

Miami Killian Senior High School
Summer Reading Program
2011
Grade 11

In order to improve vocabulary and language skills, maintain reading skills over summer break, develop fluency and independent reading skills, and become life-long readers, a summer reading program has been developed for incoming junior students. Please review the required summer reading texts according to the course you have registered for next year.

REGULAR: (select **ONE** of the following)

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| 1. <u>Fahrenheit 451</u> | Ray Bradbury |
| 2. <u>Breakfast at Tiffany's</u> | Truman Capote |
| 4. <u>On the Road</u> | Jack Kerouac |
| 5. <u>The Test of Time: A Novel Approach to the SAT and ACT</u> | Charles H. Elster |

HONORS: (select **ONE** of the following)

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|---|-------------------|
| 1. <u>The Color Purple</u> | Alice Walker |
| 2. <u>In Our Time</u> | Ernest Hemingway |
| 3. <u>Native Son</u> | Richard Wright |
| 5. <u>The Test of Time: A Novel Approach to the SAT and ACT</u> | Charles H. Elster |

AP: (select **TWO** of the following)

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| 1. <u>The Sun Also Rises</u> | Ernest Hemingway |
| 2. <u>Their Eyes Were Watching God</u> | Zora Neale Hurston |
| 3. <u>The Catcher in the Rye</u> | J.D. Salinger |

Expectations:

Read alertly, critically, and seriously. Annotate your books for characters, plot development, structure, and memorable passages.

Activities/Assignments:

As you read the novel, keep notes of character names, descriptions, plot development, and literary devices.

Assessment:

Upon your return to school, the reading may be assessed through essays, activities, exams, and creative projects the first 2 weeks of school. **The reading(s) must be completed by the first day of school.**

For more information, please refer to our website: *killian.dadeschools.net* or contact the 11th grade team leader: Mrs. Ray at mrsray@dadeschools.net.

Annotated Bibliography

Fahrenheit 451

Guy Montag is a fireman who burns books in a futuristic American city. The people in this society do not read books, enjoy nature, spend time by themselves, think independently, or have meaningful conversations. Instead, they drive very fast, watch excessive amounts of television on wall-size sets, and listen to the radio on “Seashell Radio” sets attached to their ears. As a social criticism on censorship and the banning and burning of books, Ray Bradbury “doesn’t try to describe the future—he tries to prevent it.”

Breakfast at Tiffany’s

A phone call from an old friend prompts a writer to reminisce about Holly Golightly, a unique woman who lived in his building during WWII. Recalling their friendship, the narrator remembers Holly as brutally honest yet she's a liar, a phony but a *real* phony. She's loyal but will stab a friend in the back to have her way. She surrounds herself with friends but keeps everyone at a distance. No one really knows her; who she is or where she came from and her morals are questionable.

On the Road

In the winter of 1947, the reckless and joyous Dean Moriarty, fresh out of another stint in jail and newly married, comes to New York City and meets Sal Paradise, a young writer with an intellectual group of friends. Their friendship begins three years of restless journeys with a combination of bus rides and adventurous hitchhiking escapades. Through all of this constant movement, there is an array of colorful characters, shifting landscapes, dramas, and personal development.

The Color Purple

Told in the form of letter-writing, Celie unfolds her unforgettable story of a woman who, through love, finds the strength to triumph over adversity and discover her unique voice in the world. Having been raped by her so-called father, given away to a man she doesn’t want to marry, and lived a mercilessly difficult life, Celie struggles to find her lost sister, her voice and independence, love, and acceptance in a harsh world.

The Native Son

Twenty-year-old Bigger Thomas, an African American living in poverty in Chicago’s South Side ghetto in the 1930s, always got into trouble as a youth, but upon receiving a job at the home of the Dalton’s, a rich, white family, he experiences a realization of his identity. Bigger has trouble with the law and confronts racism, violence and debasement. The novel is a powerful statement about racial inequality and social injustices so deep it becomes nearly impossible to determine where societal expectations/conditioning end and free will begins.

In Our Time

This collection of short stories about Nick Adams sends him through a rite of passage. He learns as a young child about birth and death. Then his interactions with friends such as Bill and girlfriends such as Marjorie teach him about relationships, but nothing prepares Nick for WWI. That experience, however, brings him back home a more mature, grateful, and masculine man.

The Sun Also Rises

One of Hemingway’s masterpieces, the story follows the flamboyant Brett and the hapless Jake as they journey from the wild nightlife of 1920s Paris to the brutal bullfighting rings of Spain with a motley group of expatriates. It is an age of moral bankruptcy, spiritual dissolution, unrealized love, and vanishing illusions.

Their Eyes Were Watching God

An enduring Southern love story sparkling with wit, beauty, and heartfelt wisdom is told in the captivating voice of a woman who refuses to live in sorrow, bitterness, fear, or foolish romantic dreams, it is the story of fair-skinned, fiercely independent Janie Crawford, and her evolving selfhood through three marriages and a life marked by poverty, trials, and purpose.

The Catcher in the Rye

The typical “cynical adolescent,” Holden narrates the story of his sixteen-year-old life, just after he’s been expelled from prep school, in edgy slang. His constant wry observations about what he encounters, from teachers to phonies capture the essence of the eternal teenage experience of alienation. (This book contains language that may be offensive to some readers.)

The Test of Time: A Novel Approach to the SAT and ACT

You can actually study for the ACT and SAT by reading this time-travel adventure novel. You will encounter words commonly found on both tests, each one highlighted and defined, and you will have learned them in context ensuring your remembrance of each one. Travel along with classic American author Mark Twain on a time-travel adventure to save his manuscript and buff up on your vocabulary doing it!