

HPS English Language Arts Department
Summer Reading Assignments for 2026-2027

Choose from the following novels for summer reading in preparation for English Language Arts courses. Be prepared to write a literary analysis about your chosen novel. All novels are available for free online or you can purchase them from a bookstore or online retailer. Reach out to the academic coach for additional AP requirements.

FRESHMEN

English 1-2 – Read **ONE** of the novels listed below.

English 1-2 Honors – Read **TWO** of the novels listed below.

1. *Life of Pi* by Yann Martel
2. *Animal Farm* by George Orwell
3. *The Call of the Wild* by Jack London
4. *The Complete Short Stories* by Edgar Allen Poe
5. *Something Wicked This Way Comes* by Ray Bradbury

SOPHOMORES

English 3-4 – Read **ONE** of the novels listed below.

1. *The Help* by Kathryn Stockett
2. *Lord of the Flies* by William Golding
3. *The Secret Life of Bees* by Sue Monk Kidd
4. *The Bluest Eye* by Toni Morrison
5. *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian* by Sherman Alexie

English 3-4 Honors – Read **ONE** of the English 3-4 novels and **ONE** of the novels listed below.

1. *1984* by George Orwell
2. *The Things They Carried* by Tim O'Brien
3. *Macbeth* by William Shakespeare
4. *Handmaid's Tale* by Margaret Atwood
5. *Beowulf* translated by Seamus Heaney

JUNIORS

English 5-6 – Read **ONE** of the novels listed below.

1. *Into Thin Air* by Jon Krakauer
2. *A River Runs Through It* by Norman Maclean
3. *Cold Mountain* by Charles Frazier
4. *The Perfect Storm: A True Story of Men against the Sea* by Sebastian Junger

English 5-6 Honors – Read **ONE** of the English 5-6 novels and **ONE** of the novels listed below.

1. *Catch 22* by Joseph Heller
2. *The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald
3. *A Beautiful Mind* by Sylvia Nasar
4. *Slaughterhouse Five* by Kurt Vonnegut

SENIORS

English 7-8 – Read **TWO** of the novels listed below.

1. *The Bell Jar* by Sylvia Plath
2. *The Watchmen* by Alan Moore
3. *Brave New World* by Aldous Huxley
4. *Alice in Wonderland* by Lewis Carroll

ADVANCED PLACEMENT

AP English Literature and Composition – Read **ALL** of the novels listed below.

1. *Invisible Man* by Ralph Ellison
2. *Death of a Salesman* by Arthur Miller's

AP English Language and Composition – Read **ALL** of the novels listed below.

1. *The Glass Castle* by Jeannette Walls
2. *All Over But the Shoutin'* by Rick Bragg