



## 2016 High School Pre-AP and AP Required Summer Reading for Students Entering Grades 9-12

**What is the PfISD philosophy behind summer reading?**

**PfISD encourages all students to read over the summer to**

- help students maintain English Language Arts skills over the summer break
- expose students to quality literature that they might not pick up on their own
- promote independent reading, inquiry, and scholarship which will facilitate students as lifelong learners

**PfISD requires students who are enrolled in Pre-AP or AP English to read over the summer to**

- allow teachers to begin literary discussions at the level of depth and complexity required in an Advanced Academics course during the first weeks of school
- build a base of literature from which students will draw when completing advanced placement assessments

### **Activities / Grading**

All PfISD students are encouraged to read from this list over the summer.

Students in **Pre-AP or AP English** classes are required to read their assigned book(s)

(see page 2) over the summer and will complete oral and written assignments after the second week of school based on their reading. Students are also expected to annotate or take notes to help them process their reading and prepare for the projects/activities they will complete. Projects/activities will be assigned by the teacher and discussion over the novels will begin after the second week of school. Students will receive an **assessment grade** after the second week of school for the work they complete over their chosen summer reading book in order to accommodate transfer students and schedule changes. Any late work or make-up work related to the summer reading book will be completed by the end of the first six-weeks.

### **How were the books chosen for these lists?**

Pre-AP and AP English teachers and administrators meet to discuss and determine the reading list. Books are chosen based on the following criteria:

- Appropriate readability for independent summer reading
- High interest for students at the designated grade level
- Literary merit/promote rich discussion and literary analysis
- Appropriate genres and themes

Please note that some of the books on these lists may contain **mature language or situations**. We strongly encourage parents and/or guardians to preview the books.



### English I Pre-AP

Students entering English I Pre-AP will read one book from the following list:

*The Bean Trees* by Barbara Kingsolver  
*Ender's Game* by Orson Scott Card  
*The Kite Runner* by Khaled Hosseini  
*The Secret Life of Bees* by Sue Monk Kidd  
*Things Fall Apart* by Chinua Achebe  
*Gifted Hands: The Ben Carson Story* by Ben Carson  
*The Help* by Kathryn Stockett  
*The Namesake* by Jhumpa Lahiri

### English II Pre-AP

Students enrolling in English II Pre-AP will read one book from the following list:

*A Thousand Splendid Suns* by Khaled Hosseini  
*What is the What* by Dave Eggers  
*The Life of Pi* by Yann Martel  
*Bless Me, Ultima* by Rudolfo Anaya  
*The Joy Luck Club* by Amy Tan  
*The Book Thief* by Markus Zusak  
*The Glass Castle* by Jeannette Walls  
*The Alchemist* by Paulo Coelho

### English III AP English Language

Students enrolling in English III AP Language will read one common book and one choice book from the list below:

**Common Reading** (Required for all):  
*Fist Stick Knife Gun* by Geoffrey Canada  
and

**One Choice book from this list:**

*Demon in the Freezer* by Richard Preston  
*The Devil's Highway* by Luis Alberto Urrea  
*The Cheating Culture* by David Callahan  
*Fast Food Nation* by Eric Schlosser  
*Quiet: The Power of Introverts in a World That Can't Stop Talking* by Susan Cain  
*The Overachievers* by Alexandra Robbins

### English IV AP Literature

Students enrolling in English IV AP Literature will read one common book and one choice book from the list below:

**Common Reading** (Required for all):  
*How to Read Literature Like a Professor Book*  
by Thomas C Foster and  
and

**One Choice book from this list:**

*One Hundred Years of Solitude* by Gabriel Garcia Marquez  
*The Picture of Dorian Gray* by Oscar Wilde  
*Pride and Prejudice* by Jane Austen  
*Atonement* by Ian McEwan  
*Blindness* by Jose Saramago  
*The Road* by Cormac McCarthy  
*Snow* by Orhan Samuk  
*Sister of My Heart* by Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni  
*Kinder than Solitude* by Yiyun Li  
*Amigoland* by Oscar Casares  
*Reservation Blues* by Sherman Alexie