



## Upper School Summer Reading Guide 2018-2019

Dear Students,

Welcome to the Upper School Summer Reading Guide for 2018. Here, you will find a list of the **required and choice books for all English courses, AP World History, AP U.S. History, and AP Spanish**, plus Amazon links so you can find out more about them, read reviews, make informed choices based on your interests and worldview, and, if you would like, order them right away. You will also find instructions and expectations for the activities/projects we would like you to complete for the beginning of next school year.

**Please acquire your summer reading choices on your own**, from wherever you like, at whatever price point you like (new or used, purchased or borrowed from a friend or the public library), in whatever medium you like (traditional paperback, online, iBook, Kindle, or CD). Unless a particular edition or translation is indicated, any copy will suffice. The Amazon links are just for your reference.

**Please read the instructions for each class carefully.** In general, for your English class, you will choose two books to read and have a written requirement. Other classes may have other requirements.

Initiated by the English Department in 1975, required summer reading has long been a tradition at The Prairie School. The department believes that reading and learning should end neither in June nor with the curriculum, and strongly encourages students to take advantage of the time to read literature of their choosing — even above and beyond what we ask them to read for school. No matter the grade, required and independent reading helps students practice and improve their reading, writing, and critical thinking skills.

Your teachers are thankful to have the opportunity to share in reading experiences with you even during the summer, and we hope that you are thankful, as well, for the right and opportunity that you have to read, to write, and to think.

Have a wonderful summer of reading!

Sincerely,

Susan Holum, Chair, Grades K-6  
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Erin Housiaux, Chair, Grades 7-12  
[ehousiaux@prairieschool.com](mailto:ehousiaux@prairieschool.com)

**New Students: You will receive your Prairie ID, email address, and Google Classroom information during Summer Bridge (Wednesday, August 15th and Thursday, August 16th). If you have questions or wish to submit your summer assignment(s) before that date, please contact the appropriate teacher via email.**

# English 9

*“Nurture your mind with great thoughts; to believe in the heroic makes heroes.”*

-- Benjamin Disraeli

**Please read the following non-fiction book:**

- [This I Believe II: More Personal Philosophies of Remarkable Men & Women](#) (2009) (Jay Allison, Dan Gediman, editors)

\*This is the second in the series, *not* the first one published in 2007.

**In addition, please choose ONE MORE book to read (preferably one that you haven't read before):**

- [Briar Rose](#) (Jane Yolen)
- [The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-time Indian](#) (Sherman Alexie)
- [Big Fish: A Novel of Mythical Proportions](#) (Daniel Wallace)
- [Anansi Boys](#) (Neil Gaiman)
- [The Art of Racing in the Rain](#) (Garth Stein)
- [The Life of Pi](#) (Yann Martel)
- [Whale Rider](#) (Witi Ihimaera)
- [Blood Red Road](#) (Dustlands, Book 1) (Moirá Young)
- [Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe](#) (Benjamin Alire Sáenz)
- [The Wrath and the Dawn \(The Wrath and the Dawn, Book 1\)](#) (Renee Ahdieh)

**Requirements:**

- For This I Believe, you will write your own This I Believe essay. When school begins, you will be using the personal narrative essay you write as a first draft toward a revised, polished version. [Click here](#) for further instructions about your This I Believe essay.
- In addition, you will write a paragraph that answers the following question: **If the main character of your choice book had to write a This I Believe essay, what would they write about? What do they believe in?**
  - Make sure that your paragraph has a topic sentence, supporting details, examples from the text to support your thinking, and a concluding sentence.
  - Your writing will be submitted on Google Classroom -- join using the code “**twxdra**”
- Bring your assignment with you on the first day of school (Tuesday, August 28th).

**Questions? Email [Ms. Clare Costello](#), US English Teacher.**

# English 10

*“The single story creates stereotypes, and the problem with stereotypes is not that they are untrue, but that they are incomplete. They make one story become the only story.”*

--Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie

Please read the following play: [Master Harold...And the Boys](#) (Athol Fugard)

In addition, please choose ONE MORE book to read:

- [The Drowned Cities](#) (Paolo Bacigalupi)
- [The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind: Creating Currents of Electricity and Hope](#) (William Kamkwamba) (nonfiction)
- [I am Malala: The Girl Who Stood Up for Education and Was Shot by the Taliban](#) (Malala Yousafzai and Christina Lamb) (nonfiction)
- [Purple Hibiscus: A Novel](#) (Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie)

**Requirements:**

Your writing assignment about your books is due Monday, August 20th (the day before we leave for Camp Manito-Wish) and can be found [here](#), along with directions for submission. I will also email it to you.

Questions? Email [Dr. Rebecca Wheeler](#), US English Teacher.

# English II

*“I celebrate myself, and sing myself,  
And what I assume you shall assume,  
For every atom belonging to me as good  
belongs to you.”*

-- Walt Whitman

Please choose ONE FICTION and ONE NONFICTION book to read:

**Fiction choices:**

- [The Lone Ranger & Tonto Fistfight in Heaven](#) (Sherman Alexie) (short stories)
- [To Kill A Mockingbird](#) (Harper Lee)
- [The Catcher in the Rye](#) (J.D. Salinger)
- [Kindred](#) (Octavia Butler)

**Nonfiction choices:**

- [Indian Creek Chronicles: A Winter Alone in the Wilderness](#) (Pete Fromm)
- [A Walk in the Woods: Rediscovering America on the Appalachian Trail](#) (Bill Bryson)
- [Enrique's Journey](#) (Sonia Nazario)
- [What is the What](#) (Dave Eggers)
- [The Color of Water: A Black Man's Tribute to His White Mother](#) (James McBride)
- [The American Way of Eating: Undercover at Walmart, Applebee's, Farm Fields and the Dinner Table](#) (Tracie McMillan)

**Requirements:**

Your assignment is due before Tuesday, August 21st and can be found [here](#), along with submission directions.

Questions? Email [Ms. Liza Davis](#), US English Teacher.

# English 12: Creative Writing

*“Almost all good writing begins with terrible first efforts. You need to start somewhere. Start by getting something — anything — down on paper. A friend of mine says that the first draft is the down draft — you just get it down. The second draft is the up draft — you fix it up.”*

--Anne Lamott

**Please read both of the following:**

[\*Me Talk Pretty One Day\*](#) (David Sedaris)

[\*Bird by Bird\*](#) (Anne Lamott)

**Requirements:**

Please read both texts and come to class the first day of school with the following written items:

- Choose three of your favorite passages from *Me Talk Pretty* and in three paragraphs, explain what resonated with you. Why did these passages draw you in? What writing techniques did Sedaris use to capture your attention. Did this remind you of any personal experiences?
- Pick the piece of advice in *Bird by Bird* that struck you. In a well-written page, explain why you think this advice is important. How have you used or will you use this advice? What metaphors were used and what makes this advice accessible?

Questions? Email Mr. [Scott Huggins](#), US English Teacher.

# English 12: Literary Labyrinths

*“We all live in a kind of continuous dream,’ I told him. ‘When we wake, it is because something, some event, some pinprick even, disturbs the edges of what we’ve taken as reality.’”*

--Jeff Vandermeer

**Choose ONE of the following to read and write about:**

- [\*Whiskey, Tango, Foxtrot\*](#) (David Shafer) (*NOT the one that got made into the film!*)
- [\*Fight Club\*](#) (Chuck Palahniuk) (*Read the book; watch the film afterwards if you like.*)
- [\*Get in Trouble: Stories\*](#) (Kelly Link)
- [\*The Lathe of Heaven\*](#) (Ursula LeGuin)
- [\*Lagoon\*](#) (Nnedi Okorafor)

**Requirements:**

Your writing assignment about your books is due Monday, August 20th (the day before we leave for Camp Manito-Wish) and can be found [here](#), along with directions for submission.

Questions? Email [Dr. Rebecca Wheeler](#), US English Teacher.

# AP English 12

*"He who controls the past controls the future. He who controls the present controls the past."*

-- George Orwell

**Everyone should read the required book and one choice book:**

- [Crime and Punishment](#) (Fyodor Dostoyevsky -- Vintage Classics edition: ISBN 978-0099981909)
  - The edition listed above is the best translation and is worth seeking out.
- Choice Book for AP Portfolio (see instructions in Google Classroom)

**Requirements:**

Instructions, activities, and due dates are available via Google Classroom.

Questions? Email [Ms. Liza Davis](#), US English Teacher.

# AP Spanish

*"There is no book so bad that it does not have something bueno in it."*

*(No hay libro tan malo que no tenga algo bueno)*

-- Miguel de Cervantes

**Requirements:**

[Click here](#) for instructions for reading, writing, and speaking components, as well as submission instructions. All assignments are due electronically by Monday, August 20th at 10:00AM.

Questions? Email [Ms. Hannah Lane](#), US Spanish Teacher.

# AP U.S. History

*"History is a set of lies agreed upon."*

-- Napoleon Bonaparte

**Everyone should read the following book:**

- [Lies My Teacher Told Me](#) (Dr. James Loewen)

**Requirements:**

See [special instructions](#) from Dr. French about the expectations for this reading. Student assignments are due by Tuesday, August 28th (the first day of school) via Google Drive.

**Questions? Email [Dr. John French](#), US Social Studies Teacher.**

# AP World History

*"To pull away from its rivals on a global scale, a society must pull into itself and motivate the world's best and brightest, regardless of ethnicity, religion, or background. This is what every hyperpower in history has done, from Archaemenid Persia to the Great Mongol Empire to the British Empire, and the way they have done it is through tolerance."*

-- Amy Chua

**Required Materials:**

- [Day of Empire: How Hyperpowers Rise to Global Dominance and Why They Fall](#) (Amy Chua)  
Read Introduction, Chapters 1-4 and Chapter 12.
- [Composition Notebook](#) (Black and White Marbled, Hardcover)
  - Composition notebook is preferred — easier to collect, pages stay intact, hard cover protects it from the elements

**Reading Assignment:**

- Students are to read and take notes in a composition notebook on the Introduction, Chapters 1-4 and 12 in *Day of Empire*.
- Guiding Question (Introduction - Chapter 4): What elements are present in HYPERPOWERS and what led to their decline?
- Guiding Question (Chapter 12): What are the current threats and challenges to the American Empire?
- Specific examples (plural) from each empire must be identified.

**Webquest Assignment:**

Students are to complete the Summer Work Assignment on [www.freeman-pedia.com](http://www.freeman-pedia.com). Once on the site, navigate to AP WORLD HISTORY then on AP WORLD SUMMER ASSIGNMENT. All work must be completed in a composition notebook, which will be collected on the first day of school.

**Questions? Email [Ms. Sarah Berkey](#), US Social Studies Teacher.**

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