

SUMMER READING OBJECTIVES

[English Department – WHHS]

For students to:

- Work independently and effectively
- Expand their knowledge base of literature
- Achieve a greater exposure to writers, genres, eras, etc...
- Manifest a greater appreciation for reading
- Develop their analytical thinking skills
- Write analytical reading notes to help with essay writing
- Develop their analytical writing skills
- Prepare better for their upcoming year in English
- Broaden their overall knowledge, literary appreciation and reading/writing skills for college

For teachers to:

- Establish a predictable and appropriate progression in department courses
- Set standards prior to the first day of instruction
- Set the tone of a rigorous curriculum prior to the first day of instruction
- Broaden the scope of the core curriculum
- Evaluate students' commitment to the course on the first day of instruction
- Evaluate students' willingness to cooperate and achieve at high levels
- Develop a solid foundation of skills, ideas and activities on the first day of instruction
- Explore writers, genres, eras, etc... and ideas that may be explored in greater detail later in the course
- Establish a wealth of ideas from the summer reading that will intertwine textually with a student's past and future experiences with literature
- Establish a foundation of skills that students will continue to develop on their own in preparation for college and beyond
- Promote to students the value of reading, writing and thinking, as well as their interconnections, and the importance of becoming life-long learners

Overall:

The English department has established worthwhile literature to be independently read and studied by students to better prepare them for a rich learning experience in a particular course. Also, the English department has crafted – using English Language Arts standards – writing prompts to help students analyze the literature they have read. Further, it is assumed that the unique quality of the prompts will keep students from engaging in plagiarism. Finally, it is assumed that the fulfillment of the summer work will be a catalyst in creating the proper tone for each individual English classroom on the first day of school.

