

Sandalwood High School Vacation Reading 2018

“Go anywhere....be anyone....take your brain on vacation.”

Please be advised that the books listed are chosen for high school students in grades nine through twelve. In order to engage their interest and to provide and spur critical thinking certain book selections include sensitive and intricate issues. The content of some of the titles may be mature and contain adult language and situations.

Vacation Reading List for 9th – 12th Grades

(See pages 3 – 6 for directions for specific course assignments)

Title, Author, Lexile Level	Summary
<i>The Truth About Forever</i> by Sarah Dessen 770L	Sarah Dessen delivers a page-turning novel that carries readers on a roller coaster of denial, grief, comfort, and love as we watch a broken but resilient girl pick up the pieces of her life and fit them back together. Summary retrieved from: https://fab.lexile.com/book/details/9781429529822/
<i>A Child Called It</i> by Dave Pelzer 850L	This book chronicles the unforgettable account of one of the most severe child abuse cases in California history. It is the story of Dave Pelzer, who was brutally beaten and starved by his emotionally unstable, alcoholic mother. He had to learn how to play his mother's games in order to survive because she no longer considered him a son, but a slave; and no longer a boy, but an "it". Summary retrieved from: http://www.goodreads.com
<i>Maze Runner</i> by James Dashner 770L	When Thomas wakes up, the only thing he can remember is his first name. His memory is blank. But he's not alone. Thomas finds himself surrounded by kids who welcome him to the Glade, a large, open expanse surrounded by stone walls. Just like Thomas, the Gladers don't know why or how they got to the Glade. Summary retrieved from: https://fab.lexile.com/book/details/9780375982910/
<i>I am Number 4</i> by Pittacus Lore - 700L	The first book in an immensely gripping, action-packed series about six alien teenagers hiding on Earth. Summary retrieved from: https://fab.lexile.com/book/details/9780062026248/
<i>The Road</i> by Cormac McCarthy 670L	A father and his son walk alone through burned America. Their destination is the coast, although they don't know what, if anything, awaits them there. The Road is the profoundly moving story of a journey. It boldly imagines a future in which no hope remains, but in which the father and his son, "each the other's world entire," are sustained by love. Summary retrieved from: https://fab.lexile.com/book/details/9780307387899/
<i>Cinder: The Lunar Chronicles</i> by Marissa Meyer 790L	A forbidden romance. A deadly plague. Earth's fate hinges on one girl . . . CINDER, a gifted mechanic in New Beijing, is also a cyborg. Cinder is caught between duty and freedom, loyalty and betrayal. Now she must uncover secrets about her mysterious past in order to protect Earth's future. Summary retrieved from: http://www.goodreads.com
<i>The Lovely Bones</i> By Alice Sebold 890L	In the sweet, untroubled voice of a precocious teenage girl, Susie relates the awful events of her death and her own adjustment to the strange new place she finds herself. With love, longing, and a growing understanding, Susie watches her family as they cope with their grief, her father embarks on a search for the killer, her sister undertakes a feat of amazing daring, her little brother builds a fort in her honor and begin the difficult process of healing. This story of seemingly unbearable tragedy is transformed into a suspenseful and touching story about family, memory, love, heaven, and living. Summary retrieved from: https://fab.lexile.com/book/details/9780316666343/
<i>The Hate U Give</i> by Angie Thomas 590L	Sixteen-year-old Starr Carter moves between two worlds: the poor neighborhood where she lives and the fancy suburban prep school she attends. The uneasy balance between these worlds is shattered when Starr witnesses the fatal shooting of her childhood best friend at the hands of a police officer. Soon afterward, his death is a national headline.. What everyone wants to know is: what really went down that night? And the only person alive who can answer that is Starr. But what Starr does or does not say could upend her community. It could also endanger her life. Summary retrieved from https://www.goodreads.com

<p><i>Monster</i> by Walter Dean Myers 670L</p>	<p>Sixteen-year-old Steve Harmon is on trial for murder. A Harlem drugstore owner was shot and killed in his store, and the word is that Steve served as the lookout. Guilty or innocent, Steve becomes a pawn in the hands of "the system." For the first time, Steve is forced to think about who he is as he faces prison, where he may spend all the tomorrows of his life. As a way of coping with the horrific events that entangle him, Steve, an amateur filmmaker, decides to transcribe his trial into a script.. But despite his efforts, reality is blurred and his vision obscured until he can no longer tell who he is or what is the truth. Summary retrieved from https://www.goodreads.com</p>
<p><i>*I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings</i> by Maya Angelou *1330L</p>	<p>Sent by their mother to live with their devout, self-sufficient grandmother in a small Southern town, Maya and her brother, Bailey, endure the ache of abandonment and the prejudice of the local "powhitetrash." At eight years old and back at her mother's side in St. Louis, Maya is attacked by a man many times her age—and has to live with the consequences for a lifetime. Years later, in San Francisco, Maya learns that love for herself, the kindness of others, her own strong spirit, and the ideas of great authors will allow her to be free instead of imprisoned. Summary retrieved from https://www.goodreads.com</p>
<p><i>*Muslim Girl</i> by Amani Al-Khatahtbeh *1050L</p>	<p>This is the extraordinary account of Amani's journey through adolescence as a Muslim girl, from the Islamophobia she's faced on a daily basis, to the website she launched that became a cultural phenomenon, to the nation's political climate in the 2016 election cycle with Donald Trump as the Republican nominee. Summary retrieved from https://www.goodreads.com</p>
<p><i>*Hidden Figures Youth Edition</i> by Margot Lee Shetterly *1120L</p>	<p>This is the amazing true story of four African-American female mathematicians at NASA who helped achieve some of the greatest moments in our space program. Summary retrieved from https://www.goodreads.com</p>
<p><i>Hoops</i> by Walter Dean Myers 740L</p>	<p>All eyes are on seventeen-year-old Lonnie Jackson while he practices with his team for a city-wide basketball Tournament of Champions. His coach, Cal, knows Lonnie has what it takes to be a pro-basketball player, but warns him about giving in to the pressure. Cal knows because he, too, once had the chance--but sold out. As the Tournament nears, Lonnie learns that some heavy bettors want Cal to keep him on the bench so that the team will lose the championship. As the last seconds of the game tick away Lonnie and Cal must make a decision. Are they willing to blow the chance of a lifetime? Summary retrieved from: https://fab.lexile.com/book/details/9780307976116/</p>
<p><i>Esperanza Rising</i> by Pam Munzo Ryan 750L</p>	<p>Esperanza thought she'd always live with her family on their ranch in Mexico--she'd always have fancy dresses, a beautiful home, and servants. But a sudden tragedy forces Esperanza and Mama to flee to California during the Great Depression, and to settle in a camp for Mexican farm workers. Esperanza isn't ready for the hard labor, financial struggles, or lack of acceptance she now faces. When their new life is threatened, Esperanza must find a way to rise above her difficult circumstances. Summary retrieved from https://www.goodreads.com</p>
<p><i>Asylum</i> Madeleine Roux 720L</p>	<p>For sixteen-year-old Dan Crawford, the New Hampshire College Prep program is the chance of a lifetime. Except that when Dan arrives, he finds that the usual summer housing has been closed, forcing students to stay in the crumbling Brookline Dorm—formerly a psychiatric hospital. As Dan and his new friends Abby and Jordan start exploring Brookline's twisty halls and hidden basement, they uncover disturbing secrets about what really went on here . . . secrets that link Dan and his friends to the asylum's dark past. Because Brookline was no ordinary mental hospital, and there are some secrets that refuse to stay buried.</p>
<p><i>Article 5</i> Kristen Simmons 660L</p>	<p>New York, Los Angeles, and Washington, D.C., have been abandoned. The Bill of Rights has been revoked, and replaced with the Moral Statutes. There are no more police—instead, there are soldiers. There are no more fines for bad behavior—instead, there are arrests, trials, and maybe worse. People who get arrested usually don't come back. Seventeen-year-old Ember Miller is old enough to remember that things weren't always this way. Living with her rebellious single mother, it's hard for her to forget that people weren't always arrested for reading the wrong books or staying out after dark. It's hard to forget that life in the United States used to be different. Ember has perfected the art of keeping a low profile. She knows how to get the things she needs, like food stamps and hand-me-down clothes, and how to pass the random home inspections by the military. Her life is as close to peaceful as circumstances allow That is, until her mother is arrested for noncompliance with Article 5 of the Moral Statutes. And one of the arresting officers is none other than Chase Jennings...the only boy Ember has ever loved.</p>
<p><i>The Statistical Probability of Love at First Sight</i> By Jennifer E. Smith</p>	<p>Today should be one of the worst days of seventeen-year-old Hadley Sullivan's life. Having just missed her flight, she's stuck at JFK airport and late to her father's second wedding, which is taking place in London and involves a soon-to-be stepmother Hadley's never even met. Then she meets the perfect boy in the airport's cramped waiting area. His name is Oliver, he's British, and he's sitting in her row.</p>

1000L

A long night on the plane passes in the blink of an eye, and Hadley and Oliver lose track of each other in the airport chaos upon arrival. Can fate intervene to bring them together once more?

All books in this list are available from Amazon, Barnes and Noble, and the Jacksonville Public Library. Many are available in e-book format.

Many are available in used format from Chamblin's Book Mine and other used bookstores in the Jacksonville area.

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Vacation Reading Directions for Specific Courses

For Standard and Honors (non-Early College) 9th Grade English I

(The books on this list represent a cross section of young adult literature selected to encourage reading for enjoyment. Parents are encouraged to help their teenagers choose a book from the website that is appropriate for them. Books with an asterisk indicate texts with a higher level of rigor.)

1. Choose any 2 books from the Vacation Reading List.
2. Complete the Vacation Reading Log available at www.duvalschools.org/Sandalwood.
3. Bring the completed Vacation Reading Log to your teacher during the first week of school for extra credit.

For Early College Honors 9th Grade English I

1. Read ANIMAL FARM and be prepared to complete a timed writing in class that will address “A Book and Its Message”.

Animal Farm by George Orwell - 1170L

This remarkable allegory of a downtrodden society of overworked, mistreated animals, and their quest to create a paradise of progress, justice, and equality is one of the most scathing satires ever published. As we witness the rise and bloody fall of the revolutionary animals, we begin to recognize the seeds of totalitarianism in the most idealistic organization; and in our most charismatic leaders, the souls of our cruelest oppressors.

Summary retrieved from <https://www.goodreads.com>

THIS BOOK IS AVAILABLE FOR CHECKOUT FROM SANDALWOOD HIGH SCHOOL. CONTACT THE MAIN OFFICE.

2. Please print the articles about Nicholas II and Stalin. Answer the associated questions. Come into class prepared to discuss.

“Russia’s Last Czar, Nicholas II” by Mike Kubic - 1330L

Article available at www.duvalschools.org/sandalwood

Or <https://www.commonlit.org/texts/russia-s-last-czar-nicholas-ii>

“Stalin: A Brutal Legacy Uncovered” by Mike Kubic - 1380L

Article available at

www.duvalschools.org/sandalwood

Or <https://www.commonlit.org/texts/stalin-a-brutal-legacy-uncovered>

3. As a “Getting to Know You” assignment, please read one of the fairy tales from those written by Hans Christian Anderson or the Brothers Grimm. We will work with these on the first day of class.

“The Ugly Duckling”

Hans Christian Andersen/950L

“The Little Mermaid”

Hans Christian Andersen /950L

“The Tin Soldier”

Hans Christian Andersen/550L

“Hansel and Gretel”

The Brothers Grimm

“Red Riding Hood”

The Brothers Grimm /490L

“Snow White”

The Brothers Grimm /610L

For Standard and Honors 10th Grade English II

1. Read **THE BOOK THIEF** by By Markus Zusak 730L

THE BOOK THIEF - Set during World War II in Germany, Markus Zusak's groundbreaking novel is the story of Liesel Meminger, a foster girl living outside of Munich. Liesel 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 before he is marched to Dachau. This is an unforgettable story about the ability of books to feed the soul.
Summary retrieved from: <https://fab.lexile.com/book/details/9780307433848>

2. Read at least one additional book from the Vacation Reading List.
3. Complete the Vacation Reading Log for everything you read. (Available at www.duvalschools.org/Sandalwood)
4. Bring the completed Vacation Reading Log to your teacher during the first week of school for extra credit.

For Dual Enrollment ENC 1101

1. Read one of these novels.

The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks by Rebecca Skloot - 1140L

Intimate in feeling, astonishing in scope, and impossible to put down, *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* captures the beauty and drama of scientific discovery, as well as its human consequences. Summary retrieved from <https://www.goodreads.com>

***Half of a Yellow Sun* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adiche**

Half of a Yellow Sun is a remarkable novel about moral responsibility, about the end of colonialism, about ethnic allegiances, about class and race—and the ways in which love can complicate them all. Summary retrieved from <https://www.goodreads.com>

***The Devil in the White City* by Erik Larson - 1170L**

Erik Larson intertwines the true tale of the 1893 World's Fair and the cunning serial killer who used the fair to lure his victims to their death. Summary retrieved from <https://fab.lexile.com/book/details/9780375725609>

***Popular Economics* by John Tamney**

John Tamney use sports, movies, popular books, and well-known businesses to explain the basic principles of economics. He also shows that economic growth is a function of the political class getting taxes, regulation, trade, and monetary policy correct.

Summary retrieved from <https://www.goodreads.com>

***The Story of Edgar Sawtelle* by David Wroblewski - 900L**

David Wroblewski is a master storyteller, and his breathtaking scenes—the elemental north woods, the sweep of seasons, an iconic American barn, a fateful vision rendered in the falling rain—create a riveting family saga, a brilliant exploration of the limits of language, and a compulsively readable modern classic.

Summary retrieved from <https://www.goodreads.com>

***The Autobiography of Malcom X* by Malcom X - 1120L**

Through a life of passion and struggle, Malcolm X became one of the most influential figures of the 20th Century. In this riveting account, he tells of his journey from a prison cell to Mecca, describing his transition from hoodlum to Muslim minister. Here, the man who called himself "the angriest Black man in America" relates how his conversion to true Islam helped him confront his rage and recognize the brotherhood of all mankind. Summary retrieved from <https://www.goodreads.com>

***Outliers* by Malcom Gladwell/ 1080L**

Malcolm Gladwell takes us on an intellectual journey through the world of "outliers"—the best and the brightest, the most famous and the most successful. He asks the question: what makes high-achievers different? Summary retrieved from <https://www.goodreads.com>

2. Be prepared to write a timed essay in-class based on the book and its message.

For Standard and Honors 11th Grade English III

1. Read NAMESAKE and THE SCARLETT LETTER.

***Namesake* by Jhumpa Lahiri/ 1140L**

The Namesake takes the Ganguli family from their tradition-bound life in Calcutta through their fraught transformation into Americans. With penetrating insight, the author reveals not only the defining power of the names and expectations bestowed upon us by our parents, but also the means by which we slowly, sometimes painfully, come to define ourselves. Summary retrieved from: <https://fab.lexile.com/book/details/9781417647859/>

THIS BOOK IS AVAILABLE FOR CHECKOUT FROM SANDALWOOD HIGH SCHOOL. CONTACT THE MAIN OFFICE.

***The Scarlett Letter* by Nathaniel Hawthorne/1280L**

The Puritans thought Hester Prynne's crime was unforgivable. She was convicted, imprisoned - and then forced to wear, forever, a public reminder of her sin. The Scarlet letter. The Letter was unending punishment: it set hester apart from society, it tormented her days and haunted her soul. Four people would be destroyed by a entangled web of guilt and secrets, unless one of them had the courage - and love - to reveal the truth of - The Scarlet Letter.

THIS BOOK IS AVAILABLE FOR CHECKOUT FROM SANDALWOOD HIGH SCHOOL. CONTACT THE MAIN OFFICE.

- 2. Read at least one additional book from the Vacation Reading List.**
- 3. Complete the Vacation Reading Log for everything you read. (Available at www.duvalschools.org/Sandalwood)**
- 4. Bring the completed Vacation Reading Log to your teacher during the first week of school for extra credit.**

For Standard and Honors 12th Grade English IV

(The books on this list represent a cross section of young adult literature selected to encourage reading for enjoyment. Parents are encouraged to help their teenagers choose a book from the website that is appropriate for them. Books with an asterisk indicate texts with a higher level of rigor.)

- 1. Choose any 2 books from the Vacation Reading List**
- 2. Complete the Vacation Reading Log available at www.duvalschools.org/Sandalwood.**
- 3. Bring the completed Vacation Reading Log to your teacher during the first week of school for extra credit.**