

## AP SUMMER READING

***Students need to select one of the following. An essay test will be given the 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of school. Please remember you are reading from an academic perspective not for personal (pleasure) use. You will need to find the Economics in each. Please take notes or create annotations to enhance your learning journey 😊***

### **A Deadly Indifference: A Henry Spearman Mystery (Henry Spearman Mysteries)**

Distinguished Harvard economics professor Henry Spearman, who can hold his own against the academic backstabbers at Cambridge University, proves he can also survive among more literal killers. Set in 1965, his third appearance (after *The Fatal Equilibrium*) finds Henry and his genial wife, Pidge, in Cambridge. He's there to advise Chicago businessman Morris Fain in the purchase of Balliol Croft, the historic home of the great economist Alfred Marshall, to provide housing for visiting American scholars. Events go awry with alarming speed. The house is sold to another bidder, Cambridge economist Nigel Hart. An attempt is made on Fain's life, and Hart is murdered in a particularly bizarre fashion. Then a young actress is killed. Spearman, an engaging pedant who applies his favorite economic theorems to every phase of life (romance; map reading; car buying) ultimately uses some complex variations of supply and demand to find an extremely devious killer. This lively, carefully crafted mystery surely offers the greatest good to the greatest number of readers.

Copyright 1995 Reed Business Information, Inc.

### **Freakonomics: A Rogue Economist Explores the Hidden Side of Everything**

Which is more dangerous, a gun or a swimming pool?  
What do schoolteachers and sumo wrestlers have in common?  
How much do parents really matter?

These may not sound like typical questions for an economist to ask. But Steven D. Levitt is not a typical economist. He studies the riddles of everyday life—from cheating and crime to parenting and sports—and reaches conclusions that turn conventional wisdom on its head.

*Freakonomics* is a groundbreaking collaboration between Levitt and Stephen J. Dubner, an award-winning author and journalist. They set out to explore the inner workings of a crack gang, the truth about real estate agents, the secrets of the Ku Klux Klan, and much more.

Through forceful storytelling and wry insight, they show that economics is, at root, the study of incentives—how people get what they want or need, especially when other people want or need the same thing.