

Valley View High School
Summer Reading List
2008 – 2009

Dear Parent/Guardian:

One of the greatest abilities we possess as humans is the ability to read. Reading opens our minds to many different worlds – worlds we otherwise might not have the opportunity to explore. It is the objective of The Summer Reading Program to help enrich and further develop students' reading skills. **Therefore, please realize that this program is not optional.**

These books are available at a variety of prices through a range of publishers. All local bookstores cooperate with the school district and purchase multiple copies of the texts for purchase by our students. In addition, The Valley Community Library has been provided with our Summer Reading List and has copies of the novels and study guides for the students to borrow. This information is also available on the Valley View High School website: <http://www.valleyviewsd.org/vvvd/hs/hs.html>

Upon returning to school, all students will be evaluated during **the first two weeks** regarding their comprehension of the selected titles. On the day of the evaluation, all Reading Guide Assignments will be collected. These assignments will count toward the student's homework grade. **Any student absent on the testing day and not possessing a legal excuse** (i.e. doctor, court, funeral, military) **will be permitted to make up the test but will not be awarded a score higher than a 75%**. Students' scores will be calculated as part of their first quarter English average; this score **must** be included and may not be dropped.

In addition, this year there is an extra incentive to complete the summer reading assignment. Each student who scores an 80% or higher will have his or her name placed in a drawing, one winner per grade level, for a \$25 gift card to Borders.

As a department, we are fully committed to providing our students with the highest quality education. We hope that as parents or guardians, you will help us by encouraging your children to read these texts which represent important concepts and genres in literature. We are looking forward to a successful new school year.

Sincerely,

The High School English Department

Summer Reading Novels: Grade 9

General (112)

The Five People You Meet in Heaven by Mitch Albom

Academic (113)

The Five People You Meet in Heaven by Mitch Albom
Treasure Island by Robert Louis Stevenson

Summer Reading Novels: Grade 10

General (122)

The Chocolate War by Robert Cormier

Academic (123)

Animal Farm by George Orwell
The Chocolate War by Robert Cormier

Honors (125)

Ethan Frome by Edith Wharton
Our Town by Oscar Wilder
Dinner at the Homesick Restaurant by Anne Tyler

Summer Reading Novels: Grade 11

General (132)

The Bean Trees by Barbara Kingsolver

Academic (133)

The Bean Trees by Barbara Kingsolver
The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn by Mark Twain

Honors (135)

The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn by Mark Twain
Of Mice and Men by John Steinbeck
East of Eden by John Steinbeck
The Grapes of Wrath by John Steinbeck

Summer Reading Novels: Grade 12

General (142)

The Secret Life of Bees by Sue Monk Kidd

Academic (143)

The Secret Life of Bees by Sue Monk Kidd
Great Expectations by Charles Dickens

Honors (145)

The Lord of the Flies by William Golding
The Stranger by Albert Camus
Heart of Darkness by Joseph Conrad
Tess of the D'Urbervilles by Thomas Hardy
The Metamorphosis by Franz Kafka