

**English 9 (Course Number 113000)**  
**Summer Assignment**  
**2009-2010**

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**Course Materials:**

All students should obtain and read a mystery novel that is at least 200 pages in length. A mystery is a story whose plot includes a crime or other event that the characters do not understand or solve until the very end of the book. Many local libraries have a separate section for mystery novels, and mysteries are recognizable because they have the letters MYS on the spine followed by the first letters of the author's last name. Additionally, most bookstores have a separate mystery section.

**Students and parents should work together in selecting a book that best fits the student's needs and interests.**

**Due Dates:**

- Students must have their chosen book read by the first week of school.
- Around the end of the second week of school, students will be assessed on their reading through a written response. Specific guidance on the assessment will be provided prior to the testing date.

**Description of Assignments:**

Students should thoughtfully read their chosen book. As they read, they should think about how the author of the book introduces the problem or mystery, makes the mystery more complicated or confusing for the characters, creates a suspenseful or emotional climax to the mystery, and then solves the mystery. Some students may choose to take notes on these items, although this is not required.

Students will be expected to demonstrate their understanding of and familiarity with the book through a variety of assignments and assessments during the first few weeks of school.