also available in electronic versions. Students can access free online versions of books through MackinVia, which can be accessed on the school's Library Media Center webpage. Furthermore, to help students determine which books may be of interest, some short video trailers have been prepared. These can be accessed on the Hampton City Schools webpage. From the home page, click on "Departments," then scroll down to Language Arts.

Teachers will begin the year with discussions and activities related to the summer reading. Students will be required to synthesize the readings through discussions and writing activities. In order to prepare for these activities, students are encouraged to maintain a reading log. Logs may include any of the following information: plot, setting, character information, events, details, author information, symbols and vocabulary. The log will help students to identify and recall critical information. Reading should be completed by September 8, 2020.

If you have any questions about summer reading, please feel free to contact your school or the Hampton City Schools Language Arts Department at [jbutler1@hampton.k12.va.us](mailto:jbutler1@hampton.k12.va.us). Have a safe and fun summer!

Sincerely,

Dr. Kelli Cedo,  
HCS Curriculum Leader for English Language Arts

### Required Summer Reading for High School English

- Students in AVERAGE (level 2) English must read one book from the appropriate grade level list.
- Students in HONORS (level 3) English must read two books from the appropriate grade level list.
- Students enrolled in AP English, IB English, or Dual Enrollment will receive the summer reading list from their teachers or school counselors.

\*Note: The titles below are the preferred titles; however, due to current circumstances, students may choose any title(s) available to them.

#### Grade 9

<i>Esperanza Rising</i> by Pam Munoz Ryan	Fiction	750L
<i>Hiroshima</i> by John Hersey	Nonfiction	1190L
<i>I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings</i> by Maya Angelou	Nonfiction	1070L
<i>The Maze Runner</i> by James Dashner	Fiction	770L
<i>Speak</i> by Laurie Halse Anderson	Fiction	690L
<i>To Kill a Mockingbird</i> by Harper Lee	Fiction	870L
<i>We Beat the Street</i> by Davis, Jenkins, Hunt and Draper	Nonfiction	860L

#### Grade 10

<i>The Color of Water</i> by James McBride	Nonfiction	1240L
<i>Divergent</i> by Veronica Roth	Fiction	700L
<i>Ender's Game</i> by Orson Scott Card	Fiction	780L
<i>The Glass Castle</i> by Jeannette Walls	Nonfiction	1010L
<i>The Secret Life of Bees</i> by Sue Monk Kidd	Fiction	840L
<i>A Separate Peace</i> by John Knowles	Fiction	1110L
<i>Sunrise Over Fallujah</i> by Walter Dean Myers	Fiction	780L

#### Grade 11

<i>The Awakening</i> by Kate Chopin	Fiction	960L
<i>How Does It Feel to be a Problem? Being Young and Arab in America</i> by Moustafa Bayoumi	Nonfiction	1090L
<i>How the Garcia Girls Lost Their Accents</i> by Julia Alvarez	Fiction	950L
<i>A Lesson Before Dying</i> by Ernest J. Gaines	Fiction	750L
<i>Of Mice and Men</i> by John Steinbeck	Fiction	630L
<i>Up From Slavery</i> by Booker T. Washington	Nonfiction	1320L
<i>Where the Heart Is</i> by Billie Letts	Fiction	950L

#### Grade 12

<i>1984</i> by George Orwell	Fiction	1090L
<i>Flags of Our Fathers</i> by James Bradley with Ron Powers	Nonfiction	950L
<i>I am Nujood, Age 10 and Divorced</i> by Nujood Ali	Nonfiction	990L
<i>Life of Pi</i> by Yann Martel	Fiction	830L
<i>Pride and Prejudice</i> by Jane Austen	Fiction	1100L
<i>A Thousand Splendid Suns</i> by Khaled Hosseini	Fiction	830L
<i>Treasure Island</i> by Robert Louis Stevenson	Fiction	1070L