

Dear Soon-to-be Enriched English/American Studies 10 Student:

The 2008-2009 Enriched class teachers (Ms. Fitzgerald, Mr. Cwodzinski, and Mr. Holm) wish to have our students read and write about three books over this coming summer. This desire is based on the following points:

- 1) Reading quality literature is a necessity for all learners.
- 2) Making reading a habit, an essential part of one's life, is a valuable asset.
- 3) There isn't time in a student's school day/year to do as much reading as we'd like students to do.
- 4) Reading quality literature improves one's reading, writing, vocabulary, and thinking skills.
- 5) Reading broadens our experiences.
- 6) Reading is pleasurable, especially when one has time to savor it.
- 7) Reading increases our understanding of other times and people.
- 8) We are going to apply these particular readings to our courses next school year.

These are only a few of the many reasons for this policy.

Our expectation is that over the summer every student will read Grapes of Wrath and The Jungle as well as **one** book from the list below.

Feminine Mystique - by Betty Friedan
Truman - by David McCullough
Deadly Deceits - by Ralph McGehee
The Innocent Man by John Grisham
The Nuclear Jihadist by Douglas Frantz & Catherine Collins
From Beirut to Jerusalem - by Thomas Friedman
And The Band Played On - by Randy Shilts
One Day in September - by Simon Reeve
Eyes on the Prize - by Juan Williams
Four Hours in My-Lai - by Michael Bilton/Kevin Sim
Fast Food Nation - by Eric Schlosser
Culture Jam - by Kalle Lasn
Nickle and Dime- by Barbara Ehrenreich
Brothers by David Talbot

Freedom's Daughters - by Lynne Olson
The Vietnam Wars (1945-75) - by Marilyn Young
Coming of Age in Mississippi - by Anne Moody
Autobiography of Malcolm X - by Alex Haley
Nixon & Kennedy - by Chris Matthews
Gloria Steinem: The Women's Movement - by Mark Hoff
A Time to Die: The Attica Prison Revolt - by Tom Wicker
The Best and the Brightest - by David Halberstam
How the Other Half Lives - by Michael Harrington
The Fifties - by David Halberstam
(Read any 23 of the 46 chapters.)
In the Eagle's Shadow- by Mark Hertsgaard
I May Not Get There With You - by Michael Eric Dyson
Imperial Life in the Emerald City by Rajiv Chandrasekaran
Hubris by Michael Isikoff

You will be given a 30- to 40-question multiple choice quiz on Grapes of Wrath and on The Jungle the first day of class in the fall. The questions will be general, literal, comprehension-type questions.

After reading the choice book, you should write a 300-word discussion of 1) a theme of the book (i.e. progress, class struggle, family dynamics, gender, ethnicity, conflict); **OR** 2) discuss the relevance of the book to a present-day issue; **OR** 3) discuss the historical or social context of the book. NOTE: you are not to write a plot summary! Thus, you will write 300 words on the book to be read for content, not mechanics. The paper will be worth approximately 5% of a course grade.

Mrs. Strampe and Ms. Ruce can check out copies of some of these books to you. Otherwise, you'll have to find them on your own. Check out local libraries and used book stores. These may also be checked out from the EPHS Media Center the last day of school. Do not delay; some of these books are hard to find.

We hope you find the reading valuable and pleasurable, encourage you to do more reading beyond this, and look forward to seeing you (**and your paper**) on the first day of school next fall!

Sincerely,

Steve Cwodzinski, Social Studies
Michael Holm, English

Sheila Fitzgerald, Social Studies
Steve Rollin, Gifted and Talented Coordinator

P.S. We may ask you to give a presentation about a book during the school year.
P.P.S. Feel free to leave a voice mail with Ms. Fitzgerald at 975-4115, Mr. Holm at 975-4288, or Mr. Cwodzinski at 975-4352 if you have a question over the summer.