

English One
Recommended Summer Reading List
Ms. Vanden Bosch

"Reading is to the Mind,
what Exercise is to the Body...."
--Sir Richard Steele--

Choose a book that is right for you! These books are recommendations; not all books are appropriate for all readers. Since some are for the more mature reader, research the books and consult your parents when making your choice for summer reading.

These books have been chosen from the following lists:

Reading Lists for College-Bound Students, Outstanding Books for the College Bound, American Library Association (ALA), Outstanding Books for the College Bound, and The California Department of Education Recommended Literature for Grades 9-12

1. Adams, **Watership Down**

The story follows a warren of rabbits fleeing the destruction of their home by a land developer.

2. Alvarez, **How the Garcia Girls Got Their Accents**

The Garcias: Papi, Mami, and their four daughters, belong to the uppermost echelon of Spanish Caribbean society. This is the chronicle of that family in exile.

3. Angelou, **I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings**

In this first of five volumes of autobiography, poet Maya Angelou recounts a youth filled with disappointment, frustration, tragedy, and finally hard-won independence.

4. Borland, **When the Legends Die**

Here is an extraordinary novel about man, nature, and courage. Native American.

5. Bradbury, **Fahrenheit 451**

Montag, a fireman in charge of burning the forbidden volumes, finds himself a hunted fugitive who is forced to choose between personal safety and intellectual freedom.

6. Bradbury, **The Martian Chronicles**

. Written in the 1940s, the chronicles drip with nostalgic atmosphere--shady porches with tinkling pitchers of lemonade, grandfather clocks, chintz-covered sofas.

7. Dickens, **A Tale of Two Cities**

Dickens' novel of the French Revolution.

8. Doyle, **The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes**

Here are twelve tales by the father of detective fiction:

9. Evslin, **Adventures of Ulysses**

Ulysses and his men embark upon a glorious journey home, unaware that they have angered the gods.

10. Gardner, **Grendel**

The first and most terrifying monster in English literature tells his own side of the story. Here is the Beowulf legend retold from the monster's point of view.

11. Greenberg, **I Never Promised You a Rose Garden**

This novel chronicles the three-year battle of a mentally ill, but perceptive, teenage girl against a world of her own creation.

12. Haddon, Mark, **the curious incident of the dog in night-time**

Despite his overwhelming fear of interacting with people, Christopher, a mathematically-gifted, autistic fifteen-year-old boy, decides to investigate the murder of a neighbor's dog.

13. Hemingway, **The Old Man and the Sea**

Can man win in an overwhelming struggle? Here is the classic theme of courage in the face of defeat, of personal triumph won from loss. This tale of an aged Cuban fisherman going head-to-head with a magnificent marlin encapsulates Hemingway's favorite motifs of physical and moral challenge.

14. Hersey, **Hiroshima**

Learn about the atomic age. On August 6, 1945, Hiroshima was destroyed by the first atomic bomb ever dropped on a city. This journalistic masterpiece tells what happened on that day.

15. Heyerdahl, **Kon Tiki**

This is the record of an astonishing adventure: a journey 4300 nautical miles across the Pacific by raft.

16. Hickam, **October Sky**

It was 1957, the year Sputnik raced across the Appalachian sky. Faced with an uncertain future, Homer Hickam nurtured a dream: to send rockets into outer space.

17. Irving, John, **A Prayer for Owen Meany**

Owen Meany is a dwarfish boy with a strange voice who accidentally kills his best friend's mom with a baseball and believes--accurately--that he is an instrument of God, to be redeemed by martyrdom.

18. Johnson, Charles R., **Middle Passages**

In this savage parable of the African American experience, Rutherford Calhoun, a newly freed slave in 1830, hops aboard a square rigger to evade the prim Boston schoolteacher who wants to marry him.

19. Kingsolver, **The Bean Trees**

Clear-eyed and spirited, Taylor Greer grew up poor in rural Kentucky. When she heads west with high hopes and a barely functional car, she meets the human condition head-on.

20. Kipling, **Kim**

One of the great adventure books of all time, Kim is the story of the orphaned son of an Irish soldier.

21. Kogawa, Joy, **Obasan**

Naomi Nakane, a child of Japanese immigrant parents, is interned by the Canadians at the beginning of World War II when she is five years old.

22. London, **The Call of the Wild**

Half St. Bernard, half shepherd, Buck learns many hard lessons as a sled dog: the lesson of the leash, of the cold, of near-starvation and cruelty.

23. McCullers, **The Member of the Wedding**

Frankie is a motherless 12-year-old growing up, with difficulty, in a town in Georgia in the 1930s. She is lonely, awkward, bored, alienated from most of the people around her.

24. McKinley, Robin, **Beauty**

This much-loved retelling of the classic French tale Beauty and the Beast elicits the familiar magical charm, but is more believable and complex than the traditional story.

25. Momaday, **House Made of Dawn**

This widely acclaimed novel tells the story of a young Indian American struggling to reconcile the traditional ways of his people with the demands of the 20th century.

26. Orwell, **Animal Farm**

Satire of the government where animals take over the farm and run the world in the future.

27. Rand, Ayn, **Anthem**

In a future world, only one man dares to think, strive, and love as an individual in the midst of a paralyzing collective humanity.

28. Rawlings, **The Yearling**

Fighting off a pack of starving wolves, wrestling alligators in the swamp, romping with bear cubs, drawing off the venom of a giant rattlesnake bite—it's all in a day's work for the Baxter family of the Florida scrublands.

29. Renault, **The King Must Die**

The story of the mythical hero Theseus, slayer of monsters, abductor of princesses and king of Athens.

30. Schaefer, Jack, **Shane**

A mysterious stranger rode into the small Wyoming valley in the summer of 1889. The story of a quiet gunfighter is told through the eyes of a young boy.

31. Shute, Neil, **On the Beach**

A novel about the survivors of an atomic war, who face an inevitable end as radiation poisoning moves toward Australia from the north.

32. Stegner, Wallace, **Angle of Repose**

Story of four generations in the life of the Ward family, from America's western frontier to today.

33. Steinbeck, **The Pearl**

Like his father and grandfather before him, Kino who emerges from a dive with a pearl as large as a sea gull's egg, and with the pearl comes hope, the promise of comfort and a better life.

34. Stevenson, **Treasure Island**

Treasure Island is one of the most famous books in English. A young boy, Jim Hawkins, lives quietly by the sea with mother and father. One day, Billy Bones comes to live with them and from that day everything is different.

35. Twain, **Adventures of Tom Sawyer**

The story of a young boy's adventures in a nineteenth-century Mississippi River town. Schoolboy, prankster, lover, con artist, adventurer, pirate, dreamer, hero--Tom Sawyer is all of these and much more.

36. Verne, **Around the World in Eighty Days**

One of the most exciting tales of adventure ever written. Accompanied by his faithful valet, Phileas Fogg has vowed to make his way across the globe in a mere 80 days.

37. Watski, Mureen Crane, **Boat to Nowhere**

Fleeing from agents of the new communist government in Vietnam, an old man and three children begin an endless and seemingly hopeless struggle for survival as boat people.

38. Wells, H.G., **War of the Worlds**

In this book, H. G. Wells invented the myth of invasion from outer space. Martians land near London, conquering all before them, and ruin the metropolis; the fate of civilization and even of the human race remains in doubt until the very last.

39. Wiesel, Elie, **The Accident**

An Auschwitz survivor steps off a curb and into the path of a cab, and while unable to choose between life and death, relieves the past.

40. Wiesel, Elie, **Dawn**

Elisha is a young Jewish man, a Holocaust survivor, and an Israeli freedom fighter in British-controlled Palestine.