



Summer Reading – Grade 11
Stoneham High School
Stoneham, Massachusetts

All students are required to read over the summer. These assigned readings have been selected to interest students and to enrich their literary background. Students will be evaluated on summer reading during the first few weeks of school. Students are encouraged to take notes (3”x 5” cards, handwritten) to aid in reviewing their reading before they write about their reading in class. Reading is listed below according to course level.

HONORS - You are required to read the following **three** books. We encourage you to take notes to aid in reviewing for the test, which will be administered the first week of school. We also encourage you to read a book from the list of recommended titles.

1. ***The Crucible*** by Arthur Miller - This play, based on the Salem Witch Trials of 1692, will provide background for literary works studied during the school year. Focus on the lengths to which some of the characters will go to protect their reputation in the town. Consider whether or not you would lie (and damn yourself and your name) in order to save your own life.
2. ***The Chosen*** by Chaim Potok – This coming of age story involves two Jewish boys in Brooklyn, NY. Amidst the conflicts of generations and religious traditions (as well as baseball), the two boys forge a friendship. Consider how the conflicts contribute to character development. Be sure to read the quote by Karl Menninger at the beginning of the novel. Why would he choose this quote to precede this story?
3. ***A Raisin in the Sun*** by Lorraine Hansberry – This play concerns the conflicts that emerge in an African-American family when an inheritance brings each family member’s dream within reach. Read the poem by Langston Hughes. While reading this play be sure to think about the American Dream and what Hansberry says about it.

INTENSIVE -You are required to read the following **two** books. Remember, you are encouraged to take notes (3”x 5” cards) to aid in reviewing for the test during the first week of school. You are also encouraged to read a choice from the list of recommended titles.

1. ***The Crucible*** by Arthur Miller This play, based on the Salem Witch Trials of 1692, will provide background for understanding Puritan New England. Focus on the lengths to which some of the characters will go to protect their reputation in the town. Consider whether or not you would lie (and damn yourself and your name) in order to save your own life.
2. ***A Raisin in the Sun*** by Lorraine Hansberry – This play concerns the conflicts that emerge in an African-American family when an inheritance brings each family member’s dream within reach. Read the poem by Langston Hughes. While reading this play, be sure to think about the American Dream and what Hansberry says about it.

COMPREHENSIVE - You are required to read **one** book: ***A Raisin in the Sun*** by Lorraine Hansberry This play concerns the conflicts that emerge in an African-American family when an inheritance brings each family member’s dream within reach. Read the poem by Langston Hughes. While reading this play, be sure to think about the American Dream and what Hansberry says about it. Check the list of *Recommended Reading*, and keep your brain cells active by reading as much as you can!

TRANSITIONAL - You are required to choose **one** book from the recommended reading list. Remember, you are encouraged to take notes (3”x 5” cards) to aid in reviewing your reading before you write about it during the first week of school.

Check the list of *Recommended Reading*, and keep your brain cells active by reading as much as you can!