

Summer Reading Assignments

Mrs. Mullins, English 11 Honors

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What do I read this summer?

The semester will begin with discussion, writing, and exploration of the themes covered in *The Round House* by Louise Erdrich.

“*The Round House* won the National Book Award for fiction. One of the most revered novelists of our time--a brilliant chronicler of Native-American life--Louise Erdrich returns to the territory of her bestselling, Pulitzer Prize finalist *The Plague of Doves* with *The Round House*, transporting readers to the Ojibwe reservation in North Dakota. It is an exquisitely told story of a boy on the cusp of manhood who seeks justice and understanding in the wake of a terrible crime that upends and forever transforms his family.”

Harper Collins Publishers

Do I need to annotate my book?

Yes! Read and annotate your novel—or take notes on a separate piece of paper as you read. Consider marking the important ideas that come to you while reading, such as:

- Interesting characters
- Quotes you find intriguing
- Possible themes
- Possible conflicts
- Author’s style especially effective use of words (diction, figurative language, imagery, etc.)

What are good ways to annotate?

- Make notes in the margin or on a sticky note to mark important ideas
- Add questions in the margin, things you are asking as you read
- Use checks, stars, asterisks to mark very important items or passages that you want to come back and reread
- Don’t mark up or highlight so much that you can’t distinguish what is most important

Reading Assignment due Tuesday, August 15, 2017 (second day of school):

Bring a copy of your annotated text to school on August 15th along with five 3 x 5 index cards that have been filled out with the following information:

- (1) On one card, write the name of the book, author, your name, and a summary of your favorite part of the novel.
- (2) On the second card, describe the relationship between two characters. Use evidence, directly found or reasonably inferred, from the book to support your description. Be sure to list the page number(s) where the evidence is found. You may choose any two characters you wish.
- (3) On the third card, write what is, in your opinion, the most important word or phrase found in the novel and explain why you chose it. Be sure to write down the page number(s) where the word/phrase is found.
- (4) On the fourth card, write 2-3 sentences describing why *The Round House* should OR should not be made into a movie.
- (5) On the fifth card, write at least one (1) higher level discussion question for the group. The answer to the question should be able to be inferred/synthesized/deduced from specific evidence in the book. Each group member will lead the discussion portion of his/her question.

Kanawha County Schools
Request for Alternative Reading Assignment, English 11 Honors

Dear Parent,

The following reading assignments will be given to your child as part of the requirements for his/her **English 11 Honors** class. Some titles may be added at the instructor's discretion. We will begin the year with the assigned summer reading *The Round House* by Louise Erdrich, and students should bring either a printed or digital copy on the second day of school. If you are unable to purchase one, please contact our counselors for a copy.

- *The Round House*, Louise Erdrich. [L, V, S, A]
- *The Handmaid's Tale*, Margaret Atwood. [L, V, S, A]
- *The Great Gatsby*, F. Scott Fitzgerald. [L, V, S, A]
- *The Jungle*, Upton Sinclair. [L, V, S, A]
- *The Kite Runner*, Khaled Hosseini. [L, V, S, A]
- *A Raisin in the Sun*, Lorraine Hansberry [L, V, S, A]

While we believe this assignment to be of educational benefit and value to your child, portions of the book may be objectionable due to:

Sexual Content Violence
 Adult Situations Profane Language

All books on this list have been deemed appropriate for students at this level of education and maturity. However, the books on this may contain elements of profane language, violence, sexual content, and adult situations (L, V, S, A) in varying degrees. Parents should consult the individual books directly to decide the suitability of each for their own student.

If you wish to request an alternative reading assignment for your child, please complete the bottom portion of this form and **return it to the school principal prior to the beginning of school.**

Sincerely,
Azareen M. Mullins
English 11 Honors Teacher

George Washington High School

May 5, 2017

(Return this portion to the school principal within three (3) school days)

I request that my child be given an alternate reading assignment to replace the following assignment: _____

My request is based on the following: _____

I understand that this request must be returned to the school principal prior to the beginning of school. I also understand that my child is responsible for completing all parts of the alternative assignment.

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

Principal Signature: _____ Date: _____