

George C. Marshall High School
Summer Assignment 2019: English 9 Honors

Congratulations on your decision to become part of this rigorous course, which will help prepare you for the IB English program offered at George C. Marshall High School. As a survey course, the English 9 Honors curriculum is eclectic in nature; students experience a broad variety of literature genres, they write expository, persuasive, and creative works, and they share knowledge through class discussions, seminars, and presentations. Though this is an academically rigorous program, we never stray far from the belief that learning should be fun. With this in mind, the summer reading assignment is intended to be enjoyable, as well as give us an academic starting point in the fall.

In preparation for our work together, we would like you to complete the following assignment this summer:

Reading

- Choose a nonfiction text to read (a parent/guardian should approve of the choice). Please **do not** read *Night* by Elie Wiesel as we will study this text together during the school year.
- Choose your book carefully! If you start reading the book you selected and you discover it does not appeal to you, please select a different book. This text will serve as the basis for a year-long research project that will involve reading additional books, database articles, and conducting a field study, and all your research will culminate in an oral presentation about your topic in the spring. You need to be passionate about your book and your topic!
- Set aside enough time to complete your reading. We suggest starting the book no later than July 8.

Annotations

- Provide annotations, either by writing in the book (if you purchase a copy), using post-it notes, or keeping notes on a separate sheet of paper. Note lines that you find surprising, intriguing, unusual, informative, unexpected, or thought-provoking. Your goal is to find ideas in this book that you find personally meaningful and that you could investigate further.

Reflection

- Write a 150-200 word reflection about your reading experience. This may be handwritten or typed. Consider using the questions below to help structure your reflection:
 - Did you know anything about topic before you started reading?
 - Did this book measure up to your expectations?
 - What will you remember most about this book?
 - What was interesting, surprising, moving, or unsettling about this book?
 - Has reading this book changed the way you look at something in the world?
 - Did this book challenge you in any way? Or did this book confirm something you already thought? Explain.
 - After reading this book, what do you want to learn more about?

Please bring your Summer Reading Assignment (annotations and reflection) to our second (2nd) class meeting. You **do not** need to bring the copy of the book unless your annotations are in it. This assignment is the basis for other assignments that will follow shortly after the year begins; therefore, completion of this assignment will benefit you on subsequent assignments.

Here are some of our suggestions: [nonfiction book titles](#)

Questions about this assignment? Contact Mrs. Kelsey Rahusen at [krebreslin@fcps.edu](mailto:krbreslin@fcps.edu)