

West Seneca West Senior High School

3330 Seneca St.
West Seneca, NY 14224

June 2018

Dear Parents / Guardians of English IV Students:

Summer reading is part of West Senior's English curriculum. Reading during the summer develops lifelong reading habits. Answering the analysis questions assists students in preparing for the New York State Common Core Regents Exam.

The reading choices for students entering English IV are listed on the attached page and on the West Senior page of the district website. Students are required to read at least one book on the summer reading list and complete the Summer Reading Notes, which is also attached and posted on the district website. Students should read the book and complete the Summer Reading Notes by the last week of August and bring the completed assignment with them on the first day of school.

The Summer Reading Notes and other assignments related to the summer reading will be assessed during the opening weeks of the 2018-2019 academic year and will count in the first marking period. Students should be reminded that failure to complete summer reading will negatively affect their grade and possibly lead to academic eligibility issues. Please refer to the district website for more information regarding academic eligibility.

The books on the list cover a wide range of reading levels and genres. If you need help selecting a book that is appropriate for you, please see your current English teacher or Mrs. Knaze before the end of school in June, or ask a librarian at the local library. Books may be obtained at the public library or purchased at a bookstore. In addition, books may be available in digital format or free on sites such as Project Gutenberg. Students will need to use their books to complete the Summer Reading Notes.

We believe this program will enhance our students' reading skills. We appreciate your cooperation and look forward to an exciting and successful school year with your children.

Sincerely,

The Faculty of the West Seneca West English Department

Summer Reading List for Students Entering English IV, 2018

Teen Issues

- *Turtles All The Way Down* by John Green
- *Twelve Steps to Normal* by Farrah Penn

Sports

- *A Season of Loss: The Dan Snyder and Dany Heatley Story* by John Manasso
- *The Final Four* by Paul Volponi
- *The Power of Positive Leadership: How and Why Positive Leaders Transform Teams* by Jon Gordon

Action/Adventure

- *The Belial Stone* by R.D. Brady
- *Zeroes* by Scott Westerfeld, Margo Lanagan, Deborah Biancotti

Fantasy/Other Worlds

- *American Gods* by Neil Gaiman
- *Delirium* by Lauren Oliver

Science & Technology

- *Artemis* by Andy Weir
- *Origin* by Dan Brown

Romance

- *What Happened to Goodbye* by Sarah Dessen
- *Anna and the French Kiss* by Stephanie Perkins

Historical Fiction

- *So Much Owed: An Irish World War II Story* by Jean Grainger
- *Beneath a Scarlet Sky* by Mark Sullivan

Mystery/Suspense/Thrillers/Horror

- *Hostage Three* by Nick Lake
- *Before the Fall* by Noah Hawley

Friendships

- *I Am the Messenger* by Marcus Zusak
- *All the Bright Places* by Jennifer Niven

Social Issues

- *Being Jazz: My Life as a (Transgender) Teen* by Jazz Jennings
- *Love Letters to the Dead* by Ava Dellaira

Biographies/ Historical

- *Shadow Divers: The True Adventure of Two Americans Who Risked Everything to Solve One of the Last Mysteries of WWII* by Robert Kurson
- *Wild: From Lost to Found on the Pacific Crest Trail* by Cheryl Strayed
- *Born a Crime* by Trevor Noah
- *Between the World and Me* by Ta-Nehisi Coates

Summer Reading Notes

Please answer the following on a separate sheet of paper. You may type these notes if you prefer. Do not consult online resources or other literature guides for assistance. Be sure to reference the entire book in answering the questions.

1. List the title and author of your book.
2. Explain how this book fits into the genre under which it is listed on the summer reading list.
3. Provide a description of at least two of the major characters in the story. For each character, include quoted lines from the text which reveal the character's personality to the reader.
4. Describe the setting (time AND place) in detail.
5. Describe the rising action of the book. If the book is non-fiction, describe at least 2 important events.
6. Identify and describe the climax of the text. If the book is non-fiction, explain two conflicts that occur within the book.
7. Discuss the falling action. If the book is non-fiction, describe at least 2 more important events (different from the events in #5 & #6).
8. Explain the ending of the book. Explain why you liked or disliked the ending.
9. Discuss the author's use of symbolism, foreshadowing or flashback.
10. Discuss a turning point in the novel other than the climax. Explain why this was a turning point. If the book is non-fiction, discuss a shift in a person's behavior, or in the action or tone of the story.
11. What is a theme that is presented within this work? Explain how the theme is developed by events from the text.
12. What stylistic devices did the author use? (What did you notice about the way the book was written?)
13. Quote an important line(s) from the book and explain the significance. Include the chapter and page number of the quoted line(s).
14. What type of reader would enjoy this book? Explain your response.
15. List other books written by this author. If this is the only book written by this author, list at least 2 books that are similar in subject matter or genre.