



**MAHOPAC HIGH SCHOOL**  
*Every Child, Every Challenge, Every Day*

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June 2019

Dear Parents,

Students enrolled in all English courses are required to read additional works of literature beyond the books they choose for leisure time reading this summer. These books will serve as the focus of English instruction during the opening days of the 2019-2020 school year. Students will be asked to demonstrate their understanding of these books during the first weeks of school.

Please encourage your child to complete the reading in a timely and meaningful manner. We ask that you monitor their reading, making sure they do not opt for shortcuts such as *Spark Notes* and movie versions of the works. Students who have successfully completed summer reading throughout high school typically demonstrate greater college and career readiness as well as higher SAT scores.

Mahopac Public Library has been notified of this reading requirement. In addition, the Mahopac High School library offers some digital resources to assist students in the completion of the summer reading requirement. For your convenience we have linked each course title to a list of short descriptions of the books for each course. We encourage you to further explore Amazon, Goodreads or other search engines for more in depth descriptions and reviews.

Thank you for your support. We anticipate a successful and rewarding academic year.

Sincerely,

The Mahopac High School English Department

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**Blue Ribbon School of Excellence & America's Best High Schools**

**Assistant Principals**

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**Principal** – Matthew W. Lawrence, Ed.D. - ext. 11524

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Jaclyn Mittman – 11612  
Ron Pollaro - ext. 11601

### English 9 R

**Select ONE title from the list below:**

*Silver Star* by Jeannette Walls

*The Five People You Meet in Heaven* by Mitch Albom

*The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes* by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle

*Twisted* by Laurie Halse Anderson

### English 9 H

**Required:** *The Lord of the Flies* by William Golding

**Select ONE additional title from the list below:**

*Silver Star* by Jeannette Walls

*The Five People You Meet in Heaven* by Mitch Albom

*The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes* by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle

*Twisted* by Laurie Halse Anderson

### English 10 R

**Select ONE title from the list below:**

*A Long Way Gone* by Ishmael Beah

*The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* by Mark Haddon

*Eleanor and Park* by Rainbow Rowell

*The Zookeeper's Wife: A War Story* by Diane Ackerman

### English 10 H

**Required:** *A Long Way Gone* by Ishmael Beah

**Select ONE additional title from the list below:**

*The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* by Mark Haddon

*The Zookeeper's Wife: A War Story* by Diane Ackerman

*And Then There Were None* by Agatha Christie

*A Doll's House* by Henrik Ibsen

*Flowers in the Attic* by V. C. Andrews

*The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao* by Junot Diaz

*I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings* by Maya Angelou

*Beloved* by Toni Morrison

*One Hundred Years of Solitude* by Gabriel Garcia Marquez

*The Lovely Bones* by Alice Sebold

*Invisible Man* by Ralph Ellison

*The Joy Luck Club* by Amy Tan

*The Color Purple* by Alice Walker  
*Rebecca* by Daphne du Maurier

### English 11 R

**Select ONE title from the list below:**

*Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury

### English 11 Honors

At the 11th Honors level, we require students to engage in the active reading of the classics. It is important for our students to have experience with writers who have transcended time and whose topics are as relevant today as they were when the novels were written. We also believe that students should have an opportunity to choose something to read based on interest or curiosity.

Therefore, students entering 11 Honors for the school year 2019-2020 will be responsible for reading two required works and one work of their choosing from a list of suggested titles.

In addition, students will keep a reading journal, being sure to log characters, setting, conflict, point of view, and key moments of text. The reading journal will be checked and students will receive credit for the work they have done. This will help prepare students for our initial class discussions as well as the Regents exam.

**Students are required to read:**

*The Grapes of Wrath* by John Steinbeck

*Their Eyes Were Watching God* by Zora Neale Hurston

**Students must also choose a title from the suggested list below:**

**Fiction:**

*Every Day* by David Levithan

*The Orphan Train* by Christina Baker Kline

*The Invention of Wings* by Sue Monk Kidd

*The Handmaid's Tale* by Margaret Atwood

*The Perks of Being a Wallflower* by Stephen Chbosky

*The Underground Railroad* by Colson Whitehead

*Between the World and Me* by Ta-Nehisi Coates

*Slaughterhouse Five* by Kurt Vonnegut

*One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* by Ken Kesey

*The Awakening* by Kate Chopin

*A Man Called Ove* by Fredrik Backman

*The Bluest Eye* by Toni Morrison

*The Color Purple* by Alice Walker

*Go Tell it on the Mountain* by James Baldwin

*The Fire Next Time* by James Baldwin

As an English Department we strongly suggest that our students read *How to Read Literature Like a Professor* by Thomas C. Foster.

## 11 AP Language

Students are *encouraged* to keep a reading journal of responses for each of these titles. It should include information regarding the characters, setting, conflict, theme(s), literary devices, your responses/connections/reactions and questions you may have.

### **Required Titles:**

*The Color of Water* by James McBride  
*David and Goliath* by Malcolm Gladwell  
*Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury

## English 12 Literary Themes

### **Select two titles from the list below:**

*Ocean at the End of the Lane* by Neil Gaiman  
*Angela's Ashes* by Frank McCourt  
*A Prayer for Owen Meany* by John Irving  
*All the Light We Cannot See* by Anthony Doerr  
*Seabiscuit* by Laura Hillenbrand  
*Small Great Things* by Jodi Picoult

## 12 AP Literature

At the AP level, we require students to engage in the active reading of the classics. It is important for our students to have experience with writers who have transcended time and whose topics are as relevant today as they were when the novels were written. We also believe that students should have an opportunity to choose something to read based on interest or curiosity.

Therefore, students entering AP Literature for the school year 2019-2020 will be responsible for reading two required works and one work of their choosing from a list of suggested titles.

In addition, students will keep a reading journal, being sure to log characters, setting, conflict, point of view, and key moments of text. The reading journal will be checked and students will receive credit for the work they have done. This will help prepare students for our initial class discussions as well as the AP Lit exam.

Students are required to read two texts and will have a choice of a third.

### **The required texts are:**

*A Tale of Two Cities* by Charles Dickens  
*Things Fall Apart* by Chinua Achebe

The **suggested texts** include:

*Age of Innocence* by Edith Wharton  
*Ethan Frome* by Edith Wharton  
*Wuthering Heights* by Charlotte Bronte  
*Jane Eyre* by Charlotte Bronte  
*Emma* by Jane Austen  
*Pride and Prejudice* by Jane Austen  
*A Lesson Before Dying* by Ernest Gaines  
*All the Light We Cannot See* by Anthony Doerr  
*Frankenstein* by Mary Shelley  
*The Stranger* by Albert Camus  
*As I Lay Dying* by William Faulkner  
*Metamorphosis* by Franz Kafka  
*One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* by Ken Kesey  
*Their Eyes Were Watching God* by Zora Neale Hurston  
*A Prayer for Owen Meany* by John Irving  
*The Red Badge of Courage* by Stephen Crane  
*Go Tell it on the Mountain* by James Baldwin  
*The Fire Next Time* by James Baldwin  
*The Catcher in the Rye* by JD Salinger  
*Americanah* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie

*The Awakening* by Kate Chopin  
*The Bluest Eye* by Toni Morrison

*The Scarlet Letter* by Nathaniel Hawthorne  
*Song of Solomon* by Toni Morrison

As an English Department we **strongly** suggest that our students read *How to Read Literature Like a Professor* by Thomas C. Foster.

### [WISE English 12](#)

Students are required to read *The Outliers* by Malcolm Gladwell and then any work of their choice from the list below:

#### **Science/ Behavior:**

*A Short History of Everything* by Bill Bryson  
*Origins* by Neil Degrasse Tyson  
*Astrophysics for People in a Hurry* by Neil Degrasse Tyson  
*Packing for Mars* by Mary Roach  
*The Fabric of the Cosmos* by Brian Greene  
*The Elegant Universe* by Brian Greene  
*The Whole Shebang* by Timothy Ferris  
*Silent Spring* by Rachel Carson  
*A Brief History of Time* by Stephen Hawking  
*The Power of Habit* by Charles Duhigg  
*What the Dog Knows* by Cat Warren  
*Future Crimes* by Marc Goodman  
*Alan Turing: The Enigma* by Andrew Hodges

**Medicine:**

*The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* by Rebecca Skloot  
*Stiff: The Curious Lives of Human Cadavers* by Mary Roach

**History/Humanities/Inspirational:**

*Unbroken* by Laura Hillenbrand  
*Tuesdays with Morrie* by Mitch Albom  
*A Walk in the Woods* by Bill Bryson  
*The Boys in the Boat* by Daniel James Brown  
*Every Day* by David Levithan  
*Taking Flight: From War Orphan to Star Ballerina* by Michaela DePrince and Elaine DePrince  
*Hidden Figures: The American Dream and the Untold Story of the Black Women Mathematicians Who Helped Win the Space Race* by Margot Lee Shetterly  
*Moonwalking with Einstein* by Joshua Foer  
*Into the Wild* by Jon Krakauer  
*Blink* by Malcolm Gladwell  
*Lion: A Long Way Home* by Saroo Brierley

**Entrepreneurial:**

*Shoe Dog* by Phil Knight  
*Tools of Titans* by Tim Ferriss  
*The Power of Broke* by Daymond John  
*Originals* by Adam Grant  
*Hustle* by Neil Patel, Patrick Vlaskovits, and Jonas Koffler  
*Grit* by Angela Duckworth  
*The Emperor of all Maladies* by Siddhartha Mukherjee  
*Girl Rising* by Cabot and Walravens

**College English****Required titles:**

*Things Fall Apart* by Chinua Achebe  
*Ishmael* by Daniel Quinn  
*How to Read Literature Like a Professor* by Thomas Foster  
*Outliers* by Malcolm Gladwell