

## Pre-Course Reading for English Classes at Catonsville High School

All students registered for English classes at CHS are required to read the following work(s) of literature for their grade level prior to the start of the 2019-20 school year. Students will be assessed on pre-course reading by their English teacher before the end of the first marking period.

***\*Students and parents are encouraged to work together to preview and select titles.***

### 9th Grade

**GT-** [three texts]

*To Kill a Mockingbird* (Lee) **AND** *Of Mice and Men* (Steinbeck) **AND** *Edith Hamilton's Mythology* **OR** *Bulfinch's Mythology* (\*only read the Greek/Roman myths, no need to read Norse, etc.)

**Honors/Standard-** [one text]

*The Secret Life of Bees* (Kidd) **OR** *Luna* (Peters) **OR** *Monster* (Myers) **OR** *The Help* (Stockett) **OR** *The Contender* (Lipsyte) **OR** *The Outsiders* (Hinton) **OR** *Tomboy: A Graphic Memoir* (graphic novel-Prince) **OR** *This One Summer* (graphic novel-Tamaki) **OR** *The Hate U Give* (Thomas)

### 10th Grade

**GT-** [two texts]

*Julius Caesar* (Shakespeare) **AND** *Like Water for Chocolate* (Esquivel) **OR** *The Alchemist* (Coelho) **OR** *Haroun and the Sea of Stories* (Rushdie) **OR** *Persepolis* (graphic novel-Satrapé) **OR** *Maus* (graphic novel-Spiegelman)

**\*As an alternative to *Julius Caesar***, students may attend one live performance of a Shakespeare play. This summer, for example, the Chesapeake Shakespeare Company will be performing *Macbeth* from 6/7-6/24 and *Love's Labour's Lost* from 6/28-7/28 outdoors in Ellicott City. Visit their website for details. For credit, submit a copy of the program with ticket stub and a one-page review that briefly summarizes the plot and then reflects (in your own words) on the staging, performance, and direction of the play.

**Honors/Standard-** [one text]

*The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind* (Kamkwamba, Mealer) **OR** *The Bite of Mango* (Kamara) **OR** *I am Malala* (Yousafzai) **OR** *Queen of Katwe* (Crothers) **OR** *Persepolis* (graphic novel-Satrapé) **OR** *Maus* (graphic novel-Spiegelman) **OR** *They Poured Fire on Us From the Sky: The Story of Three Lost Boys from Sudan* (Ajak, Deng, Deng, Bernstein)

## 11th Grade

AP-[three texts]

**Required:** *Thank You for Arguing* (Heinrichs). Use the most recent edition, 2017, available at libraries/bookstores. This link provides the outdated online version; it has problematic language and should be avoided unless absolutely necessary: <http://swcta.net/moore/files/2011/08/Thank-You-forArguing.pdf> . Take notes on this text; it is foundational, and there will be an assessment.

**Also, choose two:** *Assassination Vacation* (Vowell-American history), *The Other Wes Moore* (Moore-African-American issues), *Enrique's Journey* (Nazario-immigration), *In Cold Blood* (Capote-true crime), *Friday Night Lights* (Bissinger-sports), *Into the Wild* (Krakauer -adventure), *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings* (Angelou-memoir), *This Boy's Life* (Wolff-memoir), *An American Childhood* (Dillard-memoir), *Between the World and Me* (Coates-African-American issues), *You Don't Have To Say You Love Me* (Alexie-Native American issues), *Nothing to Envy: Ordinary Lives in North Korea* (Demick-international)

\*\*It is expected that all students have read *A Narrative of a Life of a Slave* by Frederick Douglass; if you have not, please do so.

**11 Honors/Standard** - [one text]

*The Things They Carried* (O'Brien) **OR** *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings* (Angelou) **OR** *Joy Luck Club* (Tan) **OR** *Friday Night Lights* (Bissinger) **OR** *Anya's Ghost* (graphic novel-Broskol) **OR** *Americanized: Rebel without A Green Card* (Saedi)

## 12th Grade

12 AP - [three texts]

\**Jane Eyre* (Brontë) **AND** *How to Read Literature Like a Professor* (Foster) **AND EITHER** *Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man* (Joyce) **OR** *Dubliners* (Joyce)

\*All students must read *Jane Eyre* and *How to Read Literature Like a Professor*, but **as an alternative to either of the two texts by Joyce**, students may attend one live performance of a Shakespeare play. This summer, for example, the Chesapeake Shakespeare Company will be performing *Love's Labour's Lost* outdoors in Ellicott City from 6/28-7/28. Visit their website for details. For credit, submit to your English teacher a copy of the program with ticket stub and a one-page review that briefly summarizes the plot and then reflects (in your own words) on the staging, performance, and direction of the play.

**Honors-** [one text]

*The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* (Haddon) **OR** *The Handmaid's Tale* (Atwood) **OR** *Angela's Ashes* (McCourt)

**Standard-** [one text]

*The Beautiful Struggle* (Coates) **OR** *Becoming Maria: Love and Chaos in the South Bronx* (Manzano) **OR** *The Pregnancy Project: A Memoir* (Rodriguez, Glatzer) **OR** *Unbroken* (Hillenbrand)