

REQUIREMENTS AND GUIDELINES FOR SUMMER READING 2011

WAKEFIELD HIGH SCHOOL'S ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL STUDENTS:

- ALL students are required to read two titles from the entire list. Students taking AP or Honors classes must choose books that are marked with an asterisk (*).
- ALL students (except for AP students who will receive a more in-depth literary terms assignment at the June meeting) are required to complete the "Literary Elements and Techniques" worksheet for one of these choice books.
- CP and Honors students will receive the second choice book assignment at the beginning of the school year (unless the Honors teacher gave this assignment at the June meeting). Students' English teachers will give them the due date for this assignment at that time.

MAKING YOUR SELECTIONS:

- The books marked with an asterisk (*) are for more mature readers. These books are more challenging to comprehend, and they might also involve mature topics such as sex, violence, drugs, and/or alcohol. Please ask Leane Ellis at the Beebe Library if you have questions about a book's content. She is more than happy to help students and their parents in their process of selecting summer reading books. Some book descriptions also mention that the books contain "explicit sexual content" so that students and their parents can avoid choosing such books if they are not comfortable with them.
- Keep in mind that students will want to complete the required literary terms assignment for a work of *fiction*. They will probably have difficulty completing this assignment based on a work of nonfiction, a book of poetry, or a graphic novel. If students choose one of these books, they should use it for the second assignment that their English teacher will give them at the beginning of the school year.

DUE DATES:

- It is important to note that the "Literary Elements and Techniques" worksheet is due on the first day of the school year (**September 6, 2011**).
- Students who do not have this assignment on day one of the school year will receive a zero and will not have the opportunity to make it up at a later time.
- Excuses such as "I left it at home" or "My computer crashed" are not acceptable and will result in a zero on the assignment. Knowing this, students should regularly save their work in at least two places so that they have a backup in the event of computer troubles. Waiting until the last minute to complete the assignment is discouraged. With advanced planning, students will be able to complete the assignment for the first day of school no matter what problems they might encounter. No handwritten work will be accepted.

WHERE TO FIND SUMMER READING MATERIALS:

- The summer reading lists and assignments are available online on the English Department's web page. Go to www.wakefield.k12.ma.us → Wakefield High → Departments → English → Summer Reading.

INFORMATION ABOUT HONORS AND ADVANCED PLACEMENT ENGLISH:

- Students taking AP or Honors English are required to attend meetings in June when they will receive their additional summer assignments. These may be reading, writing, or grammar assignments (or some combination thereof). Honors students will receive at least one assignment in addition to the two choice book assignments, and AP students will have more than one additional assignment.
- If students change from CP to AP or Honors English during the summer, they are responsible for completing the additional assignment(s). These are posted on the English department's web page.
- If students decide to make a change from CP to AP or Honors English in the fall, after the school year begins, they will have six weeks from the date of the change to complete all of the additional summer reading work that was assigned to the AP or Honors students. Please note that this will be difficult to do while taking other, regular classes. For this reason, it is very important that students make a good decision *early on* about which level is most appropriate for them. We discourage making changes late in the summer or in the beginning of the school year.
- If students drop from AP or Honors English to a CP level during the summer, they are still responsible for reading two choice books and for coming to class on day one of the school year with the "Literary Elements and Techniques" worksheet. If students drop from AP or Honors English to a CP level after the school year begins, they will also need to complete the second choice book assignment that their CP teacher gave to the rest of the class.

INFORMATION FOR TRANSFER STUDENTS:

- Transfer students that register at WHS by July 31st are still required to read the two choice books and to complete the "Literary Elements and Techniques" worksheet by the first day of the school year. If students register between August 1st and August 15th, they are responsible for reading one choice book and completing the "Literary Elements and Techniques" worksheet based on that one book by the first day of the school year. Students who transfer after August 15th are exempt from summer reading (except students taking Honors or AP: see below).
- If transfer students sign up for Honors or AP English, they are responsible for completing the additional assignment(s) regardless of when they register since these assignments are part of the course's curriculum. If they register before August 15th, they will be expected to have these additional assignments completed by the first day of the school year. If, however, a transfer student registers after August 15th and signs up for Honors or AP English, he or she will have four weeks from the date of registration to complete this work. In this case, the student is exempt from the two choice books but not from the additional Honors or AP assignments.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

- If there are extenuating circumstances that prevent students from completing their summer reading, students or their parents must contact Meg Fishman (the English Department Coordinator) at fishman@wakefield.k12.ma.us before the school year begins to discuss the problem. Otherwise, English teachers will expect these students to have their summer reading completed by day one of the school year without exception.