You have been assigned to read two books this summer.

Read one book from the list below and answer the attached questions. Bring the completed questions with you on the first day of school. This assignment will be graded. A thorough knowledge of one book from this list will be crucial to success in English class this year.

Also, read any book of your choice, as long as that book is the first book in a series. It should be a series you have never read. Read this series book carefully and come prepared to demonstrate your knowledge of the plot within the first week of school. You do not have to write your answers to the questions about the series book.

Parents:

- It is recommended that you purchase the books for your student so that they may annotate as well as add to their personal library. Current Collegiate students will purchase one of the novels below from their English teacher.
- All of the novels on this list as well as books in a series are readily available at local bookstores or at Amazon.com.
- WARNING: Any of the following young adult literature may contain mature reading material.

Choose one (1) novel from the following:

**A Long Way Home: a Memoir** by Saroo Brierly
At only five years old, Saroo Brierley got lost on a train in India. Unable to read or write or recall the name of his hometown or even his own last name, he survived alone for weeks on the rough streets of Calcutta before ultimately being transferred to an agency and adopted by a couple in Australia. Despite his gratitude, Brierley always wondered about his origins. Eventually, with the advent of Google Earth, he had the opportunity to look for the needle in a haystack he once called home and pore over satellite images for landmarks he might recognize or mathematical equations that might further narrow down the labyrinthine map of India. One day, after years of searching, he miraculously found what he was looking for and set off to find his family.

**Dark Dude** by Oscar Hijuelos
In Wisconsin, Rico could blend in. His light hair and lighter skin wouldn't make him the "dark dude" or the punching bag for the whole neighborhood. The Midwest is the land of milk and honey, but for Rico Fuentes, it's really a last resort. Trading Harlem for Wisconsin, though, means giving up on a big part of his identity. And when Rico no longer has to prove that he's Latino, he almost stops being one. Except he can never have an ordinary white kid's life, because there are some things that can't be left behind, that can't be cut loose or forgotten. These are the things that will be with you forever... These are the things that will follow you a thousand miles away. For anyone who loved *The Outsiders*—and for anyone who's ever felt like one—Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist Oscar Hijuelos brings to life a haunting choice and an unforgettable journey about identity, misidentity, and all that we take with us when we run away.
**Fallen Angels** by Walter Dean Myers
A coming-of-age tale for young adults set in the trenches of the Vietnam War in the late 1960s, this is the story of Perry, a Harlem teenager who volunteers for the service when his dream of attending college falls through. Sent to the front lines, Perry and his platoon come face-to-face with the Vietcong and the real horror of warfare. But violence and death aren’t the only hardships. As Perry struggles to find virtue in himself and his comrades, he questions why black troops are given the most dangerous assignments, and why the U.S. is even there at all.

**Into the Beautiful North** by Luis Alberto Urrea
Nineteen-year-old Nayeli works at a taco shop in her Mexican village and dreams about her father, who journeyed to the United States to find work. Recently, it has dawned on her that he isn’t the only man who has left town. In fact, there are almost no men in the village—they’ve all gone north. While watching The Magnificent Seven, Nayeli decides to go north herself and recruit seven men—her own “Siete Magníficos”—to repopulate her hometown and protect it from the banditos who plan on taking it over.

**Purple Hibiscus** by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie
Fifteen-year-old Kambili and her older brother Jaja lead a privileged life in Enugu, Nigeria. They live in a beautiful house, with a caring family, and attend an exclusive missionary school. They’re completely shielded from the troubles of the world. Yet, as Kambili reveals in her tender-voiced account, things are less perfect than they appear.

**The Unwanted: A Memoir** by Kien Nguyen
This is a powerful, compelling memoir of an Amerasian boy’s experience in Communist Vietnam from 1975, when the United States troops pulled out, until his family’s migration to the United States in 1985. The illegitimate son of an American G.I. and a wealthy Vietnamese woman, Nguyen is now a dentist in New York City. Initially, he wrote this book as a kind of personal catharsis, but he decided to publish it as a memorial to the thousands of Amerasians who have suffered and died. His story, which recalls The Killing Fields, recounts a descent from wealth and comfort into the horrors of Communist rule. In painful detail, he writes of poverty, suffering, and torture, much of it inflicted on him precisely because of his Amerasian roots. Ultimately, his tale is one of extraordinary courage and human will, for Nguyen and his mother held their family together in the face of great hardships. Beautifully written and inspirational, this memoir is highly recommended.

**Also choose one (1) book that is the first book in a series of your choice.**

Some suggested series:

- **Harry Potter** by J.K. Rowling
- **The Hunger Games** by Suzanne Collins
- **The Lunar Chronicles** by Marissa Meyer
- **Ender’s Game** by Orson Scott Card
- **The Mortal Instruments** by Cassandra Clare
- **The Infernal Devices** by Cassandra Clare
- **Beautiful Creatures** by Kami Garcia and Margaret Stohl
- **The Maze Runner** by James Dashner
- **Divergent** by Veronica Roth
- **Eve** by Ana Carey
- **Uglies** by Scott Westerfeld
- **Delirium** by Lauren Oliver
- **Perfect Chemistry** by Simone Elkeles
- **The Lord of the Rings** by J. R. R. Tolkien
- **The Space Trilogy** by C. S. Lewis
- **Gone** by Michael Grant
- **Daughter of Smoke and Bone** by Laini Taylor
- **Matched** by Ally Condie
- **Legend** by Marie Lu
- **The Raven Boys** by Maggie Stiefvater
- **Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants** by Ann Brashares
- **Reboot** by Amy Tintera
- **Chaos Walking** by Patrick Ness
- **His Dark Materials** by Philip Pullman
- **The Hitchhiker’s Guide to the Galaxy** by Douglas Adams
- **The No. 1 Ladies’ Detective Agency** by Alexander McCall Smith
- **Shades of Magic** by V. E. Schwab
- **Shadow and Bone Trilogy** by Leigh Bardugo
- **Six of Crows** by Leigh Bardugo
- **Thief** by Megan Whalen Turner
- **Ruined** by Amy Tintera
- **Hold Me Like a Breath** by Tiffany Schmidt
- **Seeds of America Trilogy** by Laurie Halse Anderson
- **Red Queen Series** by Victoria Aveyard
**Summer Reading Assignment, 10th Grade English**

*Directions:* Answer the following questions about the book you chose from the summer reading list (NOT the first book of a popular series).
- You may write your answers neatly on notebook paper or you may type and print them out.
- Your answers must come from your brain and the book itself. Material taken from online summaries is considered plagiarism and will receive ZERO CREDIT.

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<th>Topic</th>
<th>Questions / Reflection Prompts</th>
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| Characterization     | 1. Choose two characters and write one paragraph about them in which you:  
  a. Describe traits of both characters (physical, emotional, etc.).  
  b. Explain how they are either like each other or unlike each other.  
  c. In this paragraph, weave in at least one quote and/or specific textual example per character. Include page numbers for any quotes.  
  2. Choose a character from the novel and write ten social media updates from their perspective. Write them in chronological order—some from the beginning, middle, and end of the book. (These are your invented words—not quotes.) |
| Setting              | 3. Would you want to live in the setting of this novel? Why or why not?                                                                                       |
| Point of View        | 4. If you could change the narrator, who would you want to be telling the story? Why? How would that affect the story?  
  5. OPTIONAL EXTRA-CREDIT QUESTION: Rewrite one scene of the novel from another character’s perspective. |
| Conflict             | 6. Write about one problem or conflict the protagonist faces in your novel and then say how you would solve that conflict if you were in their place. |
| Plot                 | 7. How would you rewrite the ending of the novel if you could? Why?  
  8. What was the most suspenseful part of the book for you? Why? At that moment, what did you think would happen? Did your prediction come true? |
| Theme                | 9. What is your favorite quote from the novel? Why does it mean so much to you?  
  10. Tell about a time in your life when you learned the same lesson that the protagonist learned. Compare/Contrast your situations. |
| Vocabulary           | 11. Identify one word that you needed to look up in a dictionary in order to understand a sentence fully. Copy down that sentence, underlining the word. Include page number. |

**Summer Reading Assignment Checklist:**
- I answered each part of each question (including all of the why? questions).
- My answers include many details that clearly show my knowledge of the book.
- I did not look on the Internet for help. All answers came from the book and my brilliant brain.
- My handwriting is neat and large enough that another human can read it.