

West Seneca West Senior High School

3330 Seneca St.

West Seneca, NY 14224

June 2019

Dear Parents / Guardians of English I Students:

Summer reading is part of West 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 West Senior page of the district website. Students are required to read at least one book on the summer reading list and complete the Summer Reading Notes, which is also attached and posted on the district website. Students should read the book and complete the Summer Reading Notes by the last week of August and bring the completed assignment with them on the first day of school.

The Summer Reading Notes 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 website for more information regarding academic eligibility.

The books on the list cover a wide range of reading levels and genres. If your child needs help selecting a book that is appropriate, please have him/her talk to an English teacher or Mrs. Knaze before the end of school in June, or ask a librarian at the local library. Books may be obtained at the 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 Notes.

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 West English Department

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
- *The Energy Bus: 10 Rules to Fuel Your Life, Work, and Team With Positive Energy* by Jon Gordon

Adventure

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

Fantasy/Other Worlds

- *The Last to Let Go* by Amber Smith

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
- *Because I Was A Girl: True Stories for Girls of All Ages* by Melissa de la Cruz

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

Biographies

- *The Greatest: Muhammad Ali* by Walter Dean Myers

Classics

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

Summer Reading Notes 2019

Please answer the following on a separate sheet of paper. You may type these notes if you prefer.

Do not consult online resources or other literature guides for assistance.

1. What is the title of your book?
2. Who is the author of the book?
3. What is the genre of the book?
4. What is the setting (time and place) of the story? Explain whether the setting is significant to the story.
5. Provide a description of the major characters in the story.
6. Create a list of at least ten major events that occur within the book.
7. List and explain two conflicts that occur within the book.
8. Explain a symbol in the book. Remember, a person, place, object or event can be symbolic.
9. What are two major themes presented within this work? **Explain how the themes are developed by events from the text.**
10. Select three quotes that are important within the work. **Explain the significance of the quotes.** Don't forget to state the speaker of the quote.
11. What stylistic devices did the author use? (What did you notice about the way the book was written?)
12. What did you learn from this book that may affect you today or in the future?
13. What was your favorite part of this book? Explain your response.
14. What was your least favorite part of the book? Explain your response.
15. Would you recommend this book to a friend? Explain your response.