

Dear Rising Seniors,

Happy Summer! I hope you have lots of fun planned and get to enjoy time with your family and friends. Make sure that you take a much-needed break before senior year which can often feel like a lot as you're planning for your next steps after high school.

One thing that you could do to help prepare for the school year is to work on your **college application** if you're applying for college, or do some serious research for your **gap year** or **post-high school job search** - wherever it is that you're going, you might appreciate a little time spent thinking this through. **In addition, your Summer Assignment is:**

Re-read a favorite book that you haven't read since middle school, and this time you will read it from the perspective of someone who is older/wiser, and you will apply that understanding and skill to your *thoughtful* reading of it.

- a. It can be **fiction or nonfiction**
- b. It needs to be at least **150 pages**
- c. You will do a Close Reading and will annotate (with sticky notes if you don't own it) as you track **one aspect of it**. You will receive a grade for your annotations during the 2nd week of school.

You only need to choose **ONE**:

1. **Writing** - your review of their writing style, use of imagery, metaphors, dialog, character development, or anything else about the way this writer writes that you want to focus on. You don't have to like it!
2. **Characters** (if you're doing fiction) - how realistic/unrealistic are they, how much/little do you relate to them, analyze their relationships with each other, what do you think of how they're handling situations, or anything else that about character that you want to focus on
3. **Themes** - track a particular theme or two that is prevalent in your book. Explain the theme and find examples of where it shows up
4. **Your assessment/reflection of the topic** - for nonfiction books. Dig in a little deeper than what's being explained and give your own reaction to it.
5. **Whatever else sticks out to you that you want to track!**

To find suggestions, check out this list [here](#) or visit your library or even your bookshelf!

I hope you have a fun and relaxing summer - enjoy some downtime, a bit of reading, and getting a good start on college applications or whatever your next steps may be!

- **Catherine**