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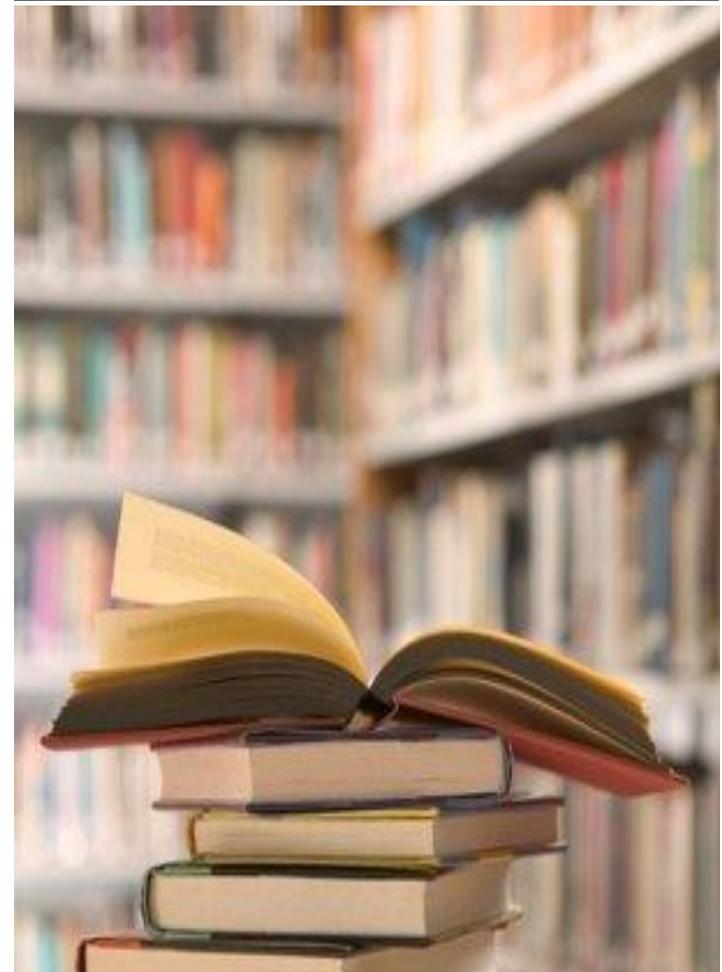
Mrs. Elizabeth A. Thomas

High School English Program Specialist

College and Career Ready

2017 Summer Reading

Grades 9-12





**Common Core/College and
Career Ready
Suggested Summer Reading
Grade 9**

Pre AP English 9

Shetterly, Margot L. – *Hidden Figures*

The #1 New York Times bestseller is a phenomenal true story of the black female mathematicians at NASA at the leading edge of the feminist and civil rights movement, whose calculations helped fuel some of America's greatest achievements in space.

Zusak, Marcus- *The Book Thief*

A foster girl living outside of Munich scratches out a meager existence for herself by stealing when she encounters something she can't resist-books. With the help of her accordion-playing foster father, she learns to read and shares her stolen books with her neighbors and a Jewish man hidden in her basement during bomb raids.

English 9

Shetterly, Margot L. – *Hidden Figures*

The #1 New York Times bestseller is a phenomenal true story of the black female mathematicians at NASA at the leading edge of the feminist and civil rights movement, whose calculations helped fuel some of America's greatest achievements in space.

Lee, Harper- *To Kill a Mockingbird*

Compassionate, dramatic, and deeply moving, *To Kill A Mockingbird* takes readers to the roots of human behavior - to innocence and experience, kindness and cruelty, love and hatred, humor and pathos. Now with over 18 million copies in print and translated into forty languages, this regional story by a young Alabama woman claims universal appeal. Harper Lee always considered her book to be a simple love story. Today it is regarded as a masterpiece of American literature.



**Common Core/College and
Career Ready
Suggested Summer Reading
Grade 10**

Pre AP English 10

Alexie, Sherman- *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian*

Heartbreaking, funny, and beautifully written, *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian*, which is based on the author's own experiences, coupled with poignant drawings by Ellen Forney that reflect the character's art, chronicles the contemporary adolescence of one Native American boy as he attempts to break away from the life he was destined to live.

Bradbury, Ray- *Fahrenheit 451*

Ray Bradbury's internationally acclaimed novel *Fahrenheit 451* is a masterwork of twentieth-century literature set in a bleak, dystopian future. Guy Montag is a fireman. In his world, television rules and literature is on the brink of extinction, firemen start fires rather than put them out. His job is to destroy the most illegal of commodities, the printed book, along with the houses in which they are hidden.

Haskins, Jim- *Black, Blue and Gray: African Americans in the Civil War*

Jim Haskins brings readers face-to-face with the African Americans who fought in the war between the states. Excerpts from letters and government documents introduce the names and places that set the stage for the war's unfolding. Vintage photographs offer a vivid look at the brave soldiers who risked their lives in the fight for human equality.

English 10

Achebe, Chinua- *Things Fall Apart*

Things Fall Apart is the first of three novels in Chinua Achebe's critically acclaimed African Trilogy. It is a classic narrative about Africa's cataclysmic encounter with Europe as it establishes a colonial presence on the continent. Told through the fictional experiences of Okonkwo, a wealthy and fearless Igbo warrior of Umuofia in the late 1800s, *Things Fall Apart* explores one man's futile resistance to the devaluing of his Igbo traditions by British political and religious forces and his despair as his community capitulates to the powerful new order.

Alexie, Sherman- *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian*

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**Common Core/College and
Career Ready
Suggested Summer Reading
Grade 11**

Pre AP English 11 and AP Language and Composition

Gladwell, Malcolm – *The Tipping Point: How Little Things Can Make a Big Difference*

The tipping point is that magic moment when an idea, trend, or social behavior crosses a threshold, tips, and spreads like wildfire. Just as a single sick person can start an epidemic of the flu, so too can a small but precisely targeted push cause a fashion trend, the popularity of a new product, or a drop in the crime rate. This widely acclaimed bestseller, in which Malcolm Gladwell explores and brilliantly illuminates the tipping point phenomenon, is already changing the way people throughout the world think about selling products and disseminating ideas.

Wright, Richard- *Black Boy*

Black Boy is a memoir of Richard Wright, detailing his youth and his eventual move to Chicago, where he establishes his writing career and becomes involved with the Communist Party. This novel is split into two sections, “Southern Night” and “The Horror and the Glory.”

English 11

Douglass, Frederick- *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass*

Former slave, impassioned abolitionist, brilliant writer, newspaper editor and eloquent orator whose speeches fired the abolitionist cause, Frederick Douglass (1818–1895) led an astounding life. Physical abuse, deprivation and tragedy plagued his early years, yet through sheer force of character he was able to overcome these obstacles to become a leading spokesman for his people.

Skloot, Rebecca-*The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*

Her name was Henrietta Lacks, but scientists know her as HeLa. She was a poor black tobacco farmer whose cells—taken without her knowledge in 1951—became one of the most important tools in medicine, vital for developing the polio vaccine, cloning, gene mapping, and more. Henrietta's cells have been bought and sold by the billions, yet she remains virtually unknown, and her family can't afford health insurance. This phenomenal New York Times bestseller tells a riveting story of the collision between ethics, race, and medicine; of scientific discovery and faith healing; and of a daughter consumed with questions about the mother she never knew.



**Common Core/College and
Career Ready
Suggested Summer Reading
Grade 12**

Pre AP English 12 and AP Literature and Composition

King, Stephen- *On Writing: 10th Anniversary Edition: A Memoir of the Craft*

Part memoir, part master class by one of the bestselling authors of all time, this superb volume is a revealing and practical view of the writer's craft, comprising the basic tools of the trade every writer must have. King's advice is grounded in his vivid memories from childhood through his emergence as a writer, from his struggling early career to his widely reported, near-fatal accident in 1999—and how the inextricable link between writing and living spurred his recovery. Brilliantly structured, friendly and inspiring, *On Writing* will empower and entertain everyone who reads it—fans, writers, and anyone who loves a great story well told.

Ibsen, Henrik– *A Doll's House*

A Doll's House richly displays the genius with which Henrik Ibsen pioneered modern, realistic prose drama. In the central character of Nora, Ibsen epitomizes the human struggle against the humiliating constraints of social conformity.

English 12

Shelley, Mary- *Frankenstein*

Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein*, a gripping story about the ethics of creation and the consequences of trauma, is one of the most influential Gothic novels in British literature. Obsessed with the secret of creation, Swiss scientist Dr. Victor Frankenstein cobble together a body he's determined to bring to life. And one fateful night, he does. When the creature opens his eyes, the doctor is repulsed: his vision of perfection is, in fact, a hideous monster. Dr. Frankenstein abandons his creation, but the monster won't be ignored, setting in motion a chain of violence and terror that shadows Victor to his death.

Wilde, Oscar- *The Importance of Being Earnest*

The Importance of Being Earnest, A Trivial Comedy for Serious People is a play by Oscar Wilde. First performed on February 14, 1895, at the St James's Theatre in London, it is a farcical comedy in which the protagonists maintain fictitious persona to escape burdensome social obligations. Working within the social conventions of late Victorian London, the play's major themes are the triviality with which it treats institutions as serious as marriage, and the resulting satire of Victorian ways.