

West Seneca East Senior High School

4760 Seneca St.

West Seneca, NY 14224

June 2019

Dear Parents / Guardians of English I Students:

Summer reading is part of East Senior's English curriculum. Reading during the summer develops lifelong reading habits. Answering the analysis questions assists students in preparing for the New York State Common Core Regents Exam.

The reading choices for students entering English I are listed on the attached page and on the East Senior page of the district web site. Students are required to read at least one book on the summer reading list and complete the East Senior Summer Reading Assignment, which is also attached and posted on the district web site. Students should read the book and complete the Summer Reading Assignment questions by **the second Friday of school**.

The Summer Reading Assignment and other assignments related to the summer reading will be assessed during the opening weeks of the 2019-2020 academic year and will count in the first marking period. Students should be reminded that failure to complete summer reading will negatively affect their grade and possibly lead to academic eligibility issues. Please refer to the district web site for more information regarding academic eligibility.

Books may be obtained at East Senior's school library, a public library or purchased at a bookstore. In addition, books may be available in digital format or free on sites such as Project Gutenberg. Students will need to use their books to complete the Summer Reading Assignment questions.

We believe this program will enhance our students' reading skills. We appreciate your cooperation and look forward to an exciting and successful school year with your children.

Sincerely,

The Faculty of the West Seneca East English Department



East Senior Summer Assignment:

Directions: Choose **8 out of the 10** questions below. Answer the questions based on the book you have selected to read. Your responses should be written in complete sentences and printed on lined paper or typed on the computer. Be sure to read the questions carefully and answer *all* parts of the question if more than one are being asked!

1. Why do you think the author chose the title he/she did? Analyze its deeper meaning. If the title is obvious, rename it something more symbolic and explain your reasoning.
2. What is the setting (time and place) of your book? Explain why the author chose this particular setting.
3. From whose point of view is this story being told? Are there other voices who could tell the story? Why do you think the author chose to have the story told from this character's point of view and not another character's?
4. What is the main conflict that the characters must overcome? How was this conflict resolved? Are you satisfied with the conclusion? Explain.
5. Do you think the characters and their conflicts are believable/realistic? Why or why not?
6. Describe the author's writing style and use of language. Remember, an author's style is *the way they use words* and it *varies from **author** to **author**, and depends upon one's syntax, (word choice), and tone. It can also be described as a "voice" that readers listen to when they read the work of a **writer**.*
7. Choose a character from the book and discuss how the character matures or changes. Do they learn any lessons? Explain.
8. Choose one quotation from the book that you think shows the book's theme or central message. Explain how the quote relates to the theme/central message.
9. Were you satisfied with the ending of the book? Explain. If you were the author, would you have ended the book differently? How? Why?
10. a) When did you get stuck while reading? (If you didn't get stuck, go to "b") What was confusing about your book? What strategies did you use to overcome these challenges?

b) What did you enjoy most about this book? Who would you be most likely to recommend it to? Why?

Summer Reading List for Students Entering English I, 2019

Teen Issues

- *Skin* by Adrienne Maria Vrettos
- *Story of a Girl* by Sara Zarr

Sports

- *Heat* by Mike Lupica
- *Crackback* by John Coy

Adventure

- *The Trap* by John Smelcer
- *Within Reach: My Everest Story* by Mark Pfitzer

Fantasy/Other Worlds

- *The Probable Future* by Alice Hoffman

Science & Technology

- *What the World Eats* by Peter Menzel and Faith D'Aluisio

Romance

- *24 Girls in 7 Days* by Alex Bradley
- *Sweethearts* by Sara Zarr

Historical Fiction

- *The Boy Who Dared* by Susan Bartoletti

Mystery/Suspense/Thrillers

- *Peeled* by Joan Bauer
- *Dead Girls Don't Write Letters* by Gail Giles

Friendships

- *Jellicoe Road* by Melina Marchetta
- *Waiting for Normal* by Leslie Conner

Social Issues

- *The Sledding Hill* by Chris Crutcher

Guy Stuff

- *You Don't Know Me* by David Klass
- *Okay for Now* by Gary Schmidt

Non-Fiction

- *Knots in my Yo-yo String* by Jerry Spinelli
- *My Life in Dog Years* by Gary Paulsen

Multi-Cultural

- *The Greatest: Muhammad Ali* by Walter Dean Myers
- *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-time Indian* by Sherman Alexie

Classics

- *The Complete Stories of Sherlock Holmes* by Arthur Conan Doyle

