

2019 Summer Reading assignment for students entering grade 10

Directions: Choose a series of sources around the topic of Social Justice/Social Issues to gain awareness about various factors that comprise identity in contemporary America. Your selection of sources must add up to 12 total points. Then, complete the following assignment. Summer reading will count as a first-quarter grade in your English class.

| 11 pts (Full-length texts) | 4 pts (podcasts and short story) | 3 pts (short articles/Ted Talks) | 1 pt (short videos, short articles, cartoons, and poems) |
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| <p><u>On the Come Up</u> by Angie Thomas</p> <p><i>The second novel by The Hate U Give author is about Bri, an up and coming rapper, whose song goes popular and has to deal with issues at home and at school.</i></p> | <p>"A Jury of Her Peers" (Short Story)</p> | <p>Janet Mock's speech from the Women's March (Text and video)</p> | <p><u>"Students overturn Headwrap ban"</u> (Malden Blue and Gold)</p> |
| <p><u>Eleanor and Park</u> by Rainbow Rowell (A Novel)</p> <p><i>Eleanor... Red hair, wrong clothes. Standing behind him until he turns his head. Lying beside him until he wakes up. Making everyone else seem drabber and flatter and never good enough...Eleanor.</i></p> <p><i>Park... He knows she'll love a song before he plays it for her. He laughs at her jokes before she ever gets to the punch line. There's a place on his chest, just below his throat, that makes her want to keep promises...Park.</i></p> <p><i>Set over the course of one school year, this is the story of two star-crossed sixteen-year-olds—smart enough to know that first love almost never lasts, but brave and desperate enough to try.</i></p> | <p><u>This American Life: "No Fair"</u> (Podcast)</p> | <p>"If I Should Have a Daughter" by Sarah Kay (TED Talk)</p> | <p>1. "Totally, Like, Whatever, You Know?" by Taylor Mali and 2. "Like Totally Whatever" by Melissa Lozada-Oliva (Spoken-Word Video Pairing, in order for viewing)</p> |

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| <p><u>Luna: A Novel</u> by Julie Anne Peters</p> <p><i>In Peters's critically acclaimed novel, she explores another neglected but \ important issue: the inspirational story of a transgender teen. Luna confronts the mystery, the confusion and the struggles of gender identity in this profound, heartbreaking, yet ultimately heartening story. Through the eyes of his sixteen-year-old sister Regan, struggling with her own adolescence, we witness Liam resolve to stop hiding in his basement bedroom, and become Luna to the outside world. This groundbreaking novel paves the way towards understanding the demands put upon a transgender individual and challenges us all to embrace our identities.</i></p> | <p>The Problem We All Live With: Part One (Podcast)</p> | <p>“The Renaissance of Student Activism” (Article)</p> | <p>“Why Do People Follow a Crowd” (Article)</p> |
| <p><u>I Am Alphonso Jones</u> by Tony Medina (Graphic Novel)</p> <p><i>Alfonso Jones can't wait to play the role of Hamlet in his school's hip-hop rendition of the classic Shakespearean play. He also wants to let his best friend, Danetta, know how he really feels about her. But as he is buying his first suit, an off-duty police officer mistakes a clothes hanger for a gun, and he shoots Alfonso. When Alfonso wakes up in the afterlife, he's on a ghost train guided by well-known victims of police shootings, who teach him what he needs to know about this subterranean spiritual world. Meanwhile, Alfonso's family and friends struggle with their grief and seek justice for Alfonso in the streets. As they confront their new realities, both Alfonso and those he loves realize the work that lies ahead in the fight for justice.</i></p> | <p>The Problem We All Live With: Part Two (Podcast)</p> | <p>“Poetry Brings Happiness to Troubled Teens” (Video)</p> | <p>“The Woman Who Created #MeToo Long Before Hashtags” (Article)</p> |
| <p><u>Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe</u> by Benjamin Alire Saenz (A Novel)</p> <p><i>Aristotle is an angry teen with a brother in prison. Dante is a know-it-all who has an unusual way of looking at the world. When the two meet at the swimming pool, they seem to have nothing in common. But as the loners start spending time together, they discover that they share a special</i></p> | <p>“Who’s Irish?” by Gish Jen (Short Story)</p> | <p>“Privileged” - Kyle Korver (an article)</p> | <p>"Owed to Pedagogy" by Joshua Bennett (A Poem)</p> |

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| <p><i>friendship—the kind that changes lives and lasts a lifetime. And it is through this friendship that Ari and Dante will learn the most important truths about themselves and the kind of people they want to be.</i></p> | | | |
| <p><u>I Was Their American Dream</u> by Malaka Gharib (Graphic Memoir) <i>The daughter of parents with unfulfilled dreams themselves, Malaka navigates her childhood chasing her parents' ideals, learning to code-switch between her family's Filipino and Egyptian customs, adapting to white culture to fit in, crushing on skater boys, and trying to understand the tension between holding onto cultural values and trying to be an all-American kid.</i></p> | <p>Stuff You Missed in History Class: 6,888 Central Postal Directory Battalion (Podcast)</p> | <p><u>“Excavating My Childhood photos - and myself”</u> (New York Times)</p> | <p>“A Powerful Poem about What it Feels Like to Be Transgender” by Lee Mokobe (Spoken Word Video)</p> |
| <p>Hillbilly Elegy: A Memoir of a Family and Culture in Crisis by J.D. Vance <i>From a former marine and Yale Law School graduate, a powerful account of growing up in a poor Rust Belt town that offers a broader, probing look at the struggles of America’s white working class</i></p> <p><i>Hillbilly Elegy is a passionate and personal analysis of a culture in crisis—that of white working-class Americans. The decline of this group, a demographic of our country that has been slowly disintegrating over forty years, has been reported on with growing frequency and alarm, but has never before been written about as searingly from the inside. J. D. Vance tells the true story of what a social, regional, and class decline feels like when you were born with it hung around your neck.</i></p> | <p>“Between the World and Me” by Ta-Nehisi Coates (Excerpt from the Book)</p> | | |

II. Assignment.

After you finish reading the sources, you are asked to complete a response to the essential questions listed below. Your response should give **evidence** from the sources to support your reasons – essentially, quotations or examples from the different texts. The response should address the following:

- Why did you choose these sources?
- What did you take away or learn?
- How did ideas present in these sources connect?
- What have the readings led you to be interested in?
- If able, what additional readings, articles, videos, film, novels, podcasts, etc. did you engage with this summer on this topic?

The response can be presented in the form of your choosing (*You only need to complete ONE*):

- A brief video (2-3 minutes)
- Google Slideshow (4-6 slides)
- A podcast or audio recording (2-3 minutes)
- Create a mock social media page (Facebook, Instagram) where the authors interact with each other
- A poster
- Written response for a newspaper (10-15 sentences)
- A letter to the authors (10-15 sentences)
- Your own creative response