**English Department Summer Reading Lists**

Summer assignments are posted separately on the PV website @ [www.pvhs.k12.nj.us](http://www.pvhs.k12.nj.us)

Please read the following books based on your schedule/placement. Libraries in Little Falls, Totowa and Woodland Park have copies of books. Some books are also available online at [www.books.google.com](http://www.books.google.com) & Project Gutenberg @ [www.gutenberg.org](http://www.gutenberg.org).

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**Students are encouraged to take their own notes and annotate the text as they will be required to take a departmental assessment on the assigned book. Students should be prepared to discuss the novel on the first day of school.**

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**English I Summer Reading Book**

**College Prep, Essentials and Adaptive**

*The Book Thief* by Markus Zusak

When Death has a story to tell, you listen.

It is 1939. Nazi Germany. The country is holding its breath. Death has never been busier, and will become busier still. Liesel Meminger is a foster girl living outside of Munich, who scratches out a meager existence for herself by stealing when she encounters something she can’t resist—books. With the help of her accordion-playing foster father, she learns to read and shares her stolen books with her neighbors during bombing raids as well as with the Jewish man hidden in her basement. In superbly crafted writing that burns with intensity, award-winning author Markus Zusak, author of *I Am the Messenger*, has given us one of the most enduring stories of our time.

**English I Honors**

*To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee

(Honors students have different summer assignment given by the English I Honors teacher)

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English II Summer Reading List

**College Prep and Essentials**

**I Am Malala: The Girl Who Stood Up for Education and Was Shot by the Taliban** by Christina Lamb and Malala Yousafzai

When the Taliban took control of the Swat Valley in Pakistan, one girl spoke out. Malala Yousafzai refused to be silenced and fought for her right to an education.

On Tuesday, October 9, 2012, when she was fifteen, she almost paid the ultimate price. She was shot in the head at point-blank range while riding the bus home from school, and few expected her to survive. Instead, Malala's miraculous recovery has taken her on an extraordinary journey from a remote valley in northern Pakistan to the halls of the United Nations in New York. At sixteen, she became a global symbol of peaceful protest and the youngest nominee ever for the Nobel Peace Prize. *I AM MALALA* is the remarkable tale of a family uprooted by global terrorism, of the fight for girls' education, of a father who, himself a school owner, championed and encouraged his daughter to write and attend school, and of brave parents who have a fierce love for their daughter in a society that prizes sons.

**Adaptive**

*The Silent Boy* by Lois Lowry

Katy Thatcher was the bright and curious daughter of the town doctor. She was fascinated by her father's work, and even as a child she knew that she too wanted to be a doctor. She wanted to know about people. Perhaps it was this, her insatiable curiosity, or simply the charm of Jacob's gentle intimacy with animals large and small, that fueled their friendship. Although Jacob never spoke to her or even looked at her directly, Katy grew to understand him from the moments they spent together quietly singing to the horses. She knew there was meaning in the sounds he made and purpose behind his movements. So when events took an unexpected and tragic turn, it was Katy alone who could unravel the mystery of what had occurred and why.

**English II Honors**

The Color of Water: James McBride

The Kite Runner: Khaled Hosseini

The Scarlet Letter: Nathaniel Hawthorne

(Honors students have different summer assignment given by the English II Honors teacher)
English III Summer Reading List

**College Prep and Essentials**

*Looking for Alaska* by John Greene

Before. Miles Halter is fascinated by famous last words—and tired of his safe life at home. He leaves for Culver Creek boarding school to seek what the dying poet François Rabelais called “The Great Perhaps.” Much awaits Miles at Culver Creek, including clever, beguiling, and self-destructive Alaska Young, who will pull Miles into her labyrinth and catapult him into the Great Perhaps.

After. Nothing will ever be the same.

*Looking for Alaska* brilliantly chronicles the indelible impact one life can have on another. A modern classic, this stunning debut marked #1 bestselling author John Green’s arrival as a groundbreaking new voice in contemporary fiction.

**Adaptive**

*Ironman* by Chris Crutcher

Bo has been at war with his father for as long as he can remember. The rage he feels gives him the energy as a triathlete to press his body to the limit, but it also translates into angry outbursts toward his teachers.

Now dangerously close to expulsion from school, Bo has been assigned to Anger Management sessions with the school "truants." With an eclectic mix of hard-edged students, Bo may finally have to deal with his long-brewing hatred for his father -- before it eats away at him completely.

**English III Honors**

*The Poisonwood Bible* by Barbara Kingsolver
*Long Day’s Journey Into Night* by Eugene O’Neill
*The Glass Castle: A Memoir* by Jeannette Walls

(Honors students have different assignment given by the English III Honors teacher)

**AP Language and Composition**

*They Say/I Say* by Gerald Graff
*Outliers* by Malcom Gladwell

If you have any questions about AP Literature assignments, please email petersj@pvhs.k12.nj.us
English IV Summer Reading List

**College Prep and Essentials**

*Room* by Emma Donoghue

To five-year-old-Jack, Room is the world. . . . It's where he was born, it's where he and his Ma eat and sleep and play and learn. At night, his Ma shuts him safely in the wardrobe, where he is meant to be asleep when Old Nick visits.

Room is home to Jack, but to Ma it's the prison where she has been held for seven years. Through her fierce love for her son, she has created a life for him in this eleven-by-eleven-foot space. But with Jack's curiosity building alongside her own desperation, she knows that Room cannot contain either much longer.

*Room* is a tale at once shocking, riveting, exhilarating—a story of unconquerable love in harrowing circumstances, and of the diamond-hard bond between a mother and her child.

**Adaptive**

*Accomplice* by Eireann Corrigan

Would you fake your own kidnapping to get into a good school?

Finn and Chloe have it all figured out. Their school guidance counselor has told everyone that it's not enough to get good grades or do community service anymore—kids like that are everywhere, and colleges are bored of them. So what do you do? Chloe decides they should get attention another way. She and Finn will stage her own disappearance—and then Finn will be the only who finds and saves her. What college wouldn't want them after that kind of attention? It seems like a good plan—until things start going very wrong.

**English IV Honors**

*1984* by George Orwell

Select ONE novel from a NY Times Bestseller List. The book can come from one of the following lists:

- “Combined Print & EBook Fiction”
- “Paperback Trade Fiction”
- “Paperback Nonfiction”
- “Combined Print & Ebook Nonfiction”
AP Literature and Composition

The Great Gatsby by F.S. Fitzgerald
How To Read Literature Like a Professor by Thomas Foster
Choice Book (see approved list)

If you have any questions about AP Literature assignments, please email petersj@pvhs.k12.nj.us