



# ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

NYACK HIGH SCHOOL  
NYACK MIDDLE SCHOOL

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## INFORMATION ABOUT SUMMER READING

June, 2020

Dear Students and Parents/Guardians:

The purpose of summer reading is twofold: one, to enjoy the activity of reading, and two, to maintain comprehension skills, fluency, and stamina during the summer months. We strongly encourage students to read as many books as possible, but **all students entering grades 6-12 are encouraged to read at least two books**. Students will choose their own books, except for students who will be taking AP English Language and AP English Literature courses; those students have required reading as noted below.

We recognize that COVID-19 closures have made access to bookstores and libraries challenging. For that reason, there will not be a September assessment on summer reading.

Students who will be taking AP English Language and Composition must read James Baldwin's essay, "Notes of a Native Son," and another work of their choice. The Baldwin text can be accessed here: [Notes of a Native Son, James Baldwin](#).

Students who will be taking AP English Literature and Composition must read Carson McCullers' *The Heart is a Lonely Hunter* and another work of their choice. The pdf version to this text can be found here: [Carson McCullers, The Heart is a Lonely Hunter](#)

If you are looking for suggestions for books to read, here are some useful links:

- [Ms. Quinn's List of Suggested Books for Nyack Middle Schoolers](#)
- [Ms. Birro's List of Suggested Books for Nyack High Schoolers](#)
- [Recommended books from some of the teachers at Nyack High School](#)

On behalf of the English Department at Nyack Middle School and at Nyack High School, we wish you and your families a safe, healthy, enjoyable summer. We truly look forward to greeting you all when the schools reopen. Be well.

Sincerely,

John Joyce  
English Department Chairperson, Grades 6-12