

To the Parents of Students Who Will Take 10th Grade Honors English:

All students who will be taking 10th grade honors English during the 2009/2010 school year must read five works of world literature before the school year begins.

Required reading for every student

Cry, the Beloved Country by Alan Paton
The Count of Monte Cristo by Alexandre Dumas
The Good Earth by Pearl Buck

Students must choose one selection from each pair below

Cyrano de Bergerac by Edmond Rostand
Or
Don Quixote by Miguel de Cervantes

Life of Pi by Yann Martel
Or
Siddhartha by Herman Hesse

In addition, students are advised to purchase *The Elements of Style* by William Strunk, Jr., which they will use throughout their remaining high school and college years. This text will help them refine their writing skills.

These books will be available at a variety of prices through a range of publishers. All local bookstores cooperate with the school district and purchase multiple copies of the texts for purchase by our students. One such bookstore is Border's near the Viewmont Mall. Another option is Amazon.com for new and used editions. The Scranton and Abington Libraries will also have several of these titles available. Please read the full texts, rather than abridged options for each title.

Upon returning to school in September of 2009, students will be evaluated on their reading of these texts.

These reading selections represent a wide range of language and ideas. They are intended to introduce students to both classical and contemporary works of world literature. While they should present some challenge to the students, they should also allow hours of enjoyable reading. Furthermore, this reading will increase the body of literature upon which the students can draw as they learn to analyze ideas, discern meaning, and engage in literary discussion.

Sincerely,

Honors English Teacher