

2010-2011 PRE-REQUISITE READING – ENGLISH III HONORS

DUE FIRST DAY OF ENGLISH CLASS

PART ONE

BUY A BOOK!

READ IT!

BRING IT WITH YOU TO THE FIRST DAY OF CLASS!

You need to purchase a novel (hardback or paper) that has been first published within the past five years. Check the Best Seller lists (fiction) at the libraries, bookstores, Walmart, etc. for the most recent novels. You may check the publication date on the back of the title page at the front of the book. Make sure that the book is not a reprint of a novel that was published much earlier. If you have doubts, then read the information on the back cover, introductory remarks, author information, etc. that you can find with a quick browse through the book. You will not receive credit for the assignment if you fail to meet this requirement, no matter if you thought you were reading a novel first published within the past five years and instead picked up one published earlier. It's your responsibility to find out and make sure.

You should NOT read one of those classics that you might have to STUDY for school. You SHOULD pick up a book that you might (yes, actually might) ENJOY READING. The nationality of the author does not matter.

Of course, since this is school, there are strings attached with this assignment.

1. You must select a book that is at least 250 pages.
2. You must find at least one review in a newspaper, magazine, or online (do a Google search using the book's title along with the word *review*). Libraries (Canton, Waynesville, Maggie Valley) will let you use their computers, if you are polite. Cut out or print this review and bring it to the first class meeting, along with your book. The review must be from an accredited source (Amazon.com Editorial Reviews, *The New York Times*, etc.)
3. Be prepared to say something intelligent about the book that goes beyond just the plot. Think about connections with real people and things that you know and be able to explain how the book connects. To say it does not connect to anything is not acceptable. On the first day of class, you will be asked to construct an argument (not a quarrel) that maintains the book (although fiction) connects with the real world in some way. THINK about the book; don't just read it.
4. Create and bring with you two discussion questions (and answers) that a teacher might ask about the book if it had been assigned in class. A discussion question is one that requires thoughtful insight as an answer - not one word. Discussion questions are just that - discussion.

Obviously, some of you may read the same titles. That's OK, but each of you must have a copy of whatever titles you read.

PART TWO

In addition to reading a novel published within the five years, you should choose one novel from the list below and complete the same assignment (find and print a review, think about how the book relates to “real” life, prepare two discussion questions). You may use local libraries to borrow these titles, if they are available, or you may be able to find these novels in bookstores in the area. Ordering them from sites such as *amazon.com*, *booksense.com*, and other online bookstores is a possibility. Online booksellers usually have a brief description of the novels, so you might browse through them to get an idea of which of the titles you might enjoy. Some of these could be interesting. These titles are comprised of noted Southern writers.

REGIONAL WRITERS SUMMER READING PROJECT

Choose one of the following regional authors and read at least one major work by him/her.

Maya Angelou
Doris Betts
Rick Boyer
Sue Ellen Bridgers
Olive Ann Burns
Kathryn Stripling Byer
Fred Chappell
Pat Conroy
Patricia Cornwell
Donald Davis
Wilma Dykeman
Tony Earley
Clyde Edgerton
John Ehle
Shelby Foote
Charles Frazier
Kaye Gibbons
Ellen Gilchrist
Gail Godwin
Alan Gurganus
Silas House
Doug Marlette (Kudzu)
John McAfee
Jill McCorkle
Tim McLaurin
Robert Morgan
Toni Morrison
T.R. Pearson
Reynolds Price
Ron Rash
Ferrol Sams
Dori Sanders
Anne Rivers Siddens
Deborah Smith

Lee Smith
Nicholas Sparks
Elizabeth Daniels Squires
Max Steele
Anne Tyler
Rebecca Wells
Eudora Welty
Ila Jean Yount

Please Note! Some of these novels may contain adult language and situations. Please preview with reviews and publisher summaries. If the language or situations offend you, stop reading and select another title. No specific title is required for everyone to read.