



## Upper School Summer Reading 2018 – 2019

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 his or her 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, 617-800-2198)  
History and Social Sciences: Susan Glazer (sglazer@bbns.org, 617-800-2163)  
World Languages: Cécile Roucher-Greenberg (croucher-greenberg@bbns.org, 617-800-2172)  
Arabic: Amani Abu Shakra (aabushakra@bbns.org, 617-800-2225)  
Chinese: Yinong Yang (yyang@bbns.org, 617-800-2297)  
French: Cécile Roucher-Greenberg (croucher-greenberg@bbns.org, 617-800-2172)  
Latin: Walter Young (wyoung@bbns.org, 617-800-2157)  
Russian: Josh Walker (jwalker@bbns.org, 617-800-2290)  
Spanish: Rosario Sánchez Gómez (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, **except where noted** in the descriptions.

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).

Adichie, Chimamanda Ngozi: *Americanah* (This novel follows two young Nigerians, Ifemelu and Obinze, as they endure the trials and tribulations of life in Nigeria and of immigrant life in America and England, respectively. Through their experiences abroad and at home, Ifemelu and Obinze learn about race, love, and themselves.)

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.)

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.) Do not substitute *Pride and Prejudice* for this novel.

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 epistolary 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*.) Do **not** substitute *The Great Gatsby* for this novel.
- 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.)
- Frankel, Laurie: *This Is How It Always Is* (Fresh, well-paced, and full of spunk and compassion, this novel follows a doctor mom, a writer dad, and their five independent sons, the youngest of whom identifies as a girl. Themes of honesty and secrecy, control and release, and science and fairy tales compete with and play off each other in this jambalaya of endearing characters who are as fiercely independent as they are protective and loyal.)
- 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.) No other Orwell work may be substituted for this one.

- 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 Quoye regains control of his life by moving his family to a bleak Newfoundland maritime town.)
- 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*.)
- Uris, Leon: *Trinity* (This historical novel presents the lives of Irish several families and their involvement in major events from the mid-nineteenth-century famine through the 1916 Easter Uprising in Dublin. It is an entertaining way to learn about Ireland's history.)
- Vergheze, 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.) Do not substitute *Summer* for this novel.
- 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 and a few stories (titles to be emailed to you) in *Something Rich and Strange* by Ron Rash

**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:** *A Month in the Country* by J.L. Carr

**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**

*Behind the Beautiful Forevers: Life, Death, and Hope in a Mumbai Undercity* by Katherine Boo (ISBN: 978-0812979329)

## GRADE 11

### **United States History/American and Global History: Case Studies II**

*We Were Eight Years in Power: An American Tragedy* by Ta-Nehisi Coates (ISBN: 978-0399590566)

Students only need to read the following chapters:

- Why Do So Few Blacks Study the Civil War?
- The Case for Reparations
- The Black Family in the Age of Mass Incarceration

Students should consider the following as they read:

- What do these essays tell us about who controls the narrative of history?
- Is there an "American story"?
- What themes are apparent in these essays? What's missing?

## 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:** *All the Shah's Men* by Stephen Kinzer

**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:** *The Given Day* by Dennis LeHane, through Chapter 20.

**Psychology:** No summer reading

## 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: *Kabab wa Irhab*, found [here](#)

Lebanon: *West Beirut*, found [here](#)

*Rana's Wedding*, 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)**

*Pompeii: A Novel* by Robert Harris (Publisher: Random House; ISBN-10: 0812974611)

Students should read the entire book.

### **Latin III**

*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 Honors**

*Cicero: The Life and Times of Rome's Greatest Politician* by Anthony Everitt (Publisher: Random House; ISBN-10: 037575895X)

Students should read the entire book.

## 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](#)) and take notes on any new vocabulary.

### **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 Charles and Elizabeth Almy Library)

LIBRARIAN RECOMMENDATIONS

- All Our Wrong Todays*, by Elan Mastai (fiction): A weird and wacky sci-fi tale about a guy who uses his time machine to try to fix a mistake in his past, and not surprisingly, things go awry.
- Born a Crime*, by Trevor Noah (nonfiction): Noah's memoir about being born in apartheid South Africa and growing up as apartheid was ending, is funny, moving, and enlightening.
- Buried Giant*, by Kazuo Ishiguro (fiction): An intriguing and timeless fable, beautifully told, about love and war and what it means to be able to trust.
- Drown*, by Junot Diaz (fiction): In Diaz's debut, and in my opinion his best work, he describes the plight of a young man immigrating to the United States and takes a sharp look at the dark side of the "American Dream."
- Exit West*, by Mohsin Hamid (fiction): A realistic, lyrical love story set in a fantastical world in which displaced refugees of a civil war are transported to strange lands through magical portals.
- Future Home of the Living God*, by Louise Erdrich (fiction): A laugh-out-loud dystopia, if that's possible, about a future moment in time when evolution begins to reverse itself.
- The Jaguar's Children*, by John Vaillant (fiction): A heart-wrenching page-turner told from the first-person perspective of an undocumented Mexican man attempting to cross the border into the U.S.
- Killers of the Flower Moon: The Osage Murders and the Birth of the FBI*, by David Grann (nonfiction): In this true crime history about one of the FBI's first cases, Grann recounts how wealthy Osage families in Oklahoma were murdered one-by-one after oil was found on their land.
- Meddling Kids*, by Edgar Cantero (fiction): A fun mash-up of the mystery and horror genres, it's the tale of three former high school friends, now in their 20's, who reunite to solve a strange mystery from their teens.
- Men We Reaped*, by Jesmyn Ward (nonfiction): A beautifully written, insightful memoir that reflects on the seemingly unending cycle of poverty and loss in Ward's hometown of DeLisle, Mississippi.
- Orlando*, by Virginia Woolf (fiction): Orlando, unimpeded by the constructs of time or gender, witnesses the unfolding of centuries of English history in Woolf's fanciful, feminist masterpiece.
- Sense and Sensibility*, by Jane Austen (fiction): You know Elinor -- the sensible person who isn't impressed by what's trendy or cool; and you know Marianne -- so easily taken in by the possibility of romance. Though Jane Austen's language takes a little getting used to, the story of these two young women is still relevant. And, Jane's sassiness, expressed within the confines of proper Victorian behavior, is fun to read today.
- The Spy Who Came in From the Cold*, by John le Carre (fiction): This short novel is the timeless story of the loneliness and desperation of those working for their governments undercover. Set in the time of the Berlin Wall, this gripping story is heartbreakingly still very relevant today.
- Station Eleven*, by Emily St. John Mandel (fiction): An impressively imagined story of survival and community following a global epidemic that has all but decimated the world population.

*Swamplandia*, by Karen Russell (fiction): A wacky (yet dark) family drama set in an alligator-wrestling theme park deep in the Everglades.

*Treating People Well: the extraordinary power of civility at work and in life*, by Lea Berman and Jeremy Bernard (nonfiction): This unexpectedly fascinating etiquette guide is written by the social secretaries for George & Laura Bush and Barack & Michelle Obama. How do you have the confidence (especially when you don't feel it) to negotiate seating people who feel very strongly about an issue but are on opposite sides and are seated next to each other at a big White House dinner? And, what really happens at those big dinners? This book is a social skills how-to and White House history combined.

#### LIBRARY INTERN RECOMMENDATIONS

*Anna Karenina*, by Leo Tolstoy (fiction): A Russian classic that will get you questioning the meaning of life itself, reflecting on society, and will ultimately break your heart with its story of each character's search for fulfillment and the role of one Russian countess.

*The Big Short*, by Michael Lewis (nonfiction): Explains the 2008 housing bubble collapse and the events that caused it by following several stock traders who successfully predicted the crash and shorted the housing bonds.

*Catch-22*, by Joseph Heller (fiction): A comical story of WWII and a very fun read.

*Cuckoo's Calling*, by Robert Galbraith (fiction): Even though it's a couple years old, J.K. Rowling's first non-Potter mystery is super engaging.

*Dharma Bums*, by Jack Kerouac (fiction): Follows the transcendental and philosophical journey of a guy living in the height of the Beat movement.

*Glass Castle*, by Jeannette Walls (nonfiction): A memoir about Jeannette's harrowing childhood. Through family moves, stealing, and crazy parents, Jeannette slowly finds her place in her family and in the world.

*Murder on the Orient Express*, by Agatha Christie (fiction): Before it was turned into a movie last year, it was a rollercoaster of a book about one murder on a train that turns its trapped passengers against each other; it seems like the assassin will never be found, but suddenly, all is revealed, leaving you shocked...

*One More Story*, by B.J. Novak (nonfiction): Makes you think about your daily life, the people you meet.

*Reading with Patrick*, by Michelle Cuo (nonfiction): A memoir that follows an unexpected friendship between Michelle, a teacher, and her student, Patrick. Years after Michelle stops teaching him, she discovers that Patrick is in jail, causing her to reach out and re-spark their friendship.

*Tender is the Night*, by F. Scott Fitzgerald (fiction): A great literary masterpiece and very compelling and powerful to read.

*This is Going to Hurt*, by Adam Kay (fiction): Hilarious, and teaches you a lot about the inner workings of a hospital

*Water for Elephants*, by Sarah Gruen (fiction): 93-year old Jacob Jankowski looks back on his time in a traveling circus during the Great Depression, caring for the animals despite unpleasant management.

*The World According to Garp*, by John Irving (fiction): A story where you will fall in love with the characters so much that you will be completely immersed in every predicament the Garp family encounters.

*A Wrinkle in Time*, by Madeleine L'Engle (fiction): Everyone has likely read this book in their life, but with the Disney movie out now, find time to re-read this classic cozy children's novel.