

Summer Reading 2023-2024

Standard English IV - Senior

Required Reading:*

- *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury

“Guy Montag is a fireman. His job is to destroy the most illegal of commodities, the printed book, along with the houses in which they are hidden. Montag never questions the destruction and ruin his actions produce, returning each day to his bland life and wife, Mildred, who spends all day with her television “family.” But when he meets an eccentric young neighbor, Clarisse, who introduces him to a past where people didn’t live in fear and to a present where one sees the world through the ideas in books instead of the mindless chatter of television, Montag begins to question everything he has ever known.” (Amazon)

<https://a.co/d/gZ0e2Rj>

Students must complete the summer reading guide for the required text *Fahrenheit 451*. The reading guide is posted on the final page of the summer reading list.

Classic choice (extra credit opportunity):*

- *Great Expectations* by Charles Dickens

“Charles Dickens's *Great Expectations* charts the course of orphan Pip Pirrip's life as it is transformed by a vast, mysterious inheritance. A terrifying encounter with the escaped convict Abel Magwitch in a graveyard on the wild Kent marshes; a summons to meet the bitter, decrepit Miss Havisham and her beautiful, cold-hearted ward Estella at Satis House; the sudden generosity of a mysterious benefactor - these form a series of events that change the orphaned Pip's life forever, and he eagerly abandons his humble station as an apprentice to blacksmith Joe Gargery, beginning a new life as a gentleman. Charles Dickens's haunting late novel depicts Pip's education and development through adversity as he discovers the true nature of his identity, and his 'great expectations'.” (Amazon)

<https://a.co/7bft2UP>

- *Watchmen* by Alan Moore & Dave Gibbons (a graphic novel/comic style text with mature images)*

"A hit HBO original series, *Watchmen*, the groundbreaking series from award-winning author Alan Moore, presents a world where the mere presence of American superheroes changed history--the U.S. won the Vietnam War, Nixon is still president, and the Cold War is in full effect. Considered the greatest graphic novel in the history of the medium, the Hugo Award-winning story chronicles the fall from grace of a group of superheroes plagued by all-too-human failings. Along the way, the concept of the superhero is dissected as an unknown assassin stalks the erstwhile heroes.”
Do not simply watch the movie or show; they are not the same. (Amazon)

<https://a.co/14nDg2Y>

- *The Four Winds* by Kristin Hannah-----some mature content

“Texas, 1934. Millions are out of work, and drought has broken the Great Plains. Farmers are fighting to keep their land and livelihoods as the crops fail, the water is drying up, and dust threatens to bury them all. One of the darkest periods of the Great Depression, the Dust Bowl era, has arrived with a vengeance. In this uncertain and dangerous time, Elsa Martinelli—like so many of her neighbors—must make an agonizing choice: fight for the land she loves or go west, to California, in search of a better life. *The Four Winds* is an indelible portrait of America and the American Dream, as seen through the eyes of one indomitable woman whose courage and sacrifice will come to define a generation.” (Goodreads)

<https://a.co/d/fEIk1Am>

- *The Hobbit* by J.R.R. Tolkien

A great modern classic and the prelude to *The Lord of the Rings*. Bilbo Baggins is a hobbit who enjoys a

comfortable, unambitious life, rarely traveling any farther than his pantry or cellar. But his contentment is disturbed when the wizard Gandalf and a company of dwarves arrive on his doorstep one day to whisk him away on an adventure. They have launched a plot to raid the treasure hoard guarded by Smaug the Magnificent, a large and very dangerous dragon. Bilbo reluctantly joins their quest, unaware that on his journey to the Lonely Mountain, he will encounter both a magic ring and a frightening creature known as Gollum.

<https://a.co/d/503YPCY>

Choice novels are available to students as an extra credit opportunity. Students will have to give a presentation on the text during the first week of school. Extra credit must be used in the first semester.

Reading Guide - Fahrenheit 451

Senior English

<p>Title:</p> <p>Author:</p> <p>Date of Publication:</p> <p>Genre:</p>	<p>Biographical Information about the Author:</p>
<p>Characteristics of the Genre:</p>	<p>Historical Information:</p>

Plot Summary: (exposition, rising action-conflict, climax, falling action, resolution)	
Exposition:	
Rising Action (usually driven by conflict):	
Climax (character makes a choice):	
Falling Action:	
Resolution:	
Connect to an outside context: (historical)	Connect to an outside context: (current issue)
<u>Memorable Quotes</u>	

Quotes and page number (required):	Significance of each quote: (and literary device if applicable)

Characters			
Name	Role in Story (protagonist, antagonist, foil, antihero, etc.)	Significance	Adjectives

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Setting(s)	Significance of Opening Scene
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	Significance of Ending or Closing Scene
Symbols	Biblical References
	<div>1.</div> <div>2.</div> <div>3.</div>
Possible Themes	