Upper School Summer Reading List – 2014 – 2015 (Revised)

ENGLISH I

A Separate Peace, John Knowles
The Secret Life of Bees, Sue Monk Kidd
To Kill A Mockingbird, Harper Lee

Students should take notes and be prepared to discuss the novels in depth. We will spend the first six weeks of school on these three novels, and all assignments and activities during this time will correlate with these works.

Due on the first day of class.

ENGLISH II

All The Pretty Horses
Canticle For Leibowitz

Due on the first day of class.

ENGLISH II HONORS

Reading Assignment:

All the Pretty Horses, McCarthy, Cormac
A River Runs Through It, Maclean, Norman
Peace Like A River, Enger, Leif

Please select 5 significant passages from each novel. In a solid, well written paragraph for each, explain why the passage is important and how it is connected to the work as a whole.

Due on the first day of class.

ENGLISH III

The Ballad of the Sad Cafe by Carson McCullers

Must Read One of the Following:
Wiseblood by Flannery O’Conner
On the Road by Jack Kerouac
Old Man and the Sea by Ernest Hemingway
Their Eyes Were Watching God by Zora Neale Hurston

ENGLISH IV

Must Read Both:
The Kite Runner by Khaled Hosseini
Frankenstein by Mary Shelley
An Edible History of Humanity underscores the crucial role that food has played throughout human history. According to Standage, food has helped to build empires, promote industrialization, and decide the outcome of wars—and it continues to shape the world we live in today. This book will serve as a major topic of discussion throughout the World History I course. For this assignment, read An Edible History of Humanity and choose three (3) quotations from each chapter that stand out to you. For each quotation, write 2-3 sentences explaining the historical context and the significance of the quote. See below for an example of the assignment:

P. 49 “Food was extracted as tribute after military victories.”
Standage is talking about the significance of food to the Incan Empire that thrived in South America prior to the arrival of Europeans in the 15th century. After one tribe conquered another, the defeated would pay a sort of tax in food—usually maize (corn)—to the victor.

Due on the first day of class.

A History of the World in 6 Glasses underscores the crucial role that various beverages like beer, tea, and coffee has played throughout human history. According to Standage, each era in World History had its own signature beverage – for the ancient Egyptians it was beer, during the height of the Greek and Roman empire it was wine, and in today’s globalized world it is Coca-Cola. This book will serve as a major topic of discussion throughout the World History II course. For this assignment, read A History of the World in 6 Glasses and choose three (3) quotations from each chapter that stand out to you. For each quotation, write 2-3 sentences explaining the historical context and the significance of the quote. See below for an example of the assignment:

P. 70 “Wine offered one way to resolve this paradox, for the cultivation and consumption of wine provided a way to bridge Greek and Roman values.”
Standage is talking about the fall of the ancient Greek empire and the birth of the Roman empire. Wine-making was one of many Greek traditions that the Romans adopted and in doing so continued the legacy of one of the world’s greatest civilizations.

10 Days That Unexpectedly Changed America. Eric Sam Juan.

Due on the first day of class.

Reading Assignment: Please read all selections from one of the following writers:
Bragg, Rick. *All Over but the Shoutin'; Ava’s Man*
Haruf, Kent. *Plainsong; Eventide*
Enger, Leif. *Peace Like A River; So Brave, Young, and Handsome*
Russo, Richard. *Nobody’s Fool; Empire Falls*
Irving, John. *The World According to Garp; Last Night in Twisted River*
McCarthy, Cormac. *The Crossing; Cities of the Plain*

Writing Assignment: Due on the first day of class.

The British novelist Fay Weldon offers this observation about happy ending: “The writers, I do believe, who get the best and most lasting response from readers are the writers who offer a happy ending through moral development. By a happy ending, I do not mean mere fortunate events—a marriage or a last minute rescue from death—but some kind of spiritual reassessment or moral reconciliation, even with the self, even at death.”

Using the writer whose work you selected to read this summer, write an essay to identify and to analyze the “spiritual reassessment or moral reconciliation” at the end of the work and to explain its significance to the work as a whole. *Avoid plot summary.*

**AP LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION:**

*The Road*  Cormac McCarthy

*The Handmaid’s Tale*  Margaret Atwood

Students will write a 3-4 page analytical essay using MLA format for the citations. Use Times New Roman 12 font, double space. Place a heading at the top left corner as follows:

Name
Ms. Carver
AP Literature
Date

Title for the essay

Address the following prompt: Compare and contrast the settings of the two novels and discuss how they impact or create theme.

Due on the first day of class.

**AP WORLD**

*The Mongols*.  David Morgan.

2013 *Princeton Review: Cracking the AP World History Exam.*

Due on the first day of class.

**AP US HISTORY**

Carter, Jimmy. *An Hour Before Daylight: Memories of a Rural Boyhood.*

As the thirty-ninth president of the United States, Plains, Georgia native, Jimmy Carter has much historical insight to offer even outside of his experience in office. *An Hour Before Daylight* highlights the legacy of the Civil War, the rigid racial hierarchy of “Jim Crow,” the system of sharecropping, the Great Depression, and even boiled peanuts. This book will serve as an insightful narrative as we discuss the above-mentioned topics throughout the second and third quarters in AP United States History. **For this assignment, read* An Hour Before Daylight *and choose three (3) quotations from each chapter that stand out to you. For each quotation, write 2-3 sentences explaining the historical context and the significance of the quote.** See below for an example of the assignment:

P. 75 “My childhood world was really shaped by black women. I played with their children, often ate and slept in their homes, and later hunted, fished, plowed, and hoed with their husbands and children.”

Here, Carter is talking about the influential role that African-Americans played in shaping his childhood. In the era of segregation that dominated the American South from the 1870s until the 1960s, Carter’s experience demonstrates how blacks and whites could co-exist sometimes harmoniously on an individual basis despite the fact that, by law, they were separated.

Due on the first day of class.

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**AP US GOVERNMENT & POLITICS**


U.S. Congressman and presidential candidate, Ron Paul discusses the Constitutional foundations of American government and comments on a variety of contemporary political issues. Paul’s approach to politics is straightforward and thoroughly engaging. Paul’s arguments will elicit a wide range of reactions—sometimes forcing one to rethink his or her views and often prompting the defense of one’s view—on issues like abortion, illegal immigration, government regulation of the economy, and U.S. foreign policy. **For this assignment, read* The Revolution: A Manifesto *and choose three (3) quotations from each chapter that stand out to you. For each quotation, write 2-3 sentences explaining the historical/political context and the significance of the quote.** See below for an example of the assignment:

P. 6 “This revolution, though, is not altogether new. It is a peaceful continuation of the American Revolution and the principles of our Founding Fathers: liberty, self-government, the Constitution, and a non-interventionist foreign policy.”

Here, Ron Paul offers the thesis of his book. Paul lays out his core beliefs and in doing so, suggests that they are rooted in the American political tradition of the Founding Fathers. Clearly, Paul believes that the United States has moved too far away from these founding principles and it will require a peaceful revolution to recapture those ideas.

Due on the first day of class.

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**AP BIOLOGY**

*The Immortal Cells of Henrietta Lacks*. By Rebecca Skloot
ISBN-10: 9781400052189

Due on the first day of class.