

## Summer Reading Assignments

Seventh Grade

*Fever 1793*, by Laurie Halse Anderson

You will have an opportunity to discuss and write about your summer reading book during the first week of school. Come prepared with questions and observations about what you have read. We look forward to hearing what you liked and what you didn't like; what you found moving, puzzling, exciting; and what you would like to better understand.

Eighth Grade

*I am Malala*, Malala Yousafzai

You will have an opportunity to discuss and write about your summer reading book during the first week of school. Come prepared with questions and observations about what you have read. We look forward to hearing what you liked and what you didn't like; what you found moving, puzzling, exciting; and what you would like to better understand.

Ninth Grade

Read two books from the recommended reading list and an additional book of your choice - and record your impressions in an academic reading journal. The reading list and assignment details are attached.

Tenth Grade

*The Boys in the Boat*, Daniel James Brown

Tenth Grade, Honors

*The Boys in the Boat*, Daniel James Brown  
*The Narrative of Frederick Douglass*, Frederick Douglass

What makes a book "American" aside from the nationality of its author? Keep this question in mind when reading your summer reading book(s). Choose one theme from *The Boys in the Boat* that is distinctly American, and come to class on the first day of school with a typed or hand-written paper that includes (1) this theme and (2) at least six ideas from the book that support this theme selection.

Students who read *The Narrative of Frederick Douglass* should come to school prepared to write about this book, too.

## Summer Reading Assignments

11/12 Rhetoric and Composition

*Unbroken* (YA adaptation), Lauren Hillenbrand

Lauren Hillenbrand extensively interviewed Louie Zamperini, the subject of *Unbroken*, before writing this biographical piece. Are there parts of the story that could have (or should have) been further explored?

Please write the following questions (typed or hand-written) and bring them to class on the first day of school:

1. What 8-10 questions should the author have asked Mr. Zamperini?
2. What 2-3 questions would you like to ask him now that you've read his life story?

11/12 AP Language and Composition

*I am Malala*, Malala Yousafzai  
*The Narrative of Frederick Douglass*, Frederick

Douglass

Keep a summer reading journal: a full-sized, college-ruled, spiral, composition, or loose-leaf notebook. In it, you will record your impressions of these books and the thoughts and questions that they awaken - five entries for each memoir. Each entry should:

1. be dated and titled (i.e. "thoughts about the rivals in Brunelleschi's Dome").
2. be two paragraphs in length.
3. explore something about the book that has captured your attention. Possible approaches include: writing about a particular passage or chapter that puzzles, moves, or upsets you; considering the significance or motivations of a character; connecting the reading to other books you've read, historical or current events, or your own life experiences. Feel free to write in first person.

You will submit this journal on the first day of classes, and it will count as the first assignment of the year. If you have any questions as you read, please email Mrs. Jacquot at [mjacquot@yeshiva.edu](mailto:mjacquot@yeshiva.edu).

## Ninth Grade Summer Reading Assignment

Read what interests you. Read two books from the recommended reading list on the next page and an additional book of your choice - and record your impressions in an academic reading journal.

Keep an academic reading journal - a journal recording what you read, with an added layer of academic analysis. It doesn't have to be fancy, but it should be durable and comfortable to write in. A composition book, a hardbound diary, or Moleskine-style journal will give you plenty of space in a durable format.

Write an entry for each book you read. Each entry should include:

- A full bibliographic citation. MLA format required. (Author's last name, First name. *Book Title*. City: Publisher, Year Published.)
- A short (2-4 sentences) synopsis of the book, play, or short story.
- Quotations from your reading. Copy any quotations that you would otherwise highlight or underline — anything that touches you or that you think captures some essential point in the text. You don't have to do this as you read; if you prefer to highlight or underline as you go, just copy them down when you're done. Make sure to record the page numbers.
- A personal response to your reading. 200 or so words capturing your impressions of what you've read. What is this book about? What are the most memorable and most important pieces of the story? Is this book true in whole or in part? How does this work connect with other works you've read? What did it make you think, feel, wonder?
- Questions raised by the text. Challenge your reading material! Think of a set of questions the material leaves unanswered, or that undermine the conclusions reached. These questions might eventually form the basis of a project or larger critique.

(Adapted from "Back to School: Keep an Academic Journal." Dustin Wax. [lifehack.org](http://lifehack.org). Accessed 30 January 2018)

You will continue to fill this journal this year and in the coming years of high school, entering a new entry every time you read a book from the recommended reading list. It will be fun (and pretty amazing) to look back on all that you read during high school, and helpful, too, because your record of each piece will aid you in future English classes.

## Plays and Novels

*Watership Down*, Richard Adams  
*Little Women*, Louisa May Alcott  
*Emma*, Jane Austen  
*Mansfield Park*, Jane Austen  
*Dandelion Wine*, Ray Bradbury  
*Sweetness at the Bottom of the Pie*, Bradley  
Harvey, Mary Chase  
*And Then There Were None*, Agatha Christie  
*Murder on the Orient Express*, Agatha Christie  
*The Mousetrap*, Agatha Christie  
*The Murder of Roger Ackroyd*, Agatha Christie  
*The Ox Bow Incident*, Walter Van Tilburg Clark  
*The Red Badge of Courage*, Stephen Crane  
*A Tale of Two Cities*, Charles Dickens  
*The Hound of the Baskervilles*, Conan Doyle  
*The Count of Monte Cristo*, Alexander Dumas  
*Silas Marner*, George Eliot  
*The Autobiography of Miss Jane Pittman*, Gaines  
*The Miracle Worker*, William Gibson  
*The Old Man and the Sea*, Ernest Hemingway  
*The Turn of the Screw*, Henry James  
*The Red Scarf Girl*, Ji Li Jiang  
*Up The Down Staircase*, Bel Kaufman  
*Rifles for Watie*, Harold Keith  
*Arsenic and Old Lace*, Joseph Kesserling  
*A Separate Peace*, John Knowles  
*Call of the Wild*, Jack London  
*The Giver*, Lois Lowry  
*Life of Pi*, Yann Martel  
*The Scarlett Pimpernel*, Baroness Emmuska Orczy  
*The Westing Game*, Ellen Raskin  
*The Winslow Boy*, Terence Rattigan  
*The All True Travels and Adventures of Liddie  
Newton*, Jane Smiley  
*Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*, Stevenson

*The Hobbit*, Tolkien  
*The Fellowship of the Ring*, Tolkien  
*The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*, Mark Twain  
*The Prince and the Pauper*, Mark Twain  
*Homecoming*, Cynthia Voigt  
*Dacey's Song*, Cynthia Voigt  
*A Solitary Blue*, Cynthia Voigt

## Non-Fiction

*Dibs in Search of Self*, Virginia Axline  
*Having Our Say: the Delany Sister's First 100  
Years*, Sarah and Elizabeth Delany  
*The Diary of Anne Frank*, Anne Frank  
*Unbroken*, Young Adult Version, Laura Hillenbrand  
*The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind*, Kamkwamba  
*All But My Life*, Gerda Weisman Klein  
*Warriors Don't Cry*, Melba Patillo  
*The Bamboo Cradle*, Avraham Schwartzbaum  
*Hidden Figures*, Young Adult Version, Shetterly  
*Chasing Lincoln's Killer*, Swanson  
*The Zimmerman Telegram*, Barbara Tuchman  
*Up From Slavery*, Booker T. Washington

## Jewish History

*Carry Me in Your Heart*, Pearl Benisch  
*To Vanquish the Dragon*, Pearl Benisch  
*As Long as I Live*, Aharon Margalit and Ruth Lewis  
*Unbroken Spirit*, Yosef Mendelevich  
*A Tzaddik in Our Times*, Simcha Raz  
*Lieutenant Birnbaum*, Birnbaum and Rosenblum  
*They Called Him Mike*, Yonasan Rosenblum  
*Daughters of Destiny*, Devorah Rubin  
*All for the Boss*, Ruchama Shain  
*And Rachel was his Wife*, Tabak and Sobel  
*To Remain a Jew*, Rabbi Yitzchak Zilber

*"In the case of good books, the point is not to see how many of them  
you can get through, but rather how many can get through to you."*

*Mortimer J. Adler*