

English 9 Honors Summer Reading

Welcome to Freshman Honors English! We are looking forward to working with each of you this coming year. For the first time in many years, we will not require you to read a novel over summer vacation. This is not to say that you shouldn't read over the summer or that we don't have recommendations for you! On the contrary, check out one of these books if you are looking for a book with a solid recommendation from many students who have come before you! These are novels on a variety of topics on multiple levels, and all of them were on our summer reading list previously.

- *I am the Messenger* by Markus Zusak
- *The Kite Runner* by Khaled Hosseini
- *The Secret Life of Bees* by Sue Monk Kidd
- *Speak* by Laurie Halse Anderson
- *Noggin* by John Corey Whaley

Reading is a fundamental part of the Honors English experience; each semester you will be required to read approximately 500 pages outside of the novels that are assigned for class. These pages must come from a novel or novels that are on grade level and that have not been read before. Students must also be aware that *only selecting books that are also movies is frowned upon and will impact the page count*. **Students who read over the summer will be rewarded with bonus opportunities on the independent novel project for the first semester.**

As honors students, you will read multiple novels and you will read them on your own – outside of class for the most part. Additionally, honors students are asked to obtain their own copies of most of the novels we read (*Of Mice and Men*, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, and *The Glass Castle*). Sources for books include: Amazon.com, Barnes and Noble, Half Price Books, among others. A few novel choices have multiple editions; students may read any edition. You are also welcome to use digital books **if you are comfortable annotating digitally**.

If you have any questions, please e-mail Mrs. Jacobs, kjacobs@plainfield.k12.in.us or Mr. Sheppard, drewsheppard@plainfield.k12.in.us.

Again, we can't wait to meet you in August!
Sincerely,

Mrs. Jacobs & Mr. Sheppard