Outside reading assignments are required by the BCPS curricula in English for grades 9 through 12. The following lists were developed by the English department faculty for use throughout the school year. Students are expected to read one or more book(s) from the appropriate list each time an outside reading is required by the teacher. Some teachers may wish all of the students to read the same book; others may wish to give students a selection of books. Individual teachers will issue specific assignments which may include, but are not confined to, in-class timed writings, dramatic monologues, character analyses, research papers, and book reviews. To prepare for these assignments students should consider writing entries in their journals about the plot, characters, themes, and techniques of the book. Titles marked with an asterisk (*) have explicit language or content. The first outside reading assignment will be collected after September 30, unless indicated otherwise. See the varied assignments. The specific due dates will be assigned by individual teachers. IF you are scheduled for GT 9, GT 10, AP 11, or AP 12, PLEASE TAKE NOTE OF THE DIFFERENT DUE DATE FOR THE ASSIGNMENTS.

9

English 9 Standard
- Barbara Kingsolver, *The Bean Trees*

English 9 Honors
- Ray Bradbury, *Fahrenheit 451*

English 9 GT- OUTSIDE READING DUE DATE: SEPTEMBER 3rd or 4th, 2015
- Homer, *The Iliad* (Translated by Richard Lattimore)

10

English 10 Standard
- William Goldman, *The Princess Bride*  
  *(THE MOVIE WILL NOT PREPARE YOU FOR THE ASSESSMENT AND IS DIFFERENT FROM THE NOVEL!! READ THE BOOK!)*

English 10 Honors
- Hermann Hesse, *Siddhartha* *(see attached webquest assignment)*

English 10 GT- OUTSIDE READING DUE DATE: SEPTEMBER 3 or 4, 2015
- Chinua Achebe, *Things Fall Apart* *(see attached dialectical journal assignment)*

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English 11 Standard
- Forest Carter, *The Education of Little Tree*
- Russell Banks, *The Rule of the Bone* *
- Anne Tyler, *Saint Maybe*
- Richard Wright, *Native Son* *
- Amy Tan, *The Joy Luck Club*

English 11 Honors
- Truman Capote, *In Cold Blood* *(see attached assignment)*

English 11 AP Language and Composition:
Please define the rhetorical terms that are provided as a working reference guide for the year. Then, choose one of the following books to read. You will complete a Rhetorical Analysis Graphic Organizer for the book as you read. You must complete a minimum of 20 entries and make every effort to identify as many rhetorical strategies as possible. ALL students should also read *The Scarlet Letter* by Nathaniel Hawthorne and complete 20 dialectical journal entries using the attached document. These assignments are due: September 3rd/September 4th *(depending on which day you have class)*. Email pschweitzer@bcps.org or go on Engrade or carverhs.bcps.org if you have lost your copies.

Read ONE book from the list below AND read *The Scarlet Letter* by Nathaniel Hawthorne:
- Eric Schlosser, *Fast Food Nation*
- Barbara Ehrenreich, *Nickel and Dimed: On (Not) Getting By in America*
- Steven D. Levitt & Stephen J. Dubner, *Freakonomics*
- Malcolm Gladwell, *Outliers: The Story of Success*
- Naomi Wolf, *The Beauty Myth*
- Diane Ravitch, *The Death and Life of the Great American School System*

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English 12 Standard and Honors
(12 HONORS: SEE WRITING ASSIGNMENT AS WELL)
- John Gardner, *Grendel*

ENGLISH 12 HONORS ONLY: Write a typed double-spaced rough draft of your college essay. Two copies are due on September 17th/18th: one copy WITH your name, one copy WITHOUT your name. Staple each copy individually and paper clip the two copies together.

Since you will have narrowed your college list to 6 by the end of the summer, you may choose to write one essay from the college of your choice that is NOT using the COMMON APP or you may use the
questions from the COMMON APP (www.commonapp.org). Which topic you choose is up to you based on your own college list. Do not waste time writing a Common App essay if none of your colleges use the Common App. Look online for the 2015 prompts for the Common Application.

**Instructions**
The essay demonstrates your ability to write clearly and concisely on a selected topic and helps you distinguish yourself in your own voice. What do you want the readers of your application to know about you apart from courses, grades, and test scores? Choose the option that best helps you answer that question and write an essay of no more than 650 words, using the prompt to inspire and structure your response. Remember: 650 words is your limit, not your goal. Use the full range if you need it, but don’t feel obligated to do so. (The application won’t accept a response shorter than 250 words.)

**English 12 AP Literature and Composition:**
Read two essays: Mortimer Adler’s “How to Mark a Book” and Vladimir Nabokov’s “Good Readers and Good Writers.” Answer the questions for the Nabokov article. Then choose ONE book from each of the pairs below and complete the related assignment (see attachment). Everyone is also writing a typed double-spaced rough draft of your college essay (see attached assignment). **ALL reading assignments are due September 3rd/4th.**

- Rachel Joyce, *The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry* or
- Arundhati Roy, *The God of Small Things*

AND

- Barbara Kingsolver, *The Poisonwood Bible* or
- Ernest Hemingway, *A Farewell to Arms*