

Conroe High School  
Pre-AP English II Summer Reading Assignment 2019-2020

In Conroe ISD, we encourage all students to read over the summer in order to enrich learning and provoke thought. Summer reading strengthens reading skills, increases academic achievement, fosters a love for reading, and empowers students to become life-long learners.

Additionally, students who enroll in a Pre-AP or AP English course are expected to engage in summer reading as it prepares students for the upcoming school year and creates an initial common framework for classroom discussion and instruction.



Select a **bildungsroman** book for your summer reading. Bildungsroman is a genre of novel that shows a young protagonist's journey from childhood to adulthood or immaturity to maturity, with a focus on the trial and misfortunes that affect his/her growth. In other words, it is a coming-of-age novel. You may select any bildungsroman book that you have not previously read.

**Assignment:** Annotate your chosen text as you read. Annotating is an essential skill that helps build critical thinking and reading skills for any advanced course. **Pay close attention to how your character changes throughout the book.** Below are definitions and examples of annotations.

Annotating keeps the reader engaged with the text. While you are reading, use one or more of these strategies to mark the book and include your thoughts and questions. If you prefer, you may use sticky notes or lined paper to make your annotations instead of writing in the margins. The novel and assignment will be due the second week of school.

**Requirements for Annotations:**

1. **Write comments** in the margin to:
  - ask questions
  - relate to characters
  - make connections to your own life, history, other literature
2. **Identify and write comments** about the author's use of figurative language

**Suggested annotation strategies:**

1. Star any passages that are very important: events, decisions, or cause and effect relationships.
2. Underline any sentences that made you think or appealed to you and describe your thinking.
3. Circle/highlight words that are unfamiliar or make a list of them in the back of the book.
4. Put a question mark by areas that you were confused about or did not fully understand.
5. Bracket any sentences that exemplify the author's style, word choice, or where the author includes graphic elements. Write your thoughts about the language and style.

You may pick any book from this list **or choose** your own as long as it fits the bildungsroman (coming-of-age) definition—shows the protagonist’s journey from childhood to adulthood (immaturity to maturity), with a focus on the trial and misfortunes that affect his/her growth.

- A Prayer for Owen Meany* John Irving
- A Separate Peace* John Knowles
- A Tree Grows in Brooklyn* Betty Smith
- A Wizard of Earthsea* Ursula K. Le Guin
- Angela’s Ashes* Frank McCourt
- Anne of Green Gables* L.M. Montgomery
- Bless Me, Ultima* Rudolfo Anaya
- Caucasia* Danzy Senna
- The Changelings* Jo Sinclair
- Derby Girl* Shauna Cross
- Ender’s Game* Orson Scott Card
- The Giver* Lois Lowry
- Harry Potter* (any book from series) J.K. Rowling
- How the Garcia Girls Lost Their Accents* Julia Alvarez
- I Am Not Your Perfect Mexican Daughter* Erika L. Sanchez
- Inkheart* (any book from trilogy) Cornelia Funke
- The Kite Runner* Khaled Hosseini
- Little Women* Louisa May Alcott
- Lives of Girls and Women* Alice Munro
- Maestro* Peter Goldsworthy
- Mala onda* Alberto Fuguet
- Metroland* Julian Barnes
- Nervous Conditions* Tsitsi Dangaremba
- Norwegian Wood* Haruki Murakami
- Number the Stars* Lois Lowry
- Oranges Are Not the Only Fruit* Jeanette Winterson
- Paper Towns* John Green
- The Outsiders* SE Hinton
- The Perks of Being A Wallflower* Stephen Chbosky
- Punahou Blues* Kirby Wright
- Never Let Me Go* Kazuo Ishiguro
- The Chocolate War* Robert Cormier
- The Secret History* Donna Tartt
- The Secret Life of Bees* Sue Monk Kidd
- The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants* Ann Brashares
- To Kill a Mockingbird* Harper Lee
- Tomorrow When the War Began* John Marsden
- The Voyage of the Dawn Treader* C.S. Lewis