Summer reading is always a hotly-debated topic. It’s a given that pupils need to read over the summer so that they can maintain the culture of reading that teachers and students have built over the course of a school year. In order to avoid typical summer slide and to carry a reading momentum into the new school year in the fall, the Administration, Faculty, and Support Staff at Narragansett High School believe wholeheartedly in reading during the summer months! This year, we are trying something new that provides students with choices about what they read by not requiring any specific titles.

Basically, to help our students reach standards in literacy, each student enrolled at NHS should be reading at least one piece of fiction this summer. That can be anything. Romance? Sure! Historical fiction? You bet! Graphic novels? Of course! Comic Books? YES! No, seriously, Comic Books? YES!!

We want you to read something that is considered to be creative narrative.

Additionally, we invite you to read at least one piece of non-fiction this summer. Again, you get to choose. An op-ed piece? Yup! A news post? Definitely! An historical speech or essay? Perfect! Magazines? Affirmative!

We want you to read anything that is informational, non-fiction.

All students could be reading texts that pique their curiosity and make them wonder about Narragansett, or the world beyond. Some might think about where they are traveling over the summer and find titles about those places. Consider what you’d like to be and find texts that relate to that profession.

Try a genre you’ve never read to see if you have a liking for that style. Reading should be personal–AND enjoyable–with many opportunities!

This plan is all about student challenge and choice. It’s about creativity, and tapping into what students really want to read. We will have journal prompts and short assignments when we get back in the Fall that link to the reading, but nothing will be punitive insofar as grades are concerned. To prepare for those “reactions to text.” students might want to take notes and record any thoughts they have during their reading process, especially if they read toward the earlier part of the summer break. Nothing will be collected for a score, however, so no penalty will be levied if no notes are taken. Basically, we want the students to feel excited and empowered. English teachers will be ready in the Fall to guide conversations about the summer choices, but mostly we are anxious to learn what students want to teach about what they tried, what worked, and what didn’t work!

Remember that you can choose to read anything you’d like and you do NOT need to complete a specific assignment. HAVE FUN with this new, flexible approach, but READ and reach out to jmaynard@nssk12.org with any questions or concerns throughout the summer weeks.
Some of our students are signed up for Honors and AP classes in the fall, and those classes traditionally have summer assignments attached to them. As teachers, we are hoping those texts don’t go by the wayside, but we are willing to be flexible. So we provide for those paths a “STRONGLY RECOMMENDED” category. We will also recommend specific titles for rising Juniors who will be studying United States History.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STRONGLY RECOMMENDED*</th>
<th>RECOMMENDED [choose ONE]*</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Grade 9 Honors:</strong></td>
<td><strong>Grade 11 AP Language &amp; Composition:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><em>A Long Walk to Water</em> by Linda Sue Park</td>
<td><em>Catch-22</em> by Joseph Heller</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>The Adventures of Tom Sawyer</em> by Mark Twain</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Grade 10 Honors:</strong></td>
<td><strong>Grade 12 AP Literature &amp; Composition:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Fahrenheit 451</em> by Ray Bradbury</td>
<td><em>Kite Runner</em> by Khaled Hosseini</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Snow in August</em> by Peter Hamill</td>
<td><em>Wuthering Heights</em> by Emily Brontë</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Oedipus Rex</em> (aka <em>Oedipus the King</em>) by Sophocles (Greek drama)</td>
<td><em>Things Fall Apart</em> by Chinua Achebe</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*Please note that AP Bio., APUSH and AP Psychology classes have separate, required assignments so you need to plan accordingly!

For all other courses, and even those above who want to read a little bit more… We are providing links to sites that will provide some guidance in making choices, but do NOT feel limited to these. Explore by being creative and curious. Teach us about a new link you found all on your own!

Remember to support our fabulous public library by relying on their recommendations and get your own LIBRARY CARD if you don't have one yet: https://narlib.org/youth-services/teen-page/

Our state suggests the following:
https://riteenbookaward.org/

Here are a few more age-appropriate sites that can help you find a favorite:
http://booklists.yalsa.net/
https://www.commonsensemedia.org/book-reviews
https://www.is34.org/apps/news/show_news.jsp?REC_ID=570544&id=0
https://www.barnesandnoble.com/b/books/teens/ /N-29Z8q8Z19r4
Check out this contest:

This link brings you to the list of Newbery Medal Honors winners (scroll through all of the decades available for oldies but goodies):
http://www.ala.org/alsc/awardsgrants/bookmedia/newberymedal/newberrhonors/newberymedal

Here are more recommendations (high school is at the bottom, and remember to use arrow at the right to see all of the titles):
https://www.bookopolis.com/#/guest_findNewBooks_NewReleases

When you find a book you have enjoyed, use the following link to find similar books:
https://www.whatshouldireadnext.com/

For your specifically non-fiction options, think about:
https://www.newyorker.com/
https://www.theparisreview.org/
https://www.msnbc.com/
https://www.foxnews.com/
https://www.nytimes.com/
https://www.wsj.com/
https://www.epicreads.com/blog/nonfiction-ya-books/
https://www.readbrightly.com/nonfiction-books-for-teens/
https://www.gilderlehrman.org/
https://avalon.law.yale.edu/
https://www.loc.gov/collections/woodrow-wilson-papers/about-this-collection/
https://www.archives.gov/historical-docs