

Summer 2009 Reading List

MEMBERS OF THE ENGLISH DEPARTMENT update the summer reading list yearly, giving special attention to the task of choosing literary works that reflect contemporary concerns. Students should undertake summer reading with care, and are expected to bring their summer selections to class with them when school opens, for these literary works become the bases for the class's first assignments. Unless noted otherwise, students should choose **three** novels from each list, and avoid reading any two novels by the same author. If you have any questions or concerns about the content or subject matter of a selection, please contact Dr. Sandler **prior** to starting your reading. Many of these titles are available in the JBS Bookstore. **All** of the titles are available in the school library and can be checked out over the summer. We send out our list to the county libraries, as well. Also, some of these books are reviewed by JBS students on the English Department's page on the JBS web site.

Grade 7

David Almond, *Kit's Wilderness*
 Joan Bauer, *Hope Was Here*
 Bruce Brooks, *The Moves Make the Man*
 Orson Scott Card, *Ender's Game*
 Sharon Creech, *Walk Two Moons*
 Karen Cushman, *Catherine, Called Birdy*
 Cornelia Funke, *Inkheart*
 Kaye Gibbons, *Charms for the Easy Life*
 Frank Gilbreth, *Cheaper by the Dozen*
 Pete Hamill, *Snow in August*
 Karen Hesse, *Out of the Dust*
 Jeanne and James Houston, *Farewell to Manzanar: A True Story of Japanese American Experience During and After the W.W.II Internment*
 Eva Ibbotson, *The Star of Kazan*
 Kathleen Karr, *The Boxer*
 Iain Lawrence, *B for Buster*
 Ursula LeGuin, *The Wizard of Earthsea*
 Sarah Littman, *Confessions of a Closet Catholic*
 Mike Lupica, *Heat*
 Michelle Magorian, *Good Night, Mr. Tom*
 Garth Nix, *Sabriel*
 Richard Peck, *The Teacher's Funeral*
 Marjorie K. Rawlings, *The Yearling*
 Bill Richardson, *After Hamelin*
 Henry D. Schmidt, *The Wednesday Wars*
 Betty Smith, *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn*
 Dodie Smith, *I Capture the Castle*
 Jerry Spinelli, *Stargirl*
 J.R.R. Tolkien, *The Hobbit*

Grade 8

Sherman Alexie, *The Absolute True Diary of a Part-Time Indian*
 Laurie Halse Anderson, *Twisted*
 Fleur Beale, *I Am Not Esther*
 Elizabeth Berg, *Durable Goods*
 Joseph Bruchac, *Sacajawea*
 Robert Cormier, *The Chocolate War*
 Chris Crutcher, *Whale Talk*
 Tony Earley, *Jim the Boy*
 Gary Ferguson, *Walking Down the Wild: A Journey through the Yellowstone Rockies*
 Rachna Gilmore, *A Group of One*
 Thor Heyerdahl, *Kon-Tiki*

Merle Hodge, *For the Life of Laetitia*
 Sebastian Junger, *The Perfect Storm*
 Jamaica Kincaid, *Annie John*
 Joy Kogawa, *Obasan*
 Victoria McKernan, *Shackleton's Stowaway*
 James Michener, *The Source*
 Kenneth Oppel, *Airborn*
 Ellis Peters, *Potter's Field*
 Gail Tsukiyama, *The Samurai's Garden*
 Trenton Lee Stewart, *The Mysterious Benedict Society*
 Loung Ung, *Lucky Child*
 (*Lucky Child* deals with Ms. Ung's experiences in Cambodia as a child when the Khmer Rouge invaded. There is a chance eighth graders will be involved in an international community service project linking our middle schoolers with a middle school in a Cambodian village next year. Knowledge of the events would aid in their understanding. There are some disturbing elements in this memoir.)

Grade 9

Choose **TWO** from the following list:
 Robert Alexander, *The Kitchen Boy*
 Maya Angelou, *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*
 Thomas Berger, *Little Big Man*
 Tracy Chevalier, *Girl with a Pearl Earring*
 Arthur Clarke, *2001*
 Pat Conroy, *My Losing Season*
 Robert W. Creamer, *Babe: The Legend Comes to Life*
 Michael Dorris, *A Yellow Raft in Blue Water*
 Alexander Dumas, *The Count of Monte Cristo*
 George Eliot, *Silas Marner*
 Ernest Gaines, *A Lesson Before Dying*
 Barbara Kingsolver, *Animal Dreams*
 Jon Krakauer, *Into Thin Air*
 Anne Lamott, *Crooked Little Heart*
 Melina Marchetta, *Saving Francesca*
 Paule Marshall, *Brown Girl, Brownstones*
 William Maxwell, *Time Will Darken It*
 Jane Mendelsohn, *I Was Amelia Earhart*
 Chaim Potok, *My Name is Asher Lev*
 Daniel Quinn, *Ishmael*
 Amy Tan, *The Joy Luck Club*
 Edith Wharton, *Ethan Frome*
 Tobias Wolff, *This Boy's Life*

PLUS: All ninth grade students must read Margaret Atwood's *The Penelopiad*

Summer Reading *Continued from page 11*

Grade 10

Choose **TWO** from the following list:

Chinua Achebe, *Things Fall Apart*
Margaret Atwood, *The Handmaid's Tale*
Jane Austen, *Pride and Prejudice*
Alan Ayckbourn, *The Norman Conquests*
Elizabeth Bowen, *The Little Girls*
A.S. Byatt, *Possession*
Peter Carey, *Jack Maggs*
Susanna Clarke, *Dr. Strange and Mr. Norrell*
Wilkie Collins, *The Moonstone*
Charles Dickens, *Bleak House*
Roddy Doyle, *Paddy Clarke, Ha Ha Ha*
Graham Greene, *Our Man in Havana*
Nick Hornby, *About a Boy*
P.D. James, *A Certain Justice*
Scott Lucas, *Orwell*
Frank McCourt, *Angela's Ashes*
Nancy Mitford, *The Pursuit of Love & Love in a Cold Climate*
(Modern Library)
Graham Swift, *Last Orders*
Oscar Wilde, *The Happy Prince and Other Tales /Lady Windermere's Fan* (counts as one selection)
Simon Winchester, *The Professor and the Madman*

PLUS: All World Civilizations II students must read George Orwell's 1984

Grade 11

Geraldine Brooks, *March*
Rosellen Brown, *Before and After*
Truman Capote, *In Cold Blood*
Frank Chin, *Donald Duk*
Evan S. Connell, *Son of the Morning Star*
William Faulkner, *The Unvanquished*
F. Scott Fitzgerald, *Tender Is the Night*
Charles Frazier, *Cold Mountain*
Melisaa Fay Greene, *Last Man Out*
David Guterson, *Snow Falling on Cedars*
Eddy L. Harris, *Mississippi Solo: A River Quest*
Joseph Heller, *Catch-22*
Edward P. Jones, *The Known World*
William Kennedy, *Ironweed*
Barbara Kingsolver, *Small Wonder: Essays*
Jonathan Kozol, *Savage Inequalities*
Jon Krakauer, *Under the Banner of Heaven*
Norman Maclean, *Young Men and Fire*
Cormac McCarthy, *All the Pretty Horses*
Ann McDermott, *Charming Billy*
Anne Moody, *Coming of Age in Mississippi*
Thomas Moran, *The Man in the Box*
Toni Morrison, *Song of Solomon*
Tim O'Brien, *The Things They Carried*
Flannery O'Connor, *Wise Blood*
Michael Pollan, *The Omnivore's Dilemma*
Jonathan Rosen, *Eve's Apple*
Marilyn Robinson, *Housekeeping*
Philip Roth, *Goodbye, Columbus*
Eric Schlosser, *Fast Food Nation*
Jane Smiley, *A Thousand Acres*
Art Spiegelman, *Maus I and II*

Wallace Stegner, *Angle of Repose*
Darin Strauss, *Chang and Eng*
William Styron, *Sophie's Choice*
Ron Suskin, *A Hope in the Unseen*
Peter Taylor, *A Woman of Means*
Paul Theroux, *The Mosquito Coast*
Anne Tyler, *Saint Maybe*
Kurt Vonnegut, *Slaughterhouse-Five*
Alice Walker, *The Color Purple*
Robert Penn Warren, *All the King's Men*
Edith Wharton, *The House of Mirth*
Eudora Welty, *One Writer's Beginning*
Tom Wolfe, *The Right Stuff*
Tobias Wolff, *Old School*
Richard Wright, *Black Boy*

Grade 12

Nina Bawden, *Walking Naked*
Arnold Bennett, *The Card*
John Berger, *To the Wedding*
Bill Bryson, *A Walk in the Woods*
T.C. Boyle, *East is East*
Da Chen, *Colors of the Mountain*
Michael Cunningham, *The Hours*
Junot Diaz, *The Brief Wonderous Life of Oscar Wao*
Annie Dillard, *An American Childhood*
Fyodor Dostoevsky, *Crime and Punishment*
Andre Dubus, *Selected Stories* (Vintage Contemporaries)
Ralph Ellison, *Invisible Man*
Nathan Englander, *For the Relief of Unbearable Urges*
William Faulkner, *Light in August*
John Fowles, *The French Lieutenant's Woman*
Graham Greene, *The Heart of the Matter*
Thomas Hardy, *Tess of the D'Urbervilles*
Kazuo Ishiguro, *Never Let Me Go*
Naomi Klein, *The Shock Doctrine*
Milan Kundera, *The Unbearable Lightness of Being*
Mary Lawson, *Crow Lake*
Chang-Rae Lee, *Native Speaker*
Doris Lessing, *The Memoirs of a Survivor*
Andre Makine, *Once Upon the River Love*
Gabriel Garcia Marquez, *One Hundred Years of Solitude*
John McPhee, *John McPhee Reader*
Anne Michaels, *Fugitive Pieces*
Nancy Milford, *Zelda: A Biography*
Azar Nafisi, *Reading Lolita in Tehran*
Irene Nemirovsky, *Suite Francaise*
Nino Ricci, *The Book of Saints*
Joe Sacco, *Safe Area: Goradze*
Oliver Sacks, *The Man Who Mistook His Wife for a Hat: And Other Clinical Tales*
Jonathan Safran Foer, *Everything is Illuminated*
Vikram Seth, *An Equal Music*
Christina Stead, *The Man Who Loved Children*
Miriam Toews, *A Complicated Kindness*
Lewis Thomas, *The Lives of a Cell*
Colm Toibin, *The Blackwater Lightship*
Joanna Trollope, *The Choir*
Alison Wearing, *Honeymoon in Purdah*
P.G. Wodehouse, *Jeeves in the Morning*
Virginia Woolf, *Mrs. Dalloway*