

English 12--English Literature

#KHSBigSummerRead 2019-2020

Welcome to English 12--I look forward to working with you again for your senior year. The nature of this assignment requires you to read throughout the summer, as these texts will serve as touchstones throughout the fall. In order to have a productive start to your school year, you will want to have both books read when you show up to class on Aug. 21. Your work should always reflect careful, attentive reading and insight. **Book A can be read throughout the summer; Book B work will be due Friday, Aug. 30.**

Why read during the summer?

- 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.

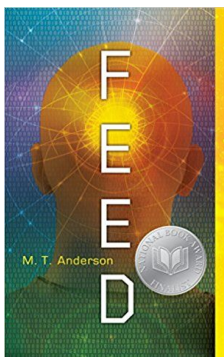
Things to consider as you read this summer . . .

1. How might the author's background inform this book?
2. How does this book connect to another book you've read or something you've studied?
3. Why do you think the author felt compelled to write this book?
4. How is this book relevant to today?
5. Should this book be required reading for all Kirtland senior English students?

During the first week and a half of school, you will be evaluated on the books you have read through various assessments. For these assessments, you may use your books with annotations and/or any notes or journals you have completed while reading these books closely.

**a brief note on academic integrity—I have the internet, too. I look forward to reading your reactions to your summer reading; I don't want to read regurgitations from Sparknotes or the like. Kirtland HS takes academic dishonesty seriously; you may wish to review consequences for violations (kinda ugly). Let this be the last time we need to mention such things . . .*

Book A: *Feed* by M.T. Anderson



"This satire offers a thought-provoking and scathing indictment that may prod readers to examine the more sinister possibilities of corporate- and media-dominated culture." — Publishers Weekly (starred review)

~good summary and character list from [wikipedia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Feed_(novel))

Brave New World takes a romantic teen twist in this disarming, engrossing novel set in a hyper-computerized future.

Spending time partying on the moon and riding around in his "upcar," Titus is an average teen of the future, complete with a computer chip implant -- the "Feed" -- that lets corporate marketers and government agencies broadcast directly into his brain. Then Titus meets Violet, and an anti-Feed hacker shuts down their Feeds for a short time; but when Violet's Feed is seriously damaged, she begins spouting some radical ideas.

M. T. Anderson has predicted the future, and it's startling indeed. Although Titus is a good, well-meaning kid, his blissful ignorance of the control over him leaves readers thinking twice about the destiny of earth's citizens. Beneath the book's techno-veneer, however, lies a romantic tale between a boy who gives into the system and a girl who sees beyond it. All told, *Feed* is a "meg" remarkable work of science fiction, and once readers begin, they'll be caught up in its powerful grip. (*Matt Warner* on Barnes and Noble)

PS--***Feed*** should be readily available at most libraries. Consider downloading the Overdrive app on your phone/other devices for free with your library card; this will give you free access to ebooks as well as audio books. Locally, Barnes and Noble in Mentor and Half Price Books in Mayfield are good options if you're buying your own copy.

Summer Read—Book B (your choice!)

The second book from your summer reading assignment is your choice (maybe check out the mini-posters around 109 for ideas?). Pick something you haven't read before, of course. This second portion of your summer reading will conclude with an informal book talk. You will share your reflections and observations about what you have read with your classmates. My hope is that your conversations will expose your peers to a book they would not otherwise know about, and you will walk away with new-to-you book titles you are excited to read—

PS--regarding the "work" portion for Book B due Friday, Aug. 30 . . . be thinking about how you would like to share your thoughts and reactions to this book with the rest of us. We can talk more when we convene on Aug. 21. Take care and have a good summer. Peace--

Should you have any questions, feel free contact me via the Remind app or email me:
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