



## Upper School Summer Reading 2017 – 2018

Below are the summer reading requirements and book lists for Upper School students at BB&N. Naturally, we encourage students to read well beyond the minimum number of required books. Therefore, you will also find a list of great reads recommended by the Upper School librarians at the end of this document.

**Students entering Grade 9 in the fall are expected to read two books from the English Department book list and one History book.**

**Students entering Grades 10 – 12 in the fall are expected to read three books.**

- For most students, this will include one book from the English Department Book List, one book in preparation for the student's History course, and one book (or assignment) in preparation for the student's World Language course.
- If a student does not have a required book for their History or World Language course, he or she must read an additional book from the English Department Book List.

In general, books for summer reading can be purchased at any bookstore or online bookseller. If a specific edition of a book is required for a course, it will be noted in the book description below. If you have any general questions about summer reading, please contact the Upper School Office at 617-800-2131. In addition, feel free to reach out directly to the teacher, Department Head, or Language Coordinator listed below should you have questions.

English: Sharon Krauss ([skrauss@bbns.org](mailto:skrauss@bbns.org), 617-800-2198)

History and Social Sciences: Gustavo Carrera ([gcarrera@bbns.org](mailto:gcarrera@bbns.org), 617-800-2133)

World Languages: Cécile Roucher-Greenberg ([croucher-greenberg@bbns.org](mailto:croucher-greenberg@bbns.org), 617-800-2172)

Arabic: Amani Abu Shakra ([aabushakra@bbns.org](mailto:aabushakra@bbns.org), 617-800-2225)

Chinese: Yinong Yang ([yyang@bbns.org](mailto:yayang@bbns.org), 617-800-2297)

French: Cécile Roucher-Greenberg ([croucher-greenberg@bbns.org](mailto:croucher-greenberg@bbns.org), 617-800-2172)

Latin: Walter Young ([wyoung@bbns.org](mailto:wyoung@bbns.org), 617-800-2157)

Russian: Josh Walker ([jwalker@bbns.org](mailto:jwalker@bbns.org), 617-800-2290)

Spanish: Rosario Sánchez Gómez ([rsanchezgomez@bbns.org](mailto:rsanchezgomez@bbns.org), 617-800-2246)

We hope that you will find both the reading and your summers to be enjoyable and memorable. Happy reading!

Sincerely,

Geoffrey Theobald  
Upper School Director

Katrina Fuller  
Assistant Upper School Director

## ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

The English Department's Book List is in alphabetical order by author's last name. All books are appropriate for students in Grades 9 – 12, and students may choose to substitute other books by the listed authors.

Seniors should note that one of their summer reading books must be the text specified for their fall course (see the list of assigned books following the English Department Book List).

Angelou, Maya: *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings* (The first volume in the poet's autobiography is set in the small, segregated town of Stamps, Arkansas. It pays tribute to the frank, resourceful grandmother who raised her from a timid child beset by the stresses of her parents' abandonment and the poverty and racism of her community to a confident, creative young woman.)

Alexie, Sherman: *Reservation Blues* (Through the story of a Spokane garage band, this novel reveals the humor and frustrations of Native American life on and off the reservation.)

Anam, Tahmima: *A Golden Age* (A novel about a widow and her family and her small but remarkable role in the Bangladeshi war for independence in the 1970s.)

Atwood, Margaret: *The Handmaid's Tale* (This dystopian novel imagines a world in which declining population rates, strict adherence to—and manipulation of—the Bible's lessons about women's subservience, and power-hungry men lead to the transformation of America into the totalitarian, theocratic Republic of Gilead.)

Austen, Jane: *Northanger Abbey* (A wry portrait of a young woman with an active imagination and an eagerness for romantic adventure. Northanger Abbey strikes her as just the mysterious locale where her fantasies might be realized.)

Baldwin, James: *Go Tell It on the Mountain* (A young boy follows in his father's footsteps and becomes a preacher. An autobiographical novel, set in Harlem in the 1930s.)

Batuman, Elif: *The Idiot* (This funny, incisive narrative told by a Turkish-American girl from New Jersey who attends Harvard is, as *The Boston Globe* put it, "a cutting satire of academia, a fresh take on the pistolary novel, a poignant bildungsroman, and compelling travel literature.")

Bradley, Marion Z.: *The Mists of Avalon* (The legendary saga of King Arthur and his companions at Camelot is retold from the perspectives of the women involved. Viviane is "The Lady of the Lake," the priestess of the Isle of Avalon, a mystical, mist-shrouded island. Her quest is to find a king who will ally himself with both Avalon and a fledgling religion: Christianity.)

Breem, Wallace: *Eagle in the Snow* (The year is 406. The Roman Empire is in tatters, hanging together only through force of habit and the will of a few strong generals. One of these, Maximus, is ordered to guard the Rhine frontier against the increasingly aggressive Germanic tribes. But Maximus has only a single legion....)

Brown, Rosellen: *Before and After* (Brown raises questions about the nature of justice, the limits of family love, and the ways in which our knowledge of even those closest to us is determined by our own characters as she depicts the effects on his family of Jacob Reiser's violent crime. BB&N readers will find many qualities of the Reiser family familiar and will even find themselves, for a brief time, in the familiar precincts of Harvard Square.)

Carey, Peter: *Jack Maggs* (A sequel to Dickens' *Great Expectations* from the viewpoint of Abel Magwitch.)

Carey, Peter: *The True History of the Kelly Gang* (The colorful, "true," and thrilling story of Australia's answer to Robin Hood, the famous outlaw Ned Kelly, who roved the hinterlands of nineteenth-century New South Wales.)

- Casey, John: *Spartina* (Winner of the National Book Award, this novel delves into the fiery, somewhat quirky character of a Rhode Island fisherman building a 50-foot boat in his backyard as he confronts forces of nature, including the human variety.)
- Cather, Willa: *The Song of the Lark* (A gifted young woman from an isolated Colorado town yearns to escape the confines of her poor, repressive childhood and become an opera singer. Although Cather was not a musician, key aspects of the novel are autobiographical, especially in depicting the artist's struggles and triumphs as she single-mindedly pursues her dream.)
- Clavell, James: *Shogun* (Feudal Japan—with its samurai, castles, and ritual suicide—is a strange and frightening place for an English ship pilot washed up on its shores.)
- Coetzee, J.M.: *The Life and Times of Michael K.* (After the death of his mother, a young man struggles to make sense of his life in a country ripped apart by strife, racism, and hatred.)
- Collins, Wilkie: *The Moonstone* (Everyone is a suspect in this, the first detective story ever, set in Victorian England. Who stole the precious moonstone from the country house by the sea?)
- Conroy, Pat: *The Great Santini* (A teenage son tries to grow up in a difficult family under a domineering father who is “all Marine.”)
- Courtenay, Bryce: *The Power of One* (A compelling, beautifully told coming-of-age story about a boy in South Africa during the Apartheid era. Ridiculed and humiliated, he finds a mentor and develops an obsession with boxing; both are unexpected developments that change his life.)
- Dai, Sijie: *Balzac and the Little Chinese Seamstress* (Two teen-aged doctors' sons are sent for “re-education” into China's countryside, where they discover a suitcase full of forbidden French novels and meet an enchanting seamstress's daughter. Her secret re-education under their influence surprises everyone.)
- Diamant, Anita: *The Red Tent* (Well-known Old Testament stories come alive with the researched and imagined experiences of Jacob's wives and only daughter, Dinah. Dinah narrates the family history from the red tent, where the women give birth and spend part of each month, before the group migrates from Mesopotamia to Canaan and Dinah ends her journey alone, as a midwife in Egypt.)
- Dickens, Charles: *David Copperfield* (Like *Great Expectations*, this is a *bildungsroman*, or novel of growing up, that explores the role of the heart and the place of relationships with others in achieving maturity. Dickens once said that of all his fictional “children” David Copperfield was his favorite.)
- Doctorow, E. L.: *Homer and Langley* (A novel based on the lives of real-life reclusive brothers who, in the words of the author, “opted out of civilization and pulled the world in after them.”)
- DuMaurier, Daphne: *Rebecca* (A young woman, haunted by the spirit of her first husband's wife, discovers the shocking secret of his earlier marriage.)
- Duncan, David James: *The River Why* (In this funny, thoughtful novel, a young man from a family obsessed with fishing sets out on a journey to pursue what he believes is the ideal life: days filled nothing but with fishing. Gus's journey to the Oregon Coast leads him to a new understanding of himself and the larger world.)
- Eire, Carlos: *Waiting for Snow in Havana: Confessions of a Cuban Boy* (A memoir of a boyhood just before, during, and after Fidel Castro's revolution in Cuba. His parents send Carlos and his brother Tony out of Cuba to a very different life in the United States.)

- Fitzgerald, F. Scott: *Tender is the Night* (Brilliant young psychiatrist Dick Diver ruins his marriage by pursuing a tragic relationship with a beautiful young patient. Set on the French Riviera during the 1920s, this novel was Fitzgerald's next work after completing *The Great Gatsby*.)
- Follett, Ken: *Pillars of the Earth* (Betrayal, murder, revenge, and faith form the core of this page-turner set in twelfth-century England.)
- Forster, E.M.: *A Room With A View* (Following a trip to Italy, Lucy Honeychurch realizes that she must choose between her conventional fiancé and the entirely unconventional George Emerson.)
- Goodman, Allegra: *Intuition* (Set in Cambridge, this literary thriller revolves around a group of lab researchers, one of whom is about to be fired when he suddenly discovers an important cancer medication—or does he?)
- Greenberg, Joanne: *I Never Promised You A Rose Garden* (With the help of an understanding doctor, a teenage girl struggles to overcome schizophrenia. A realistic look at the world of split personality and the courage of an indomitable spirit.)
- Harbach, Chad: *The Art of Fielding* (The novel comprises five interwoven plot threads about gifted people challenged by events that reveal their vulnerabilities and underscore the life-defining connections among people. Set at a fictional Midwestern college, it includes some good writing about baseball, too.)
- Hardy, Thomas: *The Mayor of Casterbridge* (Drunk and exasperated by bad luck, Michael Henchard sells his wife at a country fair. His deed returns to haunt him eighteen years later.)
- Hemingway, Ernest: *A Farewell to Arms* (Lt. Frederick Henry discovers the fragility of love and friendship during the Italian campaign of World War I. Considered by many to be the author's most wrenchingly beautiful work.)
- Herbert, Frank: *Dune* (Classic science fiction novel about a land of deserts and of the long-awaited Messiah.)
- Hesse, Herman: *Siddhartha* (This story of a young man's search for enlightenment reverberates with echoes of Buddhism and Hinduism; it delivers the reader into a journey that is at once exotic and familiar. This short novel has long been a favorite of college and high school students interested in the call of the inner life.)
- Huxley, Aldous: *Brave New World* (One of the great classics of science fiction, this is a thought-provoking and fascinating look at how the future may turn out.)
- Irving, John: *The World According to Garp* (By turns dark, outrageous, and funny, this novel charts the eventful life of T.S. Garp. Despite some sad and shocking incidents, it is a page-turner. If you liked *A Prayer for Owen Meaney*, try this: it's the book that made Irving famous.)
- Jones, Edward P.: *The Known World* (Jones uses a sometimes forgotten detail of pre-Civil War America—that some black landowners possessed slaves of their own—to weave an intricate tale that begins with the premature death of one of these slave owners and then recounts the struggle of his widow to run the plantation on her own, a struggle that draws in her family, her slaves, and the sprawling cast of characters in her small Virginia town.)
- Kingsolver, Barbara: *Animal Dreams* (A young woman, having returned to her Arizona home town, deals with an aging father, a sister working for a cause in Nicaragua, an ex-boyfriend, and pollution of the town's river.)
- Lessing, Doris: *Ben, In the World* (In this sequel to *The Fifth Child*, the adult Ben Lovatt, a genetic "throwback" to Neanderthal, is on his own in a world of hard-heartedness, crime, and

exploitation. The final section, set in Brazil and then Argentina, is one of this great writer's most dazzling achievements.)

Marshall, Paule: *Brown Girl, Brownstones* (An autobiographical account of a young Barbadian girl who moves with her family to Brooklyn, New York, in the 1930s.)

Matar, Hisham: *In the Country of Men* (A novel set in 1979 Libya in which a nine-year-old boy struggles to make sense of events both familial and political.)

Maxwell, William: *So Long, See You Tomorrow* (A farmer's murder dissolves the friendship between two boys; years later, one revisits his childhood pain to make sense of troubling memories.)

McCullers, Carson: *The Heart is a Lonely Hunter* (The characters of this haunting novel include an enigmatic mute, a disillusioned radical, and a lonely teenage girl; their individual struggles, though set in a small southern town, are universal.)

Merullo, Roland: *Revere Beach Boulevard* (This page-turning story of the mob in Revere, Massachusetts experiments with multiple points-of-view and explores our optimistic yearning for the "mystery of love.")

Mishima, Yukio: *The Sound of Waves* (In an isolated Japanese fishing village, two teenagers from different social classes fall in love and deal with traditional ideas about honor, family, and community. A timeless, beautifully told coming-of-age story.)

Mistry, Rohinton: *A Fine Balance* (Four strangers, a student, a widow, and two tailors, are forced to live together in a small apartment in India. As political pressure and government intervention mounts, the four are forced to choose between their dreams and each other.)

Mitchell, David: *Black Swan Green* (Don't be deterred by the slang of these small-village British teenagers or by the protagonist's stammer; you'll soon get the hang of both in this rich coming-of-age story set in 1982–1983. Despite the foreign background, you'll recognize the bullying, the longing to be accepted, undercurrents of familial tensions, and the thrill of youthful adventures.)

Mosher, Howard Frank: *A Stranger in the Kingdom* (Set in 1950s northern Vermont, this novel may remind you of *To Kill a Mockingbird* in part, but it's also a murder mystery and a chronicle of a family deeply rooted in a place as told by the younger brother whose innocent eyes are opened by the events unfolding around him.)

Okada, John: *No-No Boy* (In post-WWII Seattle, a young Japanese-American man, who was a conscientious objector and imprisoned as a result, struggles with his choice, with his family, and with his dual heritage.)

Orwell, George: *1984* (The classic portrayal of a horrifying future in which the government knows and controls all.)

Pham, Andrew X: *Catfish and Mandala* (A memoir about a young man's bicycle journey through Vietnam, revisiting scenes of his childhood and working through revelations about family in Vietnam and the United States.)

Proulx, Annie: *The Shipping News* (The quirky, funny, and poignant story of how Quoyle regains control of his life by moving his family to a bleak Newfoundland maritime town.)

Rodriguez, Deborah: *Kabul Beauty School: An American Woman Goes Behind the Veil* (Venturing to embattled Afghanistan after the 2001 fall of the Taliban, Michigan hairdresser Deborah Rodriguez draws on her own gifts among a group of humanitarian volunteers to open the Kabul Beauty School. This tale of cultural clash and compassion explores female empowerment in a postwar nation. Though not the most literary read, the experiences the author shares are unforgettable, giving readers unprecedented access to daily Afghan life.)

- Russell, Karen: *Swamplandia!* (A contemporary novel about a family that runs an alligator theme park on their island in Florida's Everglades. When the matriarch dies, the family plunges into chaos. One family member, for instance, leaves to work at a rival theme park on the mainland: the World of Darkness. The young narrator sets out on a mission through the lush and dangerous swamps to save her family and its way of life.)
- Reiken, Frederick: *The Lost Legends of New Jersey* (Set in the early 1980s, this novel depicts life seen through the eyes of a teenage boy who plays hockey, has a crush on the tough girl next door, and faces the unraveling of his family.)
- Salzman, Mark: *Lost in Place: Growing Up Absurd in Suburbia* (The author of *Iron and Silk* recounts his hapless adolescent experiences with Zen Buddhism, karate, the cello, and summer employment, in 1970s Connecticut.)
- Staveley, Brian: *The Emperor's Blades* (In this engaging and imaginative new world, follow the adventures of three royal siblings in the aftermath of their father's murder: a young monk training his body and disciplining his mind, an elite soldier studying how to fight and to kill while passing the most grueling physical ordeals, and their sister grappling with political intrigue from within the capital city's ministries. This novel is the auspicious first book in a trilogy written by a former BB&N teacher and Bivouac Guide!)
- Stegner, Wallace: *Crossing to Safety* (A semi-autobiographical novel tracing the simultaneously strong and strained friendship between two couples who meet in graduate school and then reunite later in life.)
- St. John Mandel, Emily: *Station Eleven* (a flu pandemic wipes out the majority of the world's population and infrastructure. Unlike *The Hunger Games* or *The Giver*, this book focuses on the survival of the generation after The End, while weaving back and forth from pre-pandemic perspectives and highlighting the power of stories and words in how to be in the world.)
- Tan, Amy: *The Joy Luck Club* (The bestseller about the conflicts and affections among four women who were born in China and their California-raised daughters. A moving and imaginative account of the modern Asian woman's search for identity.)
- Tartt, Donna: *The Secret History* (Murder, madness, pagan ceremonies—who said college wasn't fun? In this bestselling literary thriller, a clique of gifted students at an elite New England university come under the sway of their charismatic classics professor to disastrous results.)
- Theroux, Paul: *The Mosquito Coast* (A hilarious and then harrowing portrait of an American inventor who, abominating the decline of his country in the first two decades after World War II, takes his family to the Honduran jungle to begin civilization again. Thoreau's *Walden* in the middle of nowhere, 130 years later.)
- Toibin, Colm: *Brooklyn* (Transplanted by family circumstances from her town in Ireland to Brooklyn, New York, Eilis Lacey copes with homesickness, fellow inhabitants of a boarding house, work and night school, and the decisions romance brings.)
- Tolkien, J.R.R.: *The Lord Of The Rings*, Volume I, II, or III. (The great epic of Middle Earth.)
- Towler, Katherine: *Snow Island* (As she learns about a summer visitor's mysterious past, 16-year-old Alice Dagget comes of age on a secluded island off the coast of Rhode Island during World War II.)
- Trevor, William: *Felicia's Journey* (A psychological thriller: a young Irish woman runs away from home to search for her boyfriend in England where she encounters a gentle middle-aged man who is searching for a new friend to join others in his Memory Lane.)

- Tsukiyama, Gail: *The Samurai's Garden* (Twenty-year-old Chinese student, Stephen, moves to his family's summer home in Japan to recover from tuberculosis. While there, he grows stronger both physically and spiritually as he forges a friendship with the family's gardener, Matsu, and a woman, Sachi, who suffers from leprosy.)
- Unsworth, Barry: *Sacred Hunger* (This carefully researched novel follows the crew of the slave ship *Liverpool Merchant* as they finish construction, recruit sailors, purchase slaves in Africa, and voyage across the Atlantic; meanwhile, the British ship owner's son stays home to woo his beloved and perform a version of *The Tempest*.)
- Vergheese, Abraham: *Cutting for Stone* (After the gripping opening scene in which a devout nun gives birth to twins, this poetic novel goes on to trace the paths of several surgeons practicing in an Ethiopian and then an American hospital.)
- Wharton, Edith: *The Age of Innocence* (A satiric novel about social life in New York in the 1870s that, through the life of a young lawyer, raises questions about expectations and imagination, obedience and unconventionality, marriage and romance.)
- Wolitzer, Meg: *The Interestings* (This novel follows the life trajectories of six teenagers from the summer they bond at an arts camp through middle age, their friendships weathering the effects of varying success, dreams realized or not, and envy.)
- Woolf, Virginia: *Mrs. Dalloway* (A stream-of-consciousness account of a day in the life of Clarissa Dalloway as she walks through post-WWI London, prepares for and hosts a party, and reflects on her life and times. Woolf's story is the basis for Michael Cunningham's novel (and film), *The Hours*.)
- Wright, Richard: *Black Boy* (*Black Boy* is an autobiographical story about Richard Wright's becoming a writer. Raised in the South, he encountered overt racism and abject poverty that could have deterred him from achieving his dreams. This bildungsroman explores how the human spirit can overcome seemingly insurmountable obstacles.)
- Yeziarska, Anzia: *Bread Givers* (A Jewish immigrant girl asserts her independence to get an education and makes choices about assimilation.)

### English 12 Required Books

- Doppelgangers and Distorted Mirrors:** *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* by Robert Louis Stevenson
- Fiction Writing:** *Bird by Bird: Some Instructions on Writing and Life* by Anne Lamott
- Law, Literature, and Social Justice:** *Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption* by Bryan Stevenson
- Moby Dick: A Whale of a Work:** *In the Heart of the Sea* by Nathaniel Philbrick AND "Bartleby the Scrivener" by Herman Melville
- Pilgrim Souls: Journeys of Self-Discovery:** *The Go-Between* by L.P. Hartley
- Redeeming the Past:** *The Glass Castle* by Jeannette Walls
- Shakespeare:** *The Winter's Tale* by William Shakespeare (Pelican edition)
- Sibling Bonds and Rivalries:** *Atonement* by Ian McEwan
- True Stories and the Personal Essay:** *The Glass Castle* by Jeannette Walls
- The Villain:** *No Country for Old Men* by Cormac McCarthy

## HISTORY AND SOCIAL SCIENCES DEPARTMENT

### GRADE 9

**Global History I: Early World Civilizations:** *The Boy in the Striped Pajamas* by John Boyne (ISBN: 978-0385751537)

### GRADE 10

**Global History II: Making an Interconnected World/American and Global History: Case Studies I:** *How Soccer Explains the World: An Unlikely Theory of Globalization* by Franklin Foer (ISBN: 978-0061978050)

### GRADE 11

**United States History/United States in the Modern World II:** *Muslim Girl: A Coming of Age* by Amani Al-Khatahtbeh (ISBN: 978-1501159503)

### GRADE 11 AND 12 ELECTIVES

**Advanced Placement Art History:** *Leonardo and the Last Supper* by Ross King

**Advanced Placement Comparative Government and U.S. Government and Politics:** *1984* by George Orwell.

**Advanced Placement European History:** *Wolf Hall* by Hilary Mantel

**Advanced Placement Human Geography:** *Fast Food Nation: The Dark Side of the American meal Fast Food Nation: The Dark Side of the American meal* by Eric Schlosser

**Advanced Placement Macroeconomics:** *Naked Economics: Undressing the Dismal Science* by Charles Wheelan

**Environmental Studies:** *The Rediscovery of North America* by Barry Lopez

**Honors History Research Seminar:** To be arranged individually with the instructor prior to the summer

**Modern American Culture and Society:** *Ragtime* by E. L Doctorow

**Psychology:** No summer reading

**World Religions and Philosophies: Historical and Contemporary Contexts:** *Sapiens: A Brief History of Humankind* by Yuval Noah Harari

## WORLD LANGUAGES DEPARTMENT

### ARABIC

There is no summer work for students taking Arabic in Grade 9.

#### Arabic II

Every Sunday throughout the summer, students should write five statements (in the present tense) describing their week. Students who have time and wish to have fun with Arabic can think about the conjugation of Kana and how other verbs can be conjugated. Students should refer to the vocabulary lists from last year so that they can review the previously learned words. Note that the entries should not be repetitive and that this assignment should be completed for at least eight weeks.

In addition, students should choose three Arabic songs that they enjoy (preferably songs not listened to in class). The class will compile the list and listen to these songs together when school begins in the fall. Lastly, students should pick one of their three songs and determine where the song is from (*i.e.*, which country of the Arab world), the name of the musician, and the cultural significance of the song.

#### Arabic III

Every Sunday throughout the summer, students should write a journal entry that describes their week and reflects on one interesting thing from their week. Students should refer to the vocabulary lists from the textbook and supplemental materials from last year so that they can review the previously learned words. Journal entries should be at least a half page in length and should not be repetitive. This assignment should be completed for at least eight weeks.

In addition, students should watch the movie, *The Yacoubian Building*, which can be found on YouTube or by clicking [here](#). The movie tackles many topics considered taboo in the Arab culture while examining how people find themselves in certain situations in life. While watching the movie, students must keep a list of all words that are recognized. In addition, students should write down the main issues discussed in the movie and some of similarities and differences with American culture. In the fall, students should be prepared to discuss these similarities and differences, the significance of the movie, the use of the Arabic language (formal vs. colloquial) in the movie, and any cultural implications made by the movie.

#### Arabic IV

Students should write four two-page papers that reflect on the previous two weeks. Entries should not be repetitive and should use learned vocabulary as much as possible.

In addition, students should watch the three movies listed below. Prior to watching each movie, students should research the country below and its film industry. This research will help to better understand the themes, the languages, and the setting of the movie. When returning to school in the fall, students should be prepared to discuss how the issues presented in each movie relate to American culture.

The movies can be found on YouTube or by clicking on the links below.

Egypt: *Hassan wa Morcus*, found [here](#)

West Bank: *Paradise Now*, found [here](#)

## CHINESE

There is no summer work for students taking Chinese in Grade 9.

*Chinese Proverb Stories* by Hongchen Wang and Yinong Yang (ISBN: 9781461106265, Publisher CreateSpace)

**Chinese II:** Students need to purchase the above book and read the first 10 stories.

**Chinese III/III Honors:** Students need to read stories 11 – 20 in the above book.

**Chinese IV and AP Chinese:** Students need to read stories 21 – 30 in the above book.

## FRENCH

There is no summer work for students taking French in Grade 9.

### **French II**

*Un été pas comme les autres* by Huguette Zahler (ISBN: 0877204799, Publisher Amsco)

Students should read Chapters 1 – 10 and complete exercises B for Chapters 1 – 10.

### **French II Honors**

Students should complete the work for French II (above) and complete exercises A and B for Chapters 1 – 10.

### **French III**

Students should read the short story *La Chèvre de Monsieur Seguin* in *Les Lettres de mon Moulin* by Alphonse Daudet (available for download by clicking [here](#)) and listen to a reading of the short story (available by clicking [here](#)). Students should also answer the questions (available for download by clicking [here](#)) using complete sentences.

### **French III Honors**

Students should complete the work for French III (above).

Students should also read the short story *Le Secret de Maître Cornille* in *Les Lettres de mon Moulin* by Alphonse Daudet (available for download by clicking [here](#)). Students should also answer the questions (available for download by clicking [here](#)) using complete sentences.

### **French IV**

Students should read the short story *La Belle et la Bête* by Jeanne-Marie Leprince de Beaumont (available for download by clicking [here](#)) and answer the accompanying questions (available for download by clicking [here](#)).

### **Advanced Placement French Language and Culture**

*L'étranger* by Albert Camus (ISBN: 207030602, Publisher Gallimard)

Students should read part I (only) and take notes. Then, students should listen to the reading of Part I of *L'étranger* on Youtube (available [here](#)).

### **French V: Cinema for French Conversation**

Students should read the story *Monsieur Ibrahim et les fleurs du Coran* by Eric-Emmanuel Schmitt (available for download by clicking [here](#)).

### **French V Honors: Culture and Cuisine in Films and Fiction**

Students should read up to Page 79 in *La Métaphysique des Tubes* by Amélie Nothomb (ISBN: 9782253152842, Le Livre de Poche Publishing)

## LATIN

There is no summer work for students taking Latin in Grade 9.

### **Latin II and II Honors (Grades 10, 11, and 12 only)**

Students should read the mythology page in the Culture Study Guide section of the NLE Project website (found by clicking [here](#)). Then, students should learn the Greek and Roman names for the major divinities and be able to briefly summarize the major mythological stories from this site.

### **Latin III and III Honors**

*Ancient Rome: An Introductory History* by Paul Zoch (Publisher: University of Oklahoma Press; Revised ed. edition (August 15, 2000), ISBN-10: 0806132876)

Students should read Chapters 3 – 16.

### **Latin IV**

*Ancient Rome: An Introductory History* by Paul Zoch (Publisher: University of Oklahoma Press; Revised ed. edition (August 15, 2000), ISBN-10: 0806132876)

Students should read Chapters 3 – 26.

### **AP Latin**

*Aeneid*, translation by Robert Fitzgerald (Publisher: Vintage Classics, ISBN-10: 0679729526)

Students should study Books 1 – 6 and Book 12 then create an outline (to be collected) that includes the major events and characters of Books 1, 2, 4, 6, and 12.

### **Latin V**

Students should read *A Lost Lady* by Willa Cather (any publisher).

## RUSSIAN

There is no summer work for students taking Russian in Grade 9.

### Russian II:

- Complete Warm-Up WB 5:0
- Read four Olympiada texts and answer the questions in English
  - One *Рассказ* / short story (your choice)
  - Three “Culture” texts: Geography, Russian History, and Moscow.

### Russian III:

- Complete Warm-Up WB 10:0
- Read four Olympiada texts and answer the questions in English
  - One *Рассказ* / short story (your choice)
  - Three “Culture” texts: Geography, Russian History, and Moscow.

### Russian IV:

- Complete Warm-Up WB 1:0
- Read four Olympiada texts and answer the questions in English
  - One *Рассказ* / short story (your choice)
  - Three “Culture” texts: Geography, Russian History, and Moscow.

### Russian IV AP:

- Complete the work listed for Russian IV (above)
- Read all four Olympiada *Рассказы* / short stories
- Stage 2 Textbook
  - Memorize the charts on pp. 468, 470, 472
  - Review spelling on p. 479
  - Carefully read pp. 432-436, 485-494
  - Prepare for a test on Unit 14 (first week of school)
  - WB Intro Unit.

## SPANISH

There is no summer work for students taking Spanish in Grade 9.

### **Spanish II**

Students should watch episodes 11 – 17 of *Mi Vida Loca*, an interactive Spanish course developed by the BBC (available [here](#)), take notes on any new vocabulary, and summarize the plot of each episode.

### **Spanish II Honors**

*Las Medias de Los Flamencos* by Horacio Quiroga

Students should read the entire story (available for download by clicking [here](#)).

### **Spanish III (Grades 10, 11, and 12 only)**

All of the information, videos, and assignments for the summer work in Spanish III can be found on Profe. Sánchez Gomez's Haiku page, found by clicking [here](#).

### **Spanish III Honors (Grades 10, 11, and 12 only)**

*El Delantal Blanco* by Sergio Vodanovic

Students should read the entire play (available for download by clicking [here](#)) and be prepared to discuss the questions that follow the play.

### **Spanish IV: Culture and Conversation**

*La Casa en Mango Street*

Students should read the first four chapters (available for download by clicking [here](#)) and prepare answers to the discussion questions found [here](#).

### **Advanced Placement Spanish Language and Culture**

Students should read four short stories by Isabel Allende (available for download by clicking [here](#)).

### **Spanish V: Contemporary Spanish and Latin American Cinema**

Students should learn new vocabulary related to movies (the vocabulary list can be found [here](#)), watch two videos, and answer the comprehension questions found [here](#). The video *Diez Minutos* can be found on YouTube or by clicking [here](#). The video *Casa* can be found on YouTube or by clicking [here](#).

### **Spanish V Honors: Literature, Film, Art, and Multimedia**

Students should read *Bodas de Sangre* by Federico García Lorca (available for download by clicking [here](#)).

**MORE GREAT BOOKS**  
(Recommended by the Upper School Librarians)

**FICTION**

*Another Brooklyn* by Jacqueline Woodson

August and her good friends were young girls together, ready to conquer the world, in the Brooklyn of the 1970s, but there was another Brooklyn waiting for them as they grew older with its own dangers and temptations. We are with August in the beautiful novel as she figures out her path.

*The Buddha in the Attic* by Julie Otsuka

"On the boat we were mostly virgins" is the first line of this beautiful small book that pulls you into the lives of the Japanese picture brides coming to America in the early part of the twentieth century. They mostly married the men who sent the pictures, even though the pictures showed younger, handsomer, men, and even though they were scared and knew little or no English. They mostly survived.

*Every Day* by David Levithan

(2016 - 2017 Book Club Choice)

Every day, A wakes up in a new body, in a new place - inhabiting someone else's life for just one day before waking up the next day in a new body, a new life. A has adapted to this existence until one day, when A happens to fall in love. Levithan offers a unique page-turner and love story that makes for a fantastic summer read.

*The Hate U Give* by Angie Thomas

In this absorbing novel, Starr Carter is a 16 year-old black girl who lives in a poor, urban neighborhood, and goes to a school very like BB&N. Her family is strong, but they cannot always protect her from tragedy. Though inspired by the Black Lives Matter movement, this book is so much more than that. Starr's voice is genuine, you care about her.

*Homegoing* by Yaa Gyasi

This hard-to-put-down book starts in the 1700s at the beginnings of slave trade between the Africans of the Gold Coast and the English. Each character comes alive; each generation encounters and inherits the burdens and complexities of increasing power, tribalism and racism. Phil Klay called this novel "at once epic and intimate."

*If I Was Your Girl* by Meredith Russo

This thoughtful and absorbing novel introduces readers to Amanda, a typical teenager adjusting to life at a new high school. The only difference: Amanda used to be Andrew. Russo, the novel's author (who is also transgender), shines a compassionate light on the challenges that transgender teens face without sacrificing an interesting plot.

*Lexicon* by Max Barry

(2016 - 2017 Book Club Choice)

In this dystopian thriller about the language of persuasion and the ultimate power of magic words, two graduates of a mysterious boarding school fight to prevent an apocalyptic Tower of Babel event that could leave all language meaningless.

*Lucy and Linh* by Alice Pung

Fifteen year old Lucy just received a full scholarship to an elite private school, but how will she juggle fitting in with her new, cliquy peers while remaining true to herself, her family, and her old friend, Linh? Author Alice Pung takes a plot that may sound like just another Young Adult novel and creates an authentic, self-aware, heartfelt story that's well worth the read.

*Middlesex* by Jeffrey Eugenides

*Middlesex* chronicles three generations of the Greek-American Stephanides family as they travel from Greece to Michigan and ultimately to the Castro in 1980s San Francisco. Calliope, nee Cal,

uncovers a family secret intimately tied to his identity and fate. Rife with humor and lyricism, *Middlesex* has become a twentieth-century 'Modern Classic.'

*Ready Player One* by Ernest Cline

Break out your Ray Bans and Member's Only jackets and brush up on your eighties D&D trivia because that's the only thing helping Wade Watts navigate the virtual world known as the OASIS, where he's trapped and fighting for his life in the year 2044. Wade teams up with some rogue pals, discovers new worlds, and ultimately falls in love, in this nail-biting, time-traveling, cyberpunk romp that's perfect for a rainy summer day.

*The Son* by Philipp Meyer

The epic of Texas history told through the story of three generations of the McCullough family. The grandfather's ambition, the son's guilt, and the granddaughter's grit are all part of this sometimes violent and savage, but thoroughly engrossing story of the American West from the 1800s to the twenty-first century.

*The Underground Railroad* by Colson Whitehead

What if the Underground Railroad had been real tracks and tunnels that helped slaves reach freedom? In this ingenious, award-winning novel, Whitehead uses that notion to build a compelling story around Cora, a young slave who embarks on a perilous journey to be free.

## NON-FICTION

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

Critically-acclaimed and award-winning, *Between the World and Me* is a series of essays on the meaning of race in the United States. Coates shares his own experiences as a man whose skin color has affected his own sense of safety in the world. A powerful, important, and persistently necessary read.

*Cast Away: True Stories of Survival from Europe's Refugee Crisis* by Charlotte McDonald-Gibson

McDonald-Gibson presents a vivid portrait of the refugee crisis in Europe by providing the real-life stories of five immigrants and their families who have fled their homes in sub-Saharan Africa and the Middle East in search of safety abroad. Impactful, compelling, and timely.

*Gulp* by Mary Roach

Like all of the tomes from this funniest of serious science writers, *Gulp* is an easy one to digest. As she scopes out the alimentary canal, Roach never shies away from the questions we are all curious about but are afraid to ask. How much can you eat before your stomach bursts? Why doesn't the stomach digest itself? Did constipation kill Elvis? Find out in this exploration of the human body that reveals intimate truths about the human condition.

*Hillbilly Elegy* by JD Vance

Vance delves into his own family history in the mountains of Appalachia to examine the cultural, social and political mores of the poverty-stricken region. In today's divisive climate, Vance offers a timely, engaging and relevant look at a population of people that has been underserved for generations.

*The Opposite of Loneliness* by Marina Keegan

This moving, sometimes funny collection of nine short stories and essays highlights this young BB&N alum's ability to speak both for and to her generation. Whether she's writing about romantic tensions, the vital need for talented college graduates to follow their passions in the work force, an endearing exterminator, or her mother's crusade to understand and guard her from the effects of celiac disease, Marina's prose will capture your attention and your heart.

*The Secret History of Wonder Woman* by Jill Lapore

By exploring the personal and professional biography of the creator of Wonder Woman, Lapore highlights the feminist, free love, social justice, and political roots and impact of one of the most successful and compelling superheroes of all time.

## **BIOGRAPHY AND MEMOIR**

*Girl, Interrupted* by Susanna Kaysen

(2016 - 2017 Book Club Choice)

Susanna Kaysen was 18 years old when she was admitted as a patient to McLean, a psychiatric hospital in Belmont, MA. In this slim, fast-reading memoir, Kaysen shares the details of the two years she spent there, recalling the other residents she grew to know and her own struggles to feel sane and connected in an often mad world.

*The Home That Was Our Country*, by Alia Malek

In this humanistic approach to the complicated political and cultural history of Syria and the Middle East, Malek relates the hopeful story of restoring her grandmother's Damascus apartment--describing the microcosm of Middle Easterners who people the building--while contrasting this with drastic the political shifts that threaten to tear the country apart. For anyone seeking a closer look into Syria's history and future.

*The Misadventures of Awkward Black Girl* by Issa Rae

Find yourself laughing, relating, and nodding your head as you read the entertaining insights and real-life stories of Issa Rae (star of HBO's "Insecure"). Rae delves into her mishaps in dating, friendship, and more with hilarious candidness, and the result is a true pleasure to read.

*There Was and There Was Not: A Journey through Hate and Possibility in Turkey, Armenia, and Beyond* by Meline Toumani

Meline Toumani grew up in a close-knit Armenian family and knew about the Armenian genocide very well, but how do we remember genocide without perpetuating hatred? In this page-turning memoir she talks about moving to Turkey, where she lived for four years, in order to understand and try to answer that question.