



WSHS English 10 Pre-AP Summer Reading List 2009-10

All rising English 10 Pre-AP students will be required to complete the following:

1. Read *Ender's Game* by Orson Scott Card. In the future, people will have only one child-- unless there is reason to believe that the child might be special: a gifted warrior, able to fight an alien menace. Ender Wiggin might be such a child. This powerful and compelling science fiction novel is the winner of both the Hugo and Nebula Awards.
2. Complete the attached assignment on *Ender's Game*, and submit it to your English teacher the first week of school. The assignment can be downloaded from West Springfield's web page. <http://www.fcps.edu/westspringfieldhs/library/library.htm>
3. Additionally, all English 10 Pre-AP students must read one book from the following:

Alas, Babylon by Pat Frank. At the height of the Cold War between the United States and the Soviet Union, a small rural community in an isolated town in Florida, survives a nuclear attack only to find its challenges just beginning. In this suspenseful tale of survival, a resourceful group of men and women struggle to rebuild their lives.

The Hot Zone: A Terrifying True Story by Richard Preston. This non-fiction account tells the story of a laboratory outbreak of the Ebola virus in Reston, Virginia, while also discussing past epidemics of similar diseases. *Publisher's Weekly* compares this book to the work of thriller writer Michael Crichton. This *New York Times* Bestseller contains graphic descriptions of the effects of the virus.

A Long Way Gone by Ishmael Beah. This riveting memoir recounts a boy's experience in the civil war of Sierra Leone. He shares his horrifying story of fleeing from attacking rebel forces, losing his family, and joining the war. This powerful national bestseller does include graphic violence and descriptions of drug use.

A Northern Light by Jennifer Donnelly. Sixteen year old Mattie Gokey faces a world of questions. In 1906, options for a girl are limited, especially for a girl with no money and no mother. In the midst of conflicting desires (college, romance, family), Mattie suddenly finds herself involved in the mystery of another young woman's murder. This death prompts Mattie to reconsider her own life-- and to make some difficult and unexpected choices. This novel received an ALA Best Books for Young Adults Award.

4. Students should be prepared for **quizzes on both books of summer reading** in the first few weeks of school. **Students are strongly encouraged to purchase the books, to take notes while reading, and to pay close attention to the development of characters, setting, plot, and theme.**

*Teachers may assign additional graded assessments, which may include, but are not limited to essays, projects, and group discussions.

Assignment for *Ender's Game* by Orson Scott Card

Character Analysis – Who is Ender Wiggin?

Directions: Carefully read the quotes in the left-hand column, then provide context in the middle column whereby you clearly explain what is happening in the plot at the time the quote appears. In the right-hand column, explain which character trait or traits emerge based on the quote and its context. Underline the specific traits that you have uncovered in the right-hand column. You may type or handwrite (blue/black pen) the assignment. You may download this document at the WSHS Library website:

<http://www.fcps.edu/westspringfieldhs/library/library.htm>

- Provide thorough and thoughtful explanations.
- Follow the two examples that have been provided.
- Fill in all blank boxes, but note that some boxes have been filled in for you.
- Write in complete sentences.
- Proof your work!

<p>Quote – Your page numbers may not match the ones listed below because different editions of the book exist. Therefore, we have provided chapter numbers so that you can easily find the quote.</p>	<p>Context – What is going on in the story when this quote appears?</p>	<p>Character Trait/Traits – Based on the quote and the quote's context, what can you conclude about Ender Wiggin?</p>
<p>Chapter 1 “You might be having some idea of ganging up on me. You could probably beat me up pretty bad. But just remember what I do to people who try to hurt me. From then on you'd be wondering when I'd get you, and how bad it would be” (8).</p>	<p>Ender has just beaten up Stilson, and he says these words to Stilson's gang of friends who watched the fight.</p>	<p>Ender's <u>forward-thinking</u> clearly serves him well as he decides that he must brutalize Stilson in order to prevent future brutality against himself. While Ender <u>shuns the idea of violence, he will use it in self-defense.</u></p>
<p>Chapter 5 “Best of all, Ender had done it without sending him to the hospital. Much better this way” (56).</p>	<p>To get back at Bernard, Ender sends embarrassing messages about him to the students' desks.</p>	<p>Ender's desire to <u>avoid confrontation--and delight in having done so--reveals that he sees that violence is not always the best way to settle disputes.</u> His <u>pacifism</u> hints at his <u>wisdom as a leader who looks for alternative ways to resolve conflicts.</u></p>
<p>Chapter 7 “Perhaps it's called the end of the world because it's the end of the games, because I can go to one of the villages and become one of the little boys working and playing...[and] just living there” (80).</p>	<p>Ender has entered Fairyland and a place called the End of the World. No other student in Battle School has ever gone this far in the game.</p>	

<p>Chapter 8 “From you I can learn things that nobody knows,’ said Ender” (112).</p>		
<p>Chapter 8 “Now Ender was hearing the stories—little Launchies getting slapped around...or having accidents in the mess hall...or getting their files trashed by older boys... ‘No practice tonight,’ Ender said. ‘Give it a few days. I don’t want any of the little kids getting hurt’” (122).</p>		
<p>Chapter 11 “Not with the same tricks” (208).</p>		
<p>Chapter 13 “Well, it worked. All your tricks worked. Valentine, too; she was another one of your tricks...” (267).</p>		
<p>Chapter 15 “He worked hard on the new world, governing by persuasion rather than fiat...” (346).</p>		