

**Maynard High School  
English Department  
Summer Reading  
Grade 9, 2008**

*The only advice, indeed, that one person can give another about reading is to take no advice, to follow your own instincts, to use your own reason, to come to your own conclusions.*

*--Virginia Woolf*

The Maynard High School English department believes that the single, most important, thing a student can do to further their education and learning experience is *to read*. Research confirms that reading improves writing, enhances vocabulary, and stimulates the imagination.

**To the student:**

We encourage all students to read, and read often. The more you read, the better you write, the better you think. Reading opens doors to places you may not otherwise get to enter.

All in-coming freshmen are required to read over the summer. However, what you choose to read is up to **you**. All that is required is that you choose books that are interesting to you and that are of an appropriate level for you. You may read fiction, non-fiction, poetry, science fiction, fantasy, romance, sports, and adventure— whatever **you** like to read. Just read!

College Prep Level- at least one book

Advanced College Prep Level- at least two books

Honors Level- at least three books

All students will be assessed in a variety of ways on their summer reading choices. Assessments will take place during the first two days of the new school year. Be Prepared

If you need help choosing a book, ask a friend, ask a librarian, or check out the lists at the MHS English department website. There you will find links to books high school students like to read.

**To Parents:**

We ask you to encourage your student to read. However, let your *student* choose the book. Research shows that students who choose their books are more likely to actually read those books and to enjoy them as well, which, of course may lead them to read more books. Feel free to browse the lists on the high school website. Read some of them yourself! Experience what kids are reading! Although we have read many of the books listed, there may be some that you feel address topics not appropriate for your child. Be informed. Read.

If you have questions regarding summer reading, please contact me at the email address below.

Sincerely,

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English Department Lead Teacher  
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