



South Mecklenburg High School
Suggested Summer Reading Titles
2018-2019

10th grade

We believe our Sabres should continue to read over the summer months. While no formal assignment is due, students should challenge themselves to read as much as possible to help increase their vocabulary and reading comprehension. A list of suggested titles, appropriate for our rising 10th graders, is below. (Descriptions are taken from amazon.com)

Each novel title has a Lexile number next to it. A Lexile measure of a book refers only to its text difficulty; it does not address the content or quality of the book. A Lexile measure is based on two strong predictors of how difficult a text is to comprehend, word frequency and sentence length. Many other factors affect the relationship between a reader and a book, including its content, the age and interests of the reader, and the design of the actual book. The Lexile measure is a good starting point while choosing a title, but these other factors should be considered when making a decision about which book to choose.

The Joy Luck Club by Amy Tan (930L)

Four mothers, four daughters, four families whose histories shift with the four winds depending on who's "saying" the stories. In 1949 four Chinese women, recent immigrants to San Francisco, begin meeting to eat dim sum, play mahjong, and talk. United in shared unspeakable loss and hope, they call themselves the Joy Luck Club. Rather than sink into tragedy, they choose to gather to raise their spirits and money. "To despair was to wish back for something already lost. Or to prolong what was already unbearable." Forty years later the stories and history continue.

The Good Earth by Pearl S. Buck (1530L)

Pearl S. Buck paints an indelible portrait of China in the 1920s, when the last emperor reigned and the vast political and social upheavals of the twentieth century were but distant rumblings. This moving, classic story of the honest farmer Wang Lung and his selfless wife O-Lan is must reading for those who would fully appreciate the sweeping changes that have occurred in the lives of the Chinese people during the last century.

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time by Mark Haddon (1090L)

About a boy with autism who sets out to solve the murder of a neighbor's dog and discovers unexpected truths about himself and the world.

I Hadn't Meant to Tell You This by Jacqueline Woodson (670L)

Twelve-year-old Marie is a leader among the popular black girls in Chauncey, Ohio, a prosperous black suburb. She isn't looking for a friend when Lena Bright, a white girl, appears in school. Yet they are drawn to each other because both have lost their mothers. And they know how to keep a secret. For Lena has a secret that is terrifying, and she's desperate to protect herself and her younger sister from their father. Marie must decide whether she can help Lena by keeping her secret... or by telling it.

Second Class Citizen by Buchi Emecheta (870L)

A poignant story of a resourceful Nigerian woman who overcomes strict tribal domination of women and countless setbacks to achieve an independent life for herself and her children.

The Art of Racing in the Rain by Garth Stein (850L)

A heart-wrenching but deeply funny and ultimately uplifting story of family, love, loyalty, and hope, *The Art of Racing in the Rain* is a beautifully crafted and captivating look at the wonders and absurdities of human life...as only a dog could tell it.

Paper Towns by John Green (850L)

Quentin Jacobsen has spent a lifetime loving the magnificently adventurous Margo Roth Spiegelman from afar. So when she cracks open a window and climbs into his life—dressed like a ninja and summoning him for an ingenious campaign of revenge—he follows. After their all-nighter ends, and a new day breaks, Q arrives at school to discover that Margo, always an enigma, has now become a mystery. But Q soon learns that there are clues—and they're for him. Urged down a disconnected path, the closer he gets, the less Q sees the girl he thought he knew...

A Separate Peace by John Knowles (1030L)

Gene was a lonely, introverted intellectual. Phineas was a handsome, taunting, daredevil athlete. What happened between them at school one summer during the early years of World War II is the subject of this classic novel.