

May 2024

Dear Parents/Guardians and Students:

Welcome to Lebanon High School and Honors English 9! The LHS English Department requires summer reading for all college-level students. One goal of our program is for students to read a variety of literary genres throughout the year. This summer, Honors English 9 students will read a memoir OR an autobiography. Memoirs focus on a specific time or event in an author's life, while autobiographies tackle the entire scope of an author's life from the author's own perspective.

Tips for selecting a book for this assignment (Amazon Books and Goodreads are great sites to start a search):

- Read a summary
- Read a sample chapter
- Research reader reviews
- Ask family and friends for recommendations
- Explore the list of attached titles I've provided

The memoir OR autobiography should be:

- At least 200 pages in length
- Appropriate for a high school reading level
- Something the student has not read

Included is a list of *suggested* titles, but students are not limited to these. The selections on the list are for mature reading audiences (high school, college, and adult); these texts may contain explicit language, violence, and/or sexual situations. Parents/guardians are strongly encouraged to be involved in the selection and reading process. These recommendations come from the Indiana Department of Education, College Board, and LHS teachers and students.

Students are responsible for obtaining a copy of their selection. Selections can be in print or digital form. Students can borrow from the library, purchase from an online bookstore, or borrow from a family member or friend. Students may also listen to an audiobook if that is their preference.

It is imperative that students complete their reading *before* the first day of class. During the first weeks of the semester, students will need access to the text in order to complete a variety of assignments beginning on the first day of class. I am not assigning students to take structured notes, but it would be helpful for them to keep a list of characters with descriptions, details about setting, conflict, and themes, and summaries of important plot points.

Students, if you have any questions throughout the summer, email me at coddingtona@leb.k12.in.us. I expect all written communication to be professional in tone and format. I will check my email weekly, so you may not receive an immediate response. Please don't wait until the last minute to begin your project.

I hope everyone has an enjoyable, relaxing summer, and I look forward to working with you all this year!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Coddington
coddingtona@leb.k12.in.us

Honors English 9 | Summer Reading Selection Suggestions

Recommendations from the Indiana Department of Education, College Board, and LHS teachers & students

I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings by Maya Angelou

Growing Up by Russell Baker

A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy Soldier by Ismael Beah

The Americanization of Edward Bok by Edward Bok

The Childhood Story of Christy Brown (My Left Foot) by Christy Brown

The Boys in the Boat by Daniel James Brown

John Wilkes Booth: A Sister's Memoir by Asia Booth Clarke

Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass by Frederick Douglass

Bossy Pants by Tina Fey

Barrio Boy by Ernesto Galarza

Thinking in Pictures by Temple Grandin

Between Two Kingdoms by Suleika Jaouad

The Story of my Life by Helen Keller

Woman Warrior by Maxine Hong Kingston

Greenlights by Matthew McConaughey

Blue Highways: A Journey into America by William Least Heat-Moon

The Other Wes Moore: One Name, Two Fates by Wes Moore

Born a Crime by Trevor Noah

Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance by Robert M. Pirsig

Still Me by Christopher Reeve

Travels with Charley by John Steinbeck

Hillbilly Elegy: A Memoir of a Family and Culture in Crisis by J.D. Vance

One Writer's Beginnings by Eudora Welty

Educated by Tara Westover

Black Boy by Richard Wright

I am Malala: The Girl Who Stood Up for Education and Was Shot by the Taliban by Malala Yousafzai

From Here by Luma Mufleh

They Called Us Enemy by George Takei

Stitches by David Small

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