

SUMMER READING LIST FOR STUDENTS ENTERING GRADE 10

Before beginning of 2009-2010 school year all students entering their sophomore year must choose **one** title from this list, **and** must complete George Orwell's *1984*.

Abbott / Flatland: Imagines a two-dimensional world inhabited by sentient geometric shapes . . . quite a funny satire on society and class distinctions of Victorian England. (Amazon Editorial Review)

Asimov / The Foundation Trilogy: Foundation, Foundation and Empire, Second Foundation. It's science fiction on the grand scale; one of the classics of the field. (Amazon Editorial Review)

Blais / In These Girls, Hope Is a Muscle: They were a talented team with a near-perfect record but a reputation for choking in the crunch of the state playoffs. Finally, after five straight years of disappointments, the Amherst Lady Hurricanes found they just might have what it took to go all the way. (Amazon Editorial Review)

Bradbury / Martian Chronicles: From 'Rocket Summer' to 'The Million-Year Picnic,' Ray Bradbury's stories of the colonization of Mars form an eerie mesh of past and future. (Amazon Editorial Review)

Clarke / Childhood's End: Without warning, giant silver ships from deep space appear in the skies above every major city on Earth. Manned by the Overlords, in fifty years, they eliminate ignorance, disease, and poverty. Then this golden age ends--and then the age of Mankind begins....(From the Inside Flap of the Book)

Dickens / Great Expectations: Considered by many to be Dickens's greatest work, this is a timeless story where vindictiveness and guilt clash with love and gratitude. Enriched by a cast of unforgettable characters, from the orphan Pip to the convict Magwitch and the bitter Miss Havesham. (Barnes & Noble.com Editors)

Halberstam / Summer of '49: This book is ostensibly about the pennant race between the Yankees and Red Sox that year and the "rivalry" between Joe DiMaggio and Ted Williams. (Library Journal)

Irving / A Prayer for Owen Meany: Owen Meany is a dwarfish boy with a strange voice who accidentally kills his best friend's mom with a baseball and believes--accurately--that he is an instrument of God, to be redeemed by martyrdom. (Amazon Editorial Review)

Philbrick / In the Heart of the Sea: The story that inspired Herman Melville's classic *Moby-Dick* has a lot going for it--derring-do, cannibalism, rescue--and Philbrick proves an amiable and well-informed narrator. (Amazon Editorial Review)

Quinonez / Bodega Dreams: Growing up in Spanish Harlem, Chino knew he needed three things to survive: a solid friend (his *pana*), a decent nickname--not some lame thing his parents had called him, like Tito or Googie--and a reputation that he would rather lose a tooth or get his ribs broken than back out of a fight. (Amazon Editorial Review)

Rand / We the Living: Ayn Rand's first novel which portrays the impact of the Russian Revolution on three human beings. (Barnes & Noble.com)

Shute / On the Beach: They are the last generation, the innocent victims of an accidental war, living out their last days, making do with what they have, hoping for a miracle. As the deadly rain moves ever closer, the world as we know it winds toward an inevitable end... (From the Inside Flap of the Book)

Steinbeck / In Dubious Battle: In the California apple country, 900 migratory workers rise up 'in dubious battle' against the landowners. (From the Publisher)

Tey / Daughter of Time: Tey focuses on the legend of Richard III, the evil hunchback of British history accused of murdering his young nephews. (Amazon Editorial Review)

Twain / Pudd'nhead Wilson: Reversed identities, an eccentric detective, a horrible crime, and a tense courtroom scene are major ingredients in Twain's witty, yet fierce condemnation of a racially prejudiced society that condoned the institution of slavery. (From the Publisher)

Wilder / The Bridge of San Luis Rey: In this Pulitzer Prize winner, a bridge collapses in eighteenth-century Peru; five die. Who were they? In the answer to that question lie numerous cosmic ironies, which are related in a melancholy narrative of great power, simplicity and beauty. (From AudioFile)