

AP English Summer Reading Challenge

This summer, the English department would like to challenge you to read! This is completely **OPTIONAL** as you will not have assigned summer reading for either AP English courses (AP Lit or AP Lang). If you choose to participate, you will receive extra credit for each book you read this summer **from the lists**. You will be required to show knowledge of your book(s) in order to receive credit and there is a maximum of FIVE books you may read to receive extra credit.

Need help finding the right book? Ask your teachers for their favorites! Or check out the Somerville Library next door. And if you're really looking to challenge yourself and build your confidence up, check out the Pre-20th Century section.

Please bring your completed book(s) or a picture of the books with you to your AP English class on the first day of school. If you read more than five books or read any books not on this list, please bring those with you as well. Good luck!

Fiction Selections	
Pre-20 th Century	20 th Century and Later
<i>Anna Karenina</i> by Leo Tolstoy (1877) <i>Crime and Punishment</i> by Fyodor Dostoevsky (1866) <i>Doll's House, A</i> by Henrik Ibsen (1879) <i>Emma</i> by Jane Austen (1815) <i>Great Expectations</i> by Charles Dickens (1860) <i>Hamlet</i> by William Shakespeare (1599) <i>Heart of Darkness</i> by Joseph Conrad (1899) <i>Hope Leslie</i> by Cathering Marie Sedgwick (1827) <i>Importance of Being Earnest, The</i> by Oscar Wilde (1895) <i>Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl</i> by Harriet Jacobs (1861) <i>Jane Eyre</i> by Charlotte Bronte (1847) <i>Jude the Obscure</i> by Tom Hardy (1895) <i>Last of the Mohicans, The</i> by James Fenimore Cooper (1826) <i>Madame Bovary</i> by Gustave Flaubert (1857) <i>Mayor of Casterbridge</i> by Tom Hardy (1886) <i>Middlemarch</i> by George Eliot (1874) <i>Moby Dick</i> by Herman Melville 1851 <i>Portrait of a Lady, The</i> by Henry James (1881) <i>*Pride and Prejudice</i> by Jane Austen (1797) <i>Scarlet Letter, The</i> by Nathaniel Hawthorne (1850) <i>Tale of Two Cities, A</i> by Charles Dickens (1859) <i>The Tempest</i> by William Shakespeare (1610) <i>Time Machine, The</i> by H.G. Wells (1895) <i>Twelfth Night</i> by William Shakespeare (1601) <i>Uncle Tom's Cabin</i> by Harriet Beecher Stowe (1852) <i>Vanity Fair</i> by William Thackeray (1848)	<i>All the Light We Cannot See</i> by Anthony Doerr (2014) <i>All the Pretty Horses</i> by Cormac McCarthy (1992) <i>*Americanah</i> by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie (2013) <i>Animal Farm</i> by George Orwell (1945) <i>Bell Jar, The</i> by Sylvia Plath (1963) <i>*Catcher in the Rye, The</i> by J.D. Salinger (1951) <i>*Ceremony</i> by Leslie Marmon Silko (1977) <i>Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich, A</i> by Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn (1962) <i>Ethan Frome</i> by Edith Wharton (1911) <i>*Fahrenheit 451</i> by Ray Bradbury (1953) <i>Farewell to Arms, A</i> by Ernest Hemingway (1929) <i>*Fences</i> by August Wilson (1985) <i>Go Tell It On the Mountain</i> by James Baldwin (1953) <i>Grapes of Wrath, The</i> by John Steinbeck (1939) <i>Handmaid's Tale, The</i> by Margaret Atwood (1985) <i>Homegoing</i> by Yaa Gyaasi (2016) <i>*House on Mango Street</i> by Sandra Cisneros (1984) <i>Life of Pi</i> by Yann Martel (2001) <i>Light in August, A</i> by William Faulkner (1932) <i>Love in the Time of Cholera</i> by Gabriel Garcia Marques (1985) <i>Metamorphosis, The</i> by Franz Kafka (1915) <i>*Middlesex</i> by Jeffrey Eugenides (2002) <i>Midnight's Children</i> by Salman Rushdie (1981) <i>My Antonia</i> by Willa Cather (1918) <i>*Native Son</i> by Richard Wright (1940) <i>Secret History, The</i> by Donna Tartt (1992) <i>Song of Solomon</i> by Toni Morrison (1977) <i>Stranger in a Strange Land</i> by by Robert A. Heinlein (1961) <i>Streetcar Named Desire, A</i> by Tennessee Williams (1947) <i>*Things They Carried, The</i> by Tim O'Brien (1990) <i>Underground Railroad, The</i> by Colson Whitehead (2016) <i>World According to Garp, The</i> by John Irving (1978) <i>Thousand Splendid Suns, A</i> by Khaled Hosseini (2007)

*An asterisk means the English Department can lend you a copy

AP English Summer Reading Challenge

This summer, the English department would like to challenge you to read! This is completely **OPTIONAL** as you will not have assigned summer reading for either AP English courses (AP Lit or AP Lang). If you choose to participate, you will receive extra credit for each book you read this summer **from the lists**. You will be required to show knowledge of your book(s) in order to receive credit and there is a maximum of FIVE books you may read to receive extra credit.

Need help finding the right book? Ask your teachers for their favorites! Or check out the Somerville Library next door. And if you're really looking to challenge yourself and build your confidence up, check out the Pre-20th Century section.

Please bring your completed book(s) or a picture of the books with you to your AP English class on the first day of school. If you read more than five books or read any books not on this list, please bring those with you as well. Good luck!

Nonfiction Selections	
Pre-20 th Century	20 th Century and Later
<i>Art of War, The</i> by Sun Tzu (512 BC) <i>Behind the Scenes: Or, Thirty Years a Slave and Four Years in the White House</i> by Elizabeth Keckley (1868) <i>Confessions</i> by Jean-Jacques Rousseau (1782) <i>Das Kapital</i> by Karl Marx (1894) <i>Lady's Life in the Rocky Mountains, A</i> by Isabella Bird (1879) <i>My Bondage and my Freedom</i> by Frederick Douglass (1855) <i>Origin of Species, The</i> by Charles Darwin (1859) <i>Prince, The</i> by Niccolo Machiavelli (1532) <i>Republic, The</i> by Plato (380 BC) <i>Travels, The</i> by Marco Polo (1300) <i>Twelve Years a Slave</i> by Solomon Northrup (1853) <i>Utopia</i> by Thomas More (1516) <i>Walden</i> by Henry David Thoreau (1854) <i>Woman in the Nineteenth Century</i> by Margaret Fuller (1845)	<i>All Souls: A Family Story from Southie</i> by Michael Patrick MacDonald (1997) <i>Alone Together: Why We Expect More from Technology and Less from Each Other</i> by Sherry Turkle (2011) <i>Chinese Cinderella: The True Story of an Unwanted Daughter</i> by Adeline Yen Mah (1999) <i>Devil in the White City, The</i> by Erik Larson (2003) <i>Dreams from My Father</i> by Barack Obama (1995) <i>*Fast Food Nation</i> by Eric Schlosser (2001) <i>Heartbreaking Work of Staggering Genius</i> by Dave Eggers (2000) <i>Hillbilly Elegy</i> by J.D. Vance (2016) <i>How Starbucks Saved My Life</i> by Michael Gates Gill (2007) <i>*I am Malala: The Girl Who Stood Up for Education and Was Shot by the Taliban</i> by Malala Yousafzai (2013) <i>Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks, The</i> by Rebecca Skloot (2010) <i>*In Cold Blood</i> by Truman Capote (1966) <i>*Into the Wild</i> by Jon Krakauer (1996) <i>Left to Tell: Discovering God Amidst the Rwandan Crisis</i> by Immaculee Ilibagiza (2006) <i>On the Road</i> by Jack Kerouac (1957) <i>Outliers, The</i> by Malcolm Gladwell (2008) <i>Reading Lolita in Tehran</i> by Azar Nafizi (2003) <i>The Beautiful Struggle: A Memoir</i> by Ta-Nehisi Coates (2008) <i>Unbroken</i> by Laura Hillenbrand (2010) <i>Walk in the Woods, A</i> by Bill Bryson (1997) <i>Wild: From Lost to Found on the Pacific Crest Trail</i> by Cheryl Strayed (2012) <i>Wolf Boys: Two American Teenagers and Mexico's Most Dangerous Drug Cartel</i> by Dan Slater (2016) <i>Woman Warrior</i> by Maxine Hong Kingston (1976)

*An asterisk means the English Department can lend you a copy

AP English Summer Reading Challenge

This summer, the English department would like to challenge you to read! This is completely **OPTIONAL** as you will not have assigned summer reading for either AP English courses (AP Lit or AP Lang). If you choose to participate, you will receive extra credit for each book you read this summer **from the lists**. You will be required to show knowledge of your book(s) in order to receive credit and there is a maximum of FIVE books you may read to receive extra credit.

Need help finding the right book? Ask your teachers for their favorites! Or check out the Somerville Library next door. And if you're really looking to challenge yourself and build your confidence up, check out the Pre-20th Century section.

Please bring your completed book(s) or a picture of the books with you to your AP English class on the first day of school. If you read more than five books or read any books not on this list, please bring those with you as well. Good luck!

AP English Summer Reading Challenge

Frequently Asked Questions

1) Can we re-read books we have read before? For the purpose of this challenge, no. To receive credit, all books need to be first reads as this helps establish and develop your reading pace and vocabulary.

2) Can we read books other than what is on the list to count toward the 5? Books must be from the list to receive credit, though another book by same author or of comparable literary merit might be approved. Please email your teacher for approval.

3) Can we read other books that we enjoy to count toward the grand total over 5? Yes, but the 5 books for credit must be from the list.

4) Do I have to take notes on the books I read? No, though you will have to prove your knowledge of the books in the fall.

5) Will I still get credit if I do not bring the books or pictures? Yes, but please make every effort to do this as it will be used to acknowledge all of the books read during the challenge.

*An asterisk means the English Department can lend you a copy