

Kirtland High School – English 9


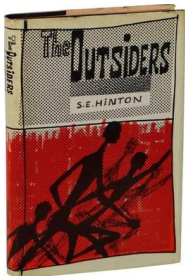
The BIG Summer Read 2017


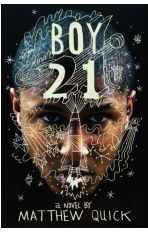
Welcome to English 9! I look forward to helping you transition to high school in the fall. The first few weeks of school will be devoted to the study and discussion of your summer reading assignment. Please do not procrastinate and wait until the week before school starts to begin reading and completing your notes, or you will not finish. In order to have a productive start to your school year, you must read the following two novels to the best of your ability. Your work should always reflect careful reading and insight. You will be assessed on your careful reading during the first week of school. Have a fun, safe, and productive summer!

<p>Why read during the summer?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Researchers have proven that reading increases vocabulary and that reading and writing skills are inextricably connected to each other. ● Good writers are good readers. Written and oral communication is most effective when you have a command of language and a broad vocabulary; reading gives you exposure to descriptive and rich vocabulary used in well-written and powerful phrases and sentences. ● The accuracy and effectiveness of your communication is determined by your ability to read critically. ● Reading can be one of the most satisfying and personal life-long habits you will ever develop. ● Reading gives you knowledge and knowledge is power.
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Education is a year-round endeavor. For your course of study, you must **read two novels: one contemporary YA novel and a fiction or nonfiction book of choice.** The novels listed below are connected by the common theme of *Coming of Age*. Prior to reading, please familiarize yourself with this theme by conducting research. What does “Coming of Age” mean?

Assignment #1: Choose ONE of the following contemporary YA novels:

<p><i>The Seventh Most Important Thing</i> by Shelley Pearsall</p> 	<p><i>Shelley Pearsall's story of anger and art, loss and redemption, is a transformative read One kid. One crime. One chance to make things right.</i></p> <p>It was a bitterly cold day when Arthur T. Owens grabbed a brick and hurled it at the trash picker. Arthur had his reasons, and the brick hit the Junk Man in the arm, not the head. But none of that matters to the judge—he is ready to send Arthur to juvie for the foreseeable future. (Amazon.com)</p>
<p><i>The Outsiders</i> by S.E. Hinton</p> 	<p>Read the following article from <i>Rolling Stone Magazine</i> Why 'The Outsiders' Still Matters 50 Years Later by Margaret Eby</p> <p>50 years of an iconic classic! This international bestseller and inspiration for a beloved movie is a heroic story of friendship and belonging.</p> <p>No one ever said life was easy. But Ponyboy is pretty sure that he's got things figured out. He knows that he can count on his brothers, Darry and Sodapop. And he knows that he can count on his friends—true friends who would do anything for him, like Johnny and Two-Bit. But not on much else besides trouble with the Socs, a vicious gang of rich kids whose idea of a good time is beating up on “greasers” like Ponyboy. At least he knows what to expect—until the night someone takes things too far.</p> <p><i>The Outsiders</i> is a dramatic and enduring work of fiction that laid the groundwork for the YA genre. S. E. Hinton's classic story of a boy who finds himself on the outskirts of regular society remains as powerful today as it was the day it was first published.</p> <p><i>"The Outsiders transformed young-adult fiction from a genre mostly about prom queens, football players and high school crushes to one that portrayed a darker, truer world."</i> —<i>The New York Times</i></p>

<p><i>The Hate U Give</i> by Angie Thomas</p> 	<p>Sixteen-year-old Starr Carter moves between two worlds: the poor neighborhood where she lives and the fancy suburban prep school she attends. The uneasy balance between these worlds is shattered when Starr witnesses the fatal shooting of her childhood best friend Khalil at the hands of a police officer. Khalil was unarmed.</p> <p>Soon afterward, his death is a national headline. Some are calling him a thug, maybe even a drug dealer and a gangbanger. Protesters are taking to the streets in Khalil's name. Some cops and the local drug lord try to intimidate Starr and her family. What everyone wants to know is: what <i>really</i> went down that night? And the only person alive who can answer that is Starr.</p> <p>But what Starr does—or does not—say could upend her community. It could also endanger her life. (Amazon.com)</p>
<p><i>Boy 21</i> by Matthew Quick</p> 	<p>You can lose yourself in repetition--quiet your thoughts; I learned the value of this at a very young age.</p> <p>Basketball has always been an escape for Finley. He lives in broken-down Belmont, a town ruled by the Irish mob, drugs, violence, and racially charged rivalries. At home, his dad works nights, and Finley is left to take care of his disabled grandfather alone. He's always dreamed of getting out someday, but until he can, putting on that number 21 jersey makes everything seem okay.</p> <p>Russ has just moved to the neighborhood, and the life of this teen basketball phenom has been turned upside down by tragedy. Cut off from everyone he knows, he won't pick up a basketball, but answers only to the name Boy21--taken from his former jersey number.</p> <p>As their final year of high school brings these two boys together, a unique friendship may turn out to be the answer they both need. (Amazon.com)</p>

Assignment #2: Your CHOICE!

“Read not to contradict, nor to believe, but to weigh and consider. Some books are to be tasted, others to be swallowed, and some to be digested. That is, some books are to be read only in parts; others to be read but curiously, and some few to be read wholly, and with diligence and attention. Reading maketh a full man, conference a ready man, and writing an exact man.” -- Francis Bacon

In addition to the assigned readings, you will (1) keep a **Reader’s Response journal** for each novel and (2) explore and review **essential vocabulary** related to literary devices and terminology.

READER'S RESPONSE JOURNAL: First, you will need a composition notebook, which you may continue to use as a journal in your English class next fall. This notebook will act as a portfolio of your individual learning and interaction with the texts.

Complete a **minimum of 4 full page spreads filled out in your notebook for each novel.** Organize your notebook using the following method:

- Open up the notebook so you have a left and a right hand page.
- Make sure you record the date, title of your book, and page numbers you read for this entry on the left hand side of the notebook.
- On the **right hand side** of the notebook, you may take notes, summarize the section of reading, or record quotes.
- On the **left hand side** of the notebook, you may be more creative: express opinions and feelings, discuss key points and main ideas, and record personal reflections.

Example:

Reading for Personal/Creative Reflection Options for the left-hand page of the notebook (pg. 1A)	Reading for Understanding Options for the right-hand page of the notebook (pg. 1B)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Process new ideas and think things through • Reflection on quotes • Personal reflections and thoughts • Poetry you found/created that relate • Cartoons that relate to the book • “what if” hypothetical situations • Questions • How you relate personally – comparison to your own life • Reminds you of something else you have read about or seen • Reactions to situations in the book • <i>Any</i> creative connection to the book 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading notes • Summary of the section you just finished reading • Facts • Quotes from the book that you want to reflect on or you feel are significant

VOCABULARY ASSIGNMENT: In the back of your Reader’s Response Journal, begin the process of defining and exploring a wide variety of key vocabulary. This list will serve as a foundation from which we will build throughout the year. Please define each of the terms below and find and record specific examples of the ways that authors are using them in the texts you read.

1. Alliteration	9. Metaphor
2. Allusion	10. Onomatopoeia
3. Analogy	11. Personification
4. Connotation	12. Point-of-View
5. Denotation	13. Simile
6. Diction	14. Syntax
7. Hyperbole	15. Theme
8. Imagery	16. Tone

Through various assessments during the first week of school, you will be evaluated on the books you have read. For these assessments, you may use your **Reader’s Response Journal** and **Vocabulary Assignment**.

Optional: Follow and/or use #KHS9BSR to participate in Twitter chats this summer!

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact Mrs. Duncan at duncanm@kirtlandhornet.org
 If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact Miss Hedger at hedgerk@kirtlandhornet.org