



WSHS English 9/ English 9 Pre-AP Summer Reading List 2009-2010

Summer reading assignments for rising ninth-graders at West Springfield High School are designed to help you explore areas of interest and continue to practice your reading skills over summer vacation. Some choice is given to promote individual interests and to provide for a more enjoyable reading experience. The texts that you may choose from provide various thematic comparisons to texts that are studied during English 9 and English 9 Honors. You are encouraged to make comparisons and connections between class texts and your summer reading choices throughout the school year.

You are encouraged to use the templates provided to take notes about characters, setting, action, plot, and additional observations. You may use this sheet to help you with the required summer reading formal assessment in September. Pre-AP students may want to complete one of these help sheets for each of the two required books.

English 9 Pre-AP

Students must read *Finding Miracles* by **Julia Alvarez (F ALV)** and choose **one other book** from the list below:

English 9

Students must choose one of the following books to read.

***Chinese Cinderella: The True Story of an Unwanted Daughter* by Adeline Yen Mah**

One of the ALA Best Books for Young Adults, this is the true autobiography of a woman raised by a stepmother who didn't want her. **951.092 Mah**

***Eragon* by Christopher Paolini**

A number-one New York Times bestseller, this is a classic fantasy story and the first in a series about a boy and the dragon he befriends as they confront the struggle between good and evil. **Fan Pao**

***Cold Sassy Tree* by Olive Ann Burns**

This is a coming-of-age tale that follows the adventures of 14-year-old Will Tweedy in Cold Sassy, Georgia. **F Bur**

***Monster* by Walter Dean Myers**

This 1999 National Book Award nominee for Young People's Literature tells the story of a teenage boy who is accused of a crime and put in jail, where he writes about his ordeal in the form of a movie script. **F Mye**

***Rules of the Road* by Joan Bauer**

This ALA Best Books for Young Adults shares the journey of Jenna, who sets out on an unforgettable road trip after finally getting her driver's license. **F Bau**

***Within Reach: My Everest Story* by Jack Galvin and Mark Pfetzer**

The gripping true story of the youngest climber to ascend to 26,000 feet on Mount Everest. **796.52 Pfe**

Dear Student,

The following two-page guide is an optional assignment to help you pay attention and remember the book(s) you read for your ninth grade summer reading assignment. Although this is not a required assignment, it will be something you can use as a help sheet for the essay assessment you are given in the first few weeks of school. Enjoy your reading!

Title: _____		Author: _____	
Setting (Time and location in which the story takes place)			
Protagonist (Main character)			
Antagonist (Character or force that is stopping the main character from accomplishing his/her main goal)			
Protagonist's external characteristics (Age, gender, appearance, etc.)			
Protagonist's internal characteristics (personality, fears, interests, etc.)			

Plot Map -

For each part of the plot map to the right, write in the events that you think fit into that part. See the definitions for reminders on what each stage includes.

1. Exposition -
Characters and setting are introduced

4. Climax – Point with the most emotional intensity

5. Falling Action – Conflicts begin to be resolved

3. Rising Action
Conflicts are developed; tension builds

6. Resolution – Conflicts are resolved

2. Inciting Incident -
Moment when the main conflict is revealed

Your Thoughts / Reactions

(Did you like the book? Why or why not? What were your favorite parts? Could you relate to any of the characters or situations? Do you have any other reactions to the book?)