

Freshman Honors English Summer Reading List 2020

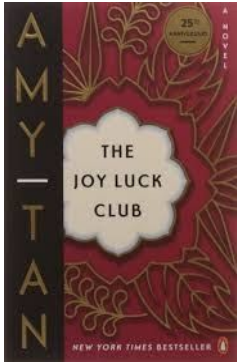
Welcome to Freshman Honors English!

Each book below connects with a unit from *myPerspectives*, the ninth-grade English textbook. Please **select three** of the four 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 synopsis at www.amazon.com and ratings for elements at 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

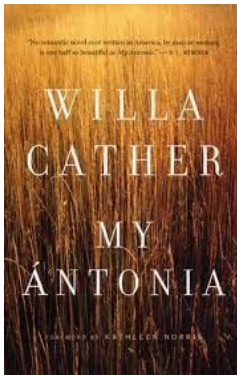


The Joy Luck Club by Amy Tan

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

Connects with Unit 1: American Voices

A classic presentation of how immigrants become “American,” this novel shows the challenges and triumphs of four women and their daughters as they navigate life in San Francisco. Their experiences reveal multiple answers to the Essential Question: *What does it mean to be an American?*



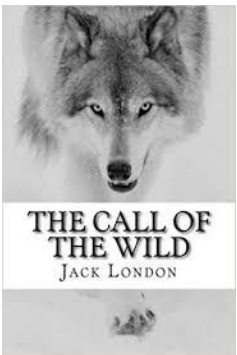
My Antonia by Willa Cather

Jim Burden is an orphan and Antonia Shimerda is an immigrant. They meet as pioneers in rural Nebraska, making a bond that helps both of them manage their new lives.

Connects with Unit 1: American Voices

The pioneer experience is a classic feature of American literature. Jim and Antonia face the demands of the landscape and the problems it brings. Both these young characters join their families in a new environment and their lives help provide a 19th century response to the Essential Question:

What does it mean to be an American?

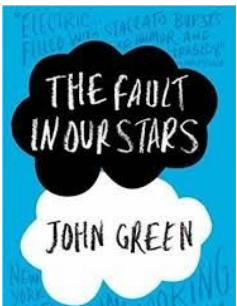


The Call of the Wild by Jack London

When a pet dog is sold into service pulling a sled during the Yukon gold rush of the 1890s, he sheds his domesticated tendencies and must rely on his instincts to survive.

Connects with Unit 2: Survival

What if surviving means shedding all vestiges of civilization and returning to the unrestrained but savage call of the wild? *The Call of the Wild* provides an interesting perspective on the Essential Question: *What does it take to survive?*



The Fault in Our Stars by John Green

A romance between two high school-aged cancer patients is at the center of this bestseller.

Connects with Unit 4: Star-Crossed Romances

The protagonists' health is outside their control, yet they find great meaning and adventure despite the constraints they face. While they cannot change their chances of survival, the book reveals an optimistic approach to the Essential Question: *Do we determine our own destinies?*