

Summer Reading 2023-2024

English II - Sophomore

Required Reading:* (1 text1)

- *The Johnstown Flood* by David McCullough

At the end of the nineteenth century, Johnstown, Pennsylvania, was a booming coal-and-steel town filled with hardworking families striving for a piece of the nation's burgeoning industrial prosperity. In the mountains above Johnstown, an old earth dam had been hastily rebuilt to create a lake for an exclusive summer resort patronized by the tycoons of that same industrial prosperity, among them Andrew Carnegie, Henry Clay Frick, and Andrew Mellon. Despite repeated warnings of possible danger, nothing was done about the dam. Then came May 31, 1889, when the dam burst, sending a wall of water thundering down the mountain, smashing through Johnstown, and killing more than 2,000 people. It was a tragedy that became a national scandal. (Amazon)

<https://www.amazon.com/Johnstown-Flood-David-McCullough/dp/0671207148>

Select one of the following:* (optional choice - can be used for extra credit in first quarter)

- *1984* by George Orwell
- *Ready Player One* by Ernest Cline (some mature content)
- *The Alchemist* by Paulo Coelho
- *Life of Pi* by Yann Martel
- *True Grit* by Charles Portis

***In order to receive extra credit for this reading, students will complete an assignment as dictated by the teacher. Please see your teacher in the first week of school for information on the assignment.**