



**Valwood Upper School  
Summer Reading 2011**

**Language Arts**

Peter Allen

Reading Assignment:

The Art of Racing in the Rain. Stein, Garth

**English I**

Traci Carver

Due date: First day of class – August 10, 2011

A Separate Peace John Knowles

The Secret Life of Bees Sue Monk Kidd

To Kill A Mockingbird Harper Lee

Students should take extensive notes and be prepared to discuss the novels in depth. The novels will be discussed in the order given, and a test will follow each period of discussion. The summer reading unit will cover the first 6 weeks of school and will comprise the vast portion of first quarter's grade.

**English II**

Peter Allen

Reading Assignment:

All the Pretty Horses. McCarthy, Cormac

A River Runs Through It. Maclean, Norman

Writing Assignment: Due: Friday, August 12

1. 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 either character development or to an important theme or idea in the novel.

## English II H

Peter Allen

Reading Assignment:

All the Pretty Horses. McCarthy, Cormac

A River Runs Through It. Maclean, Norman

Peace Like A River. Enger, Leif

Writing Assignment: Due: Friday, August 12

1. 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.

## English III

Deidre Parramore

Must Read:

The Ballad of the Sad Café Carson McCullers

Select 1 of the following:

The Sun Also Rises Ernest Hemingway

On the Road Jack Kerouac

Whisper of the River Ferrol Sams

Their Eyes Were Watching God Zora Neale Hurston

## English IV

Deidre Parramore

Must Read:

Frankenstein Mary Shelley

Choose One:

The Power of One Bryce Courtenay

The Kite Runner Khaled Hosseini

## AP Language and Composition

Peter Allen

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: Friday, August 12

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**

Traci Carver

Due date: First day of class – August 10, 2011

The Road Cormac McCarthy

The Handmaid’s Tale Margaret Atwood

Students will write a 3-4 page analytical essay using MLA format for 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

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

## **United States History**

Bobby Stephenson

Due date: First day of class—August 10, 2011

Ambrose, Stephen E. Band of Brothers: E Company, 506<sup>th</sup> Regiment, 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne from Normandy to Hitler’s Eagle’s Nest. Simon & Schuster: New York, 2001. ISBN: 9780743224543

Band of Brothers documents the epic account of bravery, camaraderie, triumph, and grief as told through the stories of the parachute-infantrymen of “Easy” Company who experienced the Second World War. The various ways in which soldiers cope with the realities of war will be a crucial topic of discussion (and **the topic of an essay**) during the first several weeks of the first quarter in US History. **For this assignment, read Band of Brothers and choose two (2) 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. 20      *“When the men were issued their rifles, they were told to treat the weapon as they would treat a wife, gently.”*  
*Ambrose is discussing the fact that, in battle, the soldiers would need to rely on their weapons to protect their lives and the lives of their fellow soldiers. Because of this, it was of the utmost importance for the men of “Easy” company to keep their rifles clean and well maintained.*

## **World History I**

Norma Cloud

9<sup>th</sup> Grade World History I - Things Fall Apart, Chinua Achebe. During the first week of school, we will discuss the book, and students will take a test that will consist of 15 fill in the blank and short answer questions and a discussion question analyzing the character of Okonkwo.

## **World History II**

Bobby Stephenson

Due date: First day of class—August 10, 2011

Standage, Tom. An Edible History of Humanity. Walker & Company: New York, 2009. ISBN: 9780802719911

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 II 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 15<sup>th</sup> century. After one tribe conquered another, the defeated would pay a sort of tax in food—usually maize (corn)—to the victor.*

## **AP World History**

Norma Cloud

10<sup>th</sup> Grade AP World History - Students are to read the first six chapters of the textbook. I will issue the books to them at the end of the year. They will have vocabulary and reading questions for each chapter that will be due the first day of school. I plan to meet with each student and their parents to issue the book, deliver the written assignment and explain the structure of the course.

## AP United States History

Bobby Stephenson

Due date: First day of class—August 10, 2011

Carter, Jimmy. *An Hour Before Daylight: Memories of a Rural Boyhood*. New York: Simon & Schuster, 2001. ISBN: 0641611080

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 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.*