

**English II**  
**Summer Reading Assignments**  
**New Albany High School**

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**TEXT:**        **Select one novel from the attached list.**

**MATERIALS:**        Loose leaf notebook paper  
Blue or black ink only

**FORMATTING:**        Begin each of the assignments on a new page. Each assignment should have the student's name and the name of the text in the top left corner of the page. Staple the pages of the assignment together.

The assignments should be handwritten in blue or black ink.

Write in complete sentences.

**GRADE VALUE:**        The summer assignment counts as a major grade. The assignment is due the second day of school; your grade will drop a letter grade for each day the assignment is late.

Students should thoroughly read the book, not just one of the many summaries that are widely available.

Students should do their own work on the summer assignment. Copying the work of other students or material that is available on the internet is considered plagiarism and will result in a grade of zero.

Students may discuss the novel with classmates, but should not work in groups to complete assignments. One purpose of the summer assignments is for the teacher to get a sense of each student's personal voice and writing style.

Students should use their best organizational and writing skills and proofread carefully for grammatical errors. Be sure to follow all instructions.

### Assignment for selected novel:

1. Select **five** quotes from the novel which show *direct characterization* of one or more of the major characters. Write each quote and a brief explanation of the characterization.

**Direct characterization** – the writer tells the reader what a character is like.

*Example:* “Walter looked as if he had been raised on fish food: his eyes, as blue as Dill Harris’s, were red-rimmed and watery. There was no color in his face except at the tip of his nose, which was moistly pink. He fingered the straps of his overalls, nervously picking at the metal hooks.” (To Kill a Mockingbird, page 30)

Harper Lee gives a physical description of Walter Cunningham, using specific details to provide the reader with an image of the character’s face and his nervous actions.

2. Select **five** quotes from the novel which show *indirect characterization* of one or more of the major characters. Write each quote and a brief explanation of the characterization.

**Indirect characterization** – the reader must put together clues to figure out what characters are like (infer), such as how they look/dress, what they say and the language they use to say it, what other people say about them, and what they do

**Inference** - a conclusion reached on the basis of evidence and reasoning

*Example:* ““Jean Louise, there is no doubt in my mind that they’re good folks. But they’re not our kind of folks,’ ...said Aunt Alexandra. ‘The thing is, you can scrub Walter Cunningham till he shines, you can put him in shoes and a new suit, but he’ll never be like Jem.’”

The reader can infer from Aunt Alexander’s comments that she is judgmental and that she labels people according to their social class.

3. With which major character from the novel do you most closely identify? In a three paragraph essay, explain how you are like the character you select. Use evidence from the novel to support your answer.

## Regular English II Summer Reading List

1. ***Hope Was Here* by Joan Bauer** - When sixteen-year-old Hope and the aunt who has raised her move from Brooklyn to Mulhoney, Wisconsin, to work as waitress and cook in the Welcome Stairways diner, they become involved with the diner owner's political campaign to oust the town's corrupt mayor.
2. ***And Then There Were None* by Agatha Christie** - Agatha Christie's most famous and acclaimed novel! Ten strangers are gathered together on an isolated island by a mysterious host. They share the darkest secrets of their pasts, and then, one by one, they die
3. ***Second Summer of the Sisterhood* by Ann Brashares** - The four girls who starred in *The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants* -- Tibby, Bee, Lena, and Carmen -- find themselves wrapped up in a summer of unexpected surprises.
4. ***New Moon* By Stephanie Meyers** - The "star-crossed" lovers theme continues as Bella and Edward find themselves facing new obstacles, including a devastating separation, the mysterious appearance of dangerous wolves roaming the forest in Forks, a terrifying threat of revenge from a female vampire and a deliciously sinister encounter with Italy's reigning royal family of vampires, the Volturi.
5. ***Speaker for the Dead* by Orson Scott Card** - Ender Wiggin, the young military genius, discovers that a second alien war is inevitable and that he must dismiss his fears to make peace with humanity's strange new brothers.
6. ***Peace Like a River* by Leif Enger** - Eleven-year-old Reuben Land is an asthmatic boy who has reason to believe in miracles. Along with his sister and father, Reuben finds himself on a cross-country search for his outlaw older brother who has been controversially charged with murder.
7. ***Dear John* by Nicholas Sparks** - An angry rebel, John dropped out of school and enlisted in the Army, not knowing what else to do with his life--until he meets the girl of his dreams, Savannah. Their mutual attraction quickly grows into the kind of love that leaves Savannah waiting for John to finish his tour of duty, and John wanting to settle down with the woman who has captured his heart. But 9/11 changes everything.
8. ***Crooked* by Laura McNeal and Tom McNeal** - Two ninth graders, Clara and Amos, suddenly find their lives turned upside down by their families, by each other, and by the two meanest brothers in town.
9. ***The Lovely Bones* by Alice Sebold** - When we first meet 14-year-old Susie Salmon, she is already in heaven. In the sweet, untroubled voice of a precocious teenage girl, Susie relates the awful events of her death and her own adjustment to

the strange new place she finds herself. With love, longing, and a growing understanding, Susie watches her family as they cope with their grief.

10. ***The Shack* by William P. Young** - A kidnapped daughter is presumed dead, and when her grieving father receives a letter, apparently from God, inviting him to the scene of the crime, he can't help but go. What he finds there will change his world forever.