



2025-2026 English Department Reading Lists

6th grade:

Summer:

Required:

Fish in a Tree Linda Mullaly Hunt

Choose one of the following not previously read

Brown Girl Dreaming Jacqueline Woodson

Ghost Jason Reynolds

The Cricket in Times Square George Selden

The Lions of Little Rock Kristin Levine

The Secret Garden Frances Hodgson

Two Roads Joseph Bruchac

School Year:

A Wrinkle in Time

The Lightning Thief

Hidden Figures Young Readers Edition Margot Lee Shetterly

The Bronze Bow Elizabeth George Speare

7th grade:

Summer: Choose two of the following not previously read.

Stella by Starlight Sharon M. Draper

Little Women Louisa May Alcott

Spy School Stuart Gibbs

Anne of Green Gables LM Montgomery

Auggie and Me: Three Wonder Stories R.J. Palacio

Vincent & Theo Deborah Heiligman

School Year:

A Christmas Carol Charles Dickens (text provided)

One Last Word Nikki Grimes

Tangerine Edward Bloor

The Faithful Spy John Hendrix

The Outsiders S.E. Hinton



8th grade:

Summer Required Text:

Gathering Blue Lois Lowry

AND Choose one of the following not previously read:

Finding Junie Kim Ellen Oh

Look Both Ways Jason Reynolds

Piecing Me Together Renee Watson

The Epic Fail of Arturo Zamora Pablo Cartaya

The Wednesday Wars Gary D. Schmidt

The Westing Game Ellen Raskin

School Year: *If you do not purchase the book bundle from The Lions' Den, then please purchase the edition requested. Students will be asked to annotate, so editions must be free of any writing. Students may check out a book from a library and use sticky notes to make annotations.*

A Midsummer Night's Dream William Shakespeare (text provided)

The Diary of Anne Frank (play) Frances Goodrich and Albert Hackett (text provided)

Twelfth Night William Shakespeare (text provided)

Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry Mildred Taylor– ISBN-13 : 9780142401125

Just Mercy (Adapted for Young Adults) Bryan Stevenson– ISBN-13 : 9780525580065

The Giver Lois Lowry– ISBN-13: 9780544336261

9th grade:

Summer:

Required: 9-12 Common Reader *Klara and the Sun* Kazuo Ishiguro

AND choose one of the following not previously read:

Rebecca Daphne du Maurier

The Hobbit J.R.R. Tolkien

The Life of Pi Yann Martel

The Book Thief Markus Zusak

School Year:

Romeo and Juliet William Shakespeare (text provided)

A Separate Peace John Knowles

Children of Blood and Bone Tomi Adeyemi

To Kill a Mockingbird Harper Lee



Honors 9th grade:

Summer:

Required: 9-12 Common Reader *Klara and the Sun* Kazuo Ishiguro

AND choose one of the following not previously read:

The Hobbit J.R.R. Tolkien

The Life of Pi Yann Martel

Rebecca Daphne du Maurier

The Book Thief Markus Zusak

School Year:

Romeo and Juliet William Shakespeare (text provided)

A Separate Peace John Knowles

Children of Blood and Bone Tomi Adeyemi

Lost Names Richard E. Kim

The Count of Monte Cristo Alexandre Dumas (If you do not buy from the Lions' Den book bundle, please ensure you have the Bantam Classics version.)

To Kill a Mockingbird Harper Lee

10th grade:

Summer:

Required: 9-12 Common Reader *Klara and the Sun* Kazuo Ishiguro

The Invention of Wings Sue Monk Kidd

The Pearl John Steinbeck

School Year:

Fahrenheit 451 Ray Bradbury

The Crucible Arthur Miller

The Great Gatsby F. Scott Fitzgerald

Their Eyes Were Watching God Zora Neale Hurston

Honors 10th grade:

Summer:

Required: 9-12 Common Reader *Klara and the Sun* Kazuo Ishiguro

The Invention of Wings Sue Monk Kidd

The Pearl John Steinbeck

School Year:

Fahrenheit 451 Ray Bradbury

The Crucible Arthur Miller

The Great Gatsby F. Scott Fitzgerald

Their Eyes Were Watching God Zora Neale Hurston



11th grade:

Summer:

Required: 9-12 Common Reader *Klara and the Sun* Kazuo Ishiguro

Lord of the Flies William Golding

AND choose one of the following not previously read:

All American Boys Jason Reynolds

Atonement Ian McEwan

Pride and Prejudice Jane Austen

Sing, Unburied, Sing Jesmyn Ward

School Year: *If you do not purchase the book bundle from The Lions' Den, then please purchase the edition requested. Students will be asked to annotate, so editions must be free of any writing. Students may check out a book from a library and use sticky notes to make annotations.*

Beowulf (text provided)

Frankenstein (1818 publication) Mary Shelley (text provided)

Julius Caesar William Shakespeare (text provided)

Macbeth by William Shakespeare (text provided)

"Sir Gawain and the Green Knight" (text provided)

The Picture of Dorian Gray Oscar Wilde (text provided)

Monster (graphic novel) Guy A. Sims.--- ISBN-13: 9780062274991

The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde Robert Louis Stevenson

ISBN-13: 9780199536221

11th grade AP Language and Composition:

Summer:

Required:

9-12 Common Reader *Klara and the Sun* Kazuo Ishiguro

The Boys in the Boat Daniel James Brown

Unbroken Laura Hillenbrand

School Year:

Everything's an Argument, 5th Ed. (text provided)

Aristotle's Art of Rhetoric- translated with an Interpretative Essay by Robert C. Bartless

Elements of Style, Illustrated edition, William Strunk Jr., E.B. White, et al

Into Thin Air John Krakauer

Macbeth William Shakespeare (Oxford School Shakespeare Edition)

The American Plague Molly Caldwell Crosby

The Great Divorce C.S. Lewis

The Scarlet Letter Nathaniel Hawthorne

The Seagull Reader, Essays, 3rd Ed. edited by Joseph Kelly



12th grade Capstone:

Summer:

Required: 9-12 Common Reader *Klara and the Sun* Kazuo Ishiguro

Choose one of the NEHS Common Reads for the opportunity to write a scholarship later in August:

How Not to Drown in a Glass of Water Angie Cruz

The Midnight Library Matt Haig

Choose one not previously read:

A Man Called Ove by Frederick Backman

All the Light We Cannot See by Anthony Doerr

Same Kind of Different as Me by Ron Hall and Denver Moore

Things Fall Apart by Chinua Achebe

School Year:

Hamlet William Shakespeare (text provided)

Frankenstein (1818 publication) Mary Shelley

The Kite Runner - Khaled Hosseini

The Nickel Boys - Colson Whitehead

12th grade AP Literature and Composition:

Summer:

Required:

9-12 Common Reader *Klara and the Sun* Kazuo Ishiguro

Frankenstein (audiolink with listening and writing assignment provided by Mrs. Ammons)

Born a Crime Trevor Noah (highly encouraged to listen and read along as Trevor Noah reads his story)

Choose one of the NEHS Common Reads for the opportunity to write a scholarship later in August:

How Not to Drown in a Glass of Water Angie Cruz

The Midnight Library Matt Haig

School Year:

Hamlet William Shakespeare (text provided)

The Tempest William Shakespeare (text provided)

Cry, The Beloved Country Alan Paton

The Kite Runner Khaled Hosseini

James Percival Everett