

WEST ISLIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS
SUMMER READING PROGRAM 2017

Assignment for Students Entering Grade 10

All students will read two books.

***Title #1 – Genre Study: Dystopian Novel**

***Title #2 – FREE CHOICE**

“A genre is a particular type of literature, painting, music, film, or other art form which people consider as a class because it has special characteristics” (*Collins COBUILD Dictionary of American English*). This year, students entering grade 10 are being asked to read two books of different genres.

The first book should be a DYSTOPIAN NOVEL. A dystopia is, “a futuristic, imagined universe in which oppressive societal control and the illusion of a perfect society are maintained through corporate, bureaucratic, technological, moral, or totalitarian control. Dystopias, through an exaggerated worst-case scenario, make a criticism about a current trend, societal norm, or political system” (http://www.readwritethink.org/files/resources/lesson_images/lesson926/DefinitionCharacteristics.pdf). In order to understand the nuances of this type of text, students must utilize more sophisticated reading strategies.

Students’ second book is FREE CHOICE. Students may choose to read a title from any genre that is of interest and which represents an appropriate level of challenge.

Please see our district website, www.wi.k12.ny.us, for the following book lists which can be used as a guide.

- Dystopian Novels Titles for Incoming 10th Grade Students
- Suggested Reading List Grades 9 – 12 (FREE CHOICE)

All genres present different kinds of demands on the reader. It is our goal to expose students to different genres so that they learn to anticipate these demands and adjust their reading accordingly. Furthermore, “having a deep understanding of the characteristics of genres is a strong foundation for all literacy-related learning” (*Genre Study*, Irene Fountas & Gay Su Pinnell, p. 19)

OTHER BOOK RESOURCES

<http://www.ala.org/valsa/teenstopten>

This link will take you to the YALSA’s (Young Adult Library Services Association) Teens’ Top Ten Nominees for 2017. (Click on “View an annotated list of the nominees.”) Links to Top Ten lists for previous years are also accessible.

<http://www.nypl.org/browse/recommendations/staff-picks/annual/va>

This link will take you to the New York Public Library’s list, Best Books for Teens 2016. Brief annotations for each title are provided.

<http://www.barnesandnoble.com/u/must-reads-for-teens/379002318/>

This link will allow you to search the Barnes & Noble list, Must-Reads for Teens.

<https://www.commonsemmedia.org/search/best%20memoirs%20for%20teens>

For each book listed, Common Sense Media provides a description as well as a section entitled, “What Parents Need to Know” to help families choose appropriate texts.