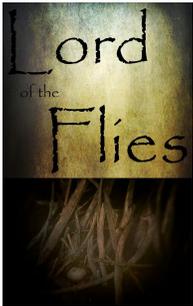


# Freshman English Summer Reading List 2020

Welcome to Freshman English! Each book below connects with a unit from *MyPerspectives*, the ninth-grade English textbook. Please **select one** of the three titles below, and prepare to take the **summer reading assessment in September** by annotating as you read. To help you make a choice, there are many websites that can give you insight into the contents of these books, including synopses at [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com) and ratings for elements at [www.commonsemmedia.org](http://www.commonsemmedia.org).

## DISTRICT MISSION/PHILOSOPHY/GOALS FOR SUMMER READING

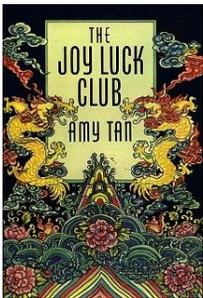
- Encourage a love of reading
- Engage students in reading and responding to high-quality literature (written assessments)
- Foster critical reading skills
- Expand vocabulary



### ***Lord of the Flies* by William Golding**

After a group of students is marooned on an island, what initially looked like paradise without adult supervision soon turns into a harrowing experience in this brutal portrait of human nature.

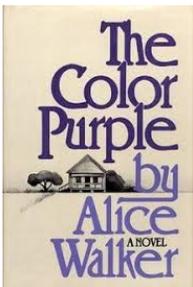
***Lord of the Flies* offers a unique perspective into the Essential Question:** *What does it take to survive?* by connecting students with the timeless theme of society versus the individual, and the savagery possible in human nature when faced with survival situations.



### ***The Joy Luck Club* by Amy Tan**

Four families of Chinese immigrants in San Francisco learn to leave in American and come to terms with their past.

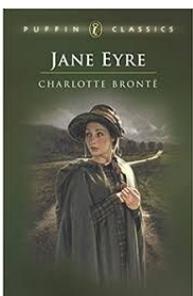
**Their experiences reveal multiple answers to the Essential Question:** What does it mean to be an American?



### ***The Color Purple* by Alice Walker**

*The Color Purple* follows the lives of two African-American sisters growing up in the 1930s, showing how they resist sexism and racism.

**The characters are dynamic, and their conversations change each other both for better and worse -- offering insight into the Essential Question:** *How can words inspire change?*



### ***Jane Eyre* by Charlotte Bronte**

The witty, individualistic protagonist of this proto-feminist novel grows up in painful circumstances. Still, she finds her way to happiness and family.

**Her choices, most famously her answers to two marriage proposals, are pivotal -- providing insight into the Essential Question:** *Do we determine our own destinies?*