

OUTSIDE READING LIST: ENGLISH 12 2009-2010

You will read two books this summer for English 12:

- 1. The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time by Mark Haddon,*
- 2. one other book from the list below.*
- 3. In addition, come to class with a completed college essay, using one of the prompts below ** (from the Common Application).*

Be prepared for tests or papers over two of these books during the first week of school.

Please save this list!

You will be required to read one additional book from this list each quarter of the school year.

Amis, Kingsley	<u>Lucky Jim</u> <i>A funny look at an aspiring professor's weekend.</i>
Atwood, Margaret	<u>Alias Grace</u> <i>Decide whether Grace is guilty of the crimes of which she is accused.</i>
Atwood, Margaret	<u>Dancing Girls</u> <i>A collection of short stories with several unforgettable characters.</i>
Binchy, Maeve	<u>Tara Road</u> <i>A woman from England and one from America switch houses for a year.</i>
Bradley, Marion Zimmer	<u>The Mists of Avalon</u> <i>A retelling of Arthurian legend from the point of view of the women behind the throne.</i>
Camus, Albert	<u>The Stranger</u> <i>This novel explores the murder trial of Mersault, a young Frenchman.</i>
Doyle, Roddy	<u>Paddy Clark, Ha, Ha, Ha</u> <i>Paddy's childish stunts and play time and dealing with family issues.</i>
Ephron, Amy	<u>A Cup of Tea</u> <i>Based on the Katherine Mansfield short story of the same title. An unexpected love triangle evolves after an accidental meeting of characters.</i>
Fforde, Jasper	<u>The Eyre Affair: A Novel</u> <i>The <u>NYT</u> Book review calls it "part hard-boiled mystery, part time-machine caper" with a heroine more like Bridget Jones than Miss Marple. "This may sound like Douglas Adams territory, and indeed it is; Fforde has written a pop science fiction novel with brains and sass."</i>
Haien, Jeannette	<u>The All of It</u> <i>After the death of her brother, Edna makes a confession to her priest, Father Declan who must confront his own reactions to Edna's confession and its implications.</i>
James, P. D.	<u>A Certain Justice</u> <i>Scotland Yard detective Adam Dalgliesh investigates the bizarre murder of a prominent London attorney whose unpopularity makes the suspect list longer by the minute.</i>

Kipling, Rudyard	<u>Kim</u> <i>Set in India, Kim is a child who leads a lama and helps the secret service.</i>
Lively, Penelope	<u>Moon Tiger</u> <i>A best-selling author of popular history who intends to write "the history of the world" ends up telling her own life story on her death bed.</i>
McCourt, Frank	<u>'Tis</u> <i>Frank McCourt's autobiography about overcoming poverty and becoming a teacher.</i>
O'Carroll, Brendan	<u>The Mammy</u> (first in the series) <i>A funny look at how Agnes Brown recovers from her husband's death.</i>
O'Carroll, Brendan	<u>The Chiselers</u> (second in the series) <i>The sequel to The Mammy.</i>
O'Carroll, Brendan	<u>The Granny</u> (third in the series) <i>The next story in the series.</i>
Pilcher, Rosamunde	<u>The Shell Seekers</u> <i>All of her children want her father's famous painting, The Shell Seekers, for the wrong reasons.</i>
Sayers, Dorothy	<u>Murder Must Advertise</u> <i>A murder occurs in an advertising agency.</i>
Sillitoe, Alan	<u>The Loneliness of the Long Distance Runner</u> <i>A 20th c. collection of short stories about a variety of middle-class English characters.</i>
Smith, Alexander McCall	<u>The No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency</u> <i>An African detective, Precious Ramotswe, works to solve crimes.</i>
Smith, Alexander McCall	<u>Tears of the Giraffe</u> <i>The continue adventures of Precious Ramotswe and her detective agency in Botswana.</i>
Swift, Graham	<u>Waterland</u> <i>A teacher tells the history of his family while coping with a personal tragedy.</i>
Trollope, Joanna	<u>The Best of Friends</u> <i>Friendship and family relationships are complicated and tested when two best friends (one male and one female) face marital and parental problems.</i>
White, T.H.	<u>The Once and Future King</u> <i>The story of the life of King Arthur, centered around his relationship with friend and mentor, Merlin.</i>
Wynd, Oswald	<u>The Ginger Tree</u> <i>After crossing the sea to marry, Mary shames her husband and her family by having an affair.</i>

It is standard practice that if parents/guardians have a question or concern about a book they are encouraged to talk with the teacher. The parent and teacher should try to find mutually agreeable solutions if concerns still exist. If the classroom teacher is unknown, parents are welcome to contact Mrs. Danica White (whited@wvomingcityschools.org), English teacher, with any questions. Books are available through local bookstores such as: Joseph-Beth, Borders, Barnes and Noble; online sources such as: Amazon.com: <http://www.amazon.com>, Joseph-Beth: <http://www.josephbeth.com>; or through the Cincinnati Public Library and Branch libraries. The Public Library restricts access to some books for readers under 18. Parents can check out these books on their adult card or they can fill out a Parental Authorization Card that permits their under-18-year-old children to check out books on their own cards..

**** *The following Prompts are from the Common Application***

Personal Essay: Please write an essay (250 words minimum) on a topic of your choice or on one of the options below. **Please indicate your topic by checking the appropriate box.** This personal essay helps us become acquainted with you as a person and student, apart from courses, grades, test scores, and other objective data. It will also demonstrate your ability to organize your thoughts and express yourself.

- 1) Evaluate a significant experience, achievement, risk you have taken, or ethical dilemma you have faced and its impact on you.
- 2) Discuss some issue of personal, local, national, or international concern and its importance to you.
- 3) Indicate a person who has had a significant influence on you, and describe that influence.
- 4) Describe a character in fiction, a historical figure, or a creative work (as in art, music, science, etc.) that has had an influence on you, and explain that influence.
- 5) A range of academic interests, personal perspectives, and life experiences adds much to the educational mix. Given your personal background, describe an experience that illustrates what you would bring to the diversity of the college community, or an encounter that demonstrated the importance of diversity to you.
- 6) Topic of your choice.