



Mandeville High School



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2019-2020 Summer Reading List for All Students Scheduled in Regular/On Level English I, II, III, and IV (list and helpful info can be found on the MHS website)

Parents/Guardians and Students,

The purpose of summer reading is to encourage students to read an approved novel which appeals to their own personal interests, instilling a love of reading as well as increasing literacy across the district. The following books were chosen based on many criteria, including reading level, content, interest, and more. Students will complete **graded** assignments at the start of the year. Students should take notes or annotations to aid with class assignments. Having the book available in class is helpful. Happy Reading!

Incoming Regular Ed English I Options

***Tuesdays with Morrie* by Mitch Albom**

Mitch lost track of his mentor and the insights he learned faded, and the world seemed colder, until Mitch Albom had a second chance. He rediscovered Morrie, his former mentor, in the last months of the older man's life. Knowing he was dying, Morrie visited with Mitch in his study every Tuesday, just as they used to back in college. Their rekindled relationship turned into one final "class" lesson on how to live.

Philosophical Nonfiction

***Monster* by Walter Dean Myers**

The story of Steve Harmon, a teenage boy in juvenile detention and on trial. Presented as a screenplay of Steve's own imagination, and peppered with journal entries, the book shows how one single decision can change our whole lives.

Coming of Age Fiction

***Flowers for Algernon* by Daniel Keyes**

A mentally challenged man receives an operation that turns him into a genius and introduces him to heartache. The book includes journals written by Charly that show his first hand views and changes as he goes from a man with an I.Q. of 68 to 185 while touching upon many different ethical and moral themes, such as the treatment of the mentally disabled.

Science Fiction

Incoming Regular Ed English II Options

***Outliers* by Malcolm Gladwell**

Malcolm Gladwell takes us on an intellectual journey through the world of "outliers"--the best and the brightest, the most famous and the most successful. He asks the question: what makes high-achievers different? Along the way he explains the secrets of software billionaires, what it takes to be a great soccer player, why Asians are good at math, and what made the Beatles the greatest rock band. Brilliant and entertaining, *Outliers* is a landmark work that will simultaneously delight and illuminate.

Nonfiction

***The Secret Life of Bees* by Sue Monk Kidd**

Set in South Carolina in 1964, *The Secret Life of Bees* tells the story of Lily Owens, whose life has been shaped around the blurred memory of the afternoon her mother was killed. When Lily's fierce-hearted black "stand-in mother," Rosaleen, insults three of the deepest racists in town, Lily decides to spring them both free. They escape to Tiburon, South Carolina--a town that holds the secret to her mother's past and a way to Lily's future.

Coming-of-Age Fiction

Alas, Babylon* by Pat Frank*Utopia/Dystopia Fiction**

The novel deals with the effects of a nuclear war on the fictional small town of Fort Repose, Florida. The novel's title is derived from the Book of Revelation "Alas, alas, that great city Babylon, that mighty city! For in one hour is thy judgment come."

Incoming Regular Ed English III Options***Into The Wild* by Jon Krakauer****Nonfiction**

In April 1992 a young man from a well-to-do family hitchhiked to Alaska and walked alone into the wilderness north of Denali. His name was Christopher Johnson McCandless. He had given \$25,000 in savings to charity, abandoned his car and most of his possessions, burned all the cash in his wallet, and invented a new life for himself. Four months later, his decomposed body was found by a moose hunter. How McCandless came to die is the unforgettable story of *Into the Wild*.

Where'd You Go, Bernadette?* by Maria Semple*Fiction-comedic**

The plot revolves around an agoraphobic architect and mother named Bernadette Fox, who goes missing prior to a family trip to Antarctica. It is narrated by her 15-year-old daughter Bee Branch. It is told in a series of documents with the occasional interlude by Bee.

A Lesson Before Dying* by Ernest Gaines*Fiction**

While it is a fictional work, it is loosely based on the true story of Willie Francis, a young Black man sentenced to death by the electric chair, and a young man who returns to 1940s Cajun country to teach and visit Willie on death row for a crime he didn't commit. Together they come to understand the heroism of resisting.

Incoming Regular Ed English IV Options***Brave New World* by Aldous Huxley****Science Fiction**

The novel opens in the year 632 A. F. (which means After Ford). All of civilization has been destroyed by a great war. Then there is another war, the Nine Years War, which ushers in the era of Ford, ensuring stability through dictatorship. The society depicted in the novel is based on a rigid caste system. The highest of the five castes enjoy superior tasks, while the lower ones perform menial roles. Ten Controllers hold all the power in this new world and peace is maintained by conditioning infant minds and by soothing adults. Would you want to live in a world like this?

Snowflower and the Secret Fan* by Lisa See*Fiction**

In nineteenth-century China, in a remote village, a girl named Lily is paired with a laotong, an "old same," in an emotional match that will last a lifetime. The two communicate in a unique language that Chinese women created in order to communicate in secret. As the years pass, Lily and Snow Flower send messages reaching out of isolation to share their hopes, dreams, and accomplishments. Together they endure the agony of footbinding, the complications of arranged marriages, and the joys and tragedies of motherhood. The two find solace in their friendship, but when a misunderstanding arises, their relationship suddenly threatens to tear apart.

Unbroken* by Lauren Hillenbrand*Nonfiction**

In boyhood, Louis Zamperini was an incorrigible delinquent. As a teenager, he channeled his defiance into running, which carried him to the Berlin Olympics. When World War II began, the athlete became an airman, embarking on a journey that led to a doomed flight on a May afternoon in 1943. When his Army Air Forces bomber crashed into the Pacific Ocean, ahead of Zamperini lay thousands of miles of open ocean, leaping sharks, thirst, starvation, enemy aircraft, and, beyond, a trial even greater. Driven to the limits, Zamperini would answer desperation with ingenuity; suffering with hope, resolve, and humor; brutality with rebellion.