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**2016**

***Common Core/College and  
Career Ready***

***Summer Reading List  
Grades 9-12***





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



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

**Pre AP English 9**

Lee, Harper. – *Go Set a Watchman*

Twenty six year old Jean Louise Finch-Scout- returns home from New York City to visit her aging father, Atticus. Her homecoming turns out to be bitter sweet when she learns the truth about her close-knit family, the town, and the people dearest to her. Memories from her childhood flood back and her values and assumption are thrown to doubt.

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**

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.

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**Pre AP English 10**

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

In this, the first and most frequently read of his three autobiographies, Douglass provides graphic descriptions of his childhood and horrifying experiences as a slave as well as a harrowing record of his dramatic escape to the North and eventual freedom.

Angelou, Maya- *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*

Here is a book as joyous and painful, as mysterious and memorable, as childhood itself. *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings* captures the longing of lonely children, the brute insult of bigotry, and the wonder of words that can make the world right. Maya Angelou's debut memoir is a modern American classic beloved worldwide. Sent by their mother to live with their devout, self-sufficient grandmother in a small Southern town, Maya and her brother, Bailey, endure the ache of abandonment and prejudice.

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**

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

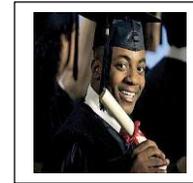
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Connell, Evan S. - *Son of the Morning Star: Custer and the Little Bighorn*

Custer's Last Stand is among the most enduring events in American history--more than one hundred years after the fact, books continue to be written and people continue to argue about even the most basic details surrounding the Little Bighorn. Evan S. Connell, whom Joyce Carol Oates has described as "one of our most interesting and intelligent American writers," wrote what continues to be the most reliable--and compulsively readable--account of the subject.



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



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

**Pre AP English 11 and AP Language and Composition**

Orwell, George- *Politics and the English Language*

"Politics and the English Language" is an essay by George Orwell that criticizes the "ugly and inaccurate" written English of his time and examines the connection between political orthodoxies and the debasement of language. The essay focuses on political language, which, according to Orwell, "is designed to make lies sound truthful and murder respectable, and to give an appearance of solidity to pure wind." Orwell believed that the language used was necessarily vague or meaningless because it was intended to hide the truth rather than express it.

Miller, Arthur – *Death of a Salesman*

Willy Loman has been a salesman for 34 years. At 60, he is cast aside, his usefulness exhausted. With no future to dream about he must face the crushing disappointments of his past. He takes one final brave action, but is he heroic at last or a self-deluding fool.

**English 11**

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."

Wilde, Oscar- *The Importance of Being Earnest*

This play by Oscar Wilde was first performed on February 14, 1895, at the St. James Theatre in London, it is a farcical comedy in which the protagonist maintains fictitious persona to escape burdensome social obligation.

**Pre AP English 12 and AP Literature**

Austen, Jane- *Pride and Prejudice*

In a remote Hertfordshire village, far off the good coach roads of George III's England, a country squire of no great means must marry off his five vivacious daughters. At the heart of this all-consuming enterprise is his headstrong daughter Elizabeth Bennet and her aristocratic suitor Fitzwilliam Darcy- two lovers whose pride must be humbled and prejudices dissolved before the can come to its splendid conclusion

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**

Austen, Jane- *Pride and Prejudice*

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Paine, Thomas- *Common Sense*

This informational text is a persuasive argument for the colonies' political and economic separation from Britain. *Common Sense* cites the evils of monarchy, accuses the British government of inflicting economic and social injustices upon the colonies, and points to the absurdity of an island attempting to rule a continent. Today, *Common Sense* remains a landmark document in the struggle for freedom, distinguished not only by Paine's ideas but also by its clear and passionate presentation. It is designed to ignite public opinion against autocratic rule.