

**English III**  
**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 III Summer Reading List

1. ***The Secret Life of Bees* by Sue Monk Kidd** - It's 1964, the year of the Civil Rights Act, in Sylvan, S.C. Fourteen-year-old Lily is on the lam with motherly servant Rosaleen, fleeing both Lily's abusive father T. Ray and the police who battered Rosaleen for defending her new right to vote.
2. ***A Separate Peace* by John Knowles** - A parable of the dark side of adolescence set in a New England boy's boarding school in the beginning years of World War II. Gene is a lonely, introverted intellectual. Phineas is a handsome, taunting, dare-devil athlete. What happens between the two friends one summer, like war itself, banishes the innocence of these boys and their world.
3. ***Twisted* by Laurie Halse Anderson** - High school senior Tyler Miller used to be the guy who faded into the background—average student, average looks, average dysfunctional family. But since he got busted for doing graffiti on the school and spent the summer doing outdoor work to pay for it—he stands out like you wouldn't believe.
4. ***Copper Sun* by Sharon Draper** - When pale strangers enter fifteen-year-old Amari's village, her entire tribe welcomes them; for in her remote part of Africa, visitors are always a cause for celebration. But these strangers are not here to celebrate. They are here to capture the strongest, healthiest villagers and to murder the rest.
5. ***The Battle of Jericho* by Sharon Draper** - Jericho Prescott, a junior at Frederick Douglass High School, is offered the opportunity to pledge the most popular club at the school--the Warriors of Distinction. On the surface the club seems to be wonderful, but under the surface, the club has many undisclosed activities, known only to those who go through the secret initiation rituals.
6. ***November Blues* by Sharon Draper** - A teenaged boy's death in a hazing accident has lasting effects on his pregnant girlfriend and his guilt-ridden cousin, who gives up a promising music career to play football during his senior year in high school.
7. ***Hoops* by Walter Dean Myers** - Seventeen-year-old Lonnie Jackson sees the city-wide basketball Tournament of Champions as a possible escape from Harlem but fears the pressures that have sidelined his coach, Cal.
8. ***Slam* by Walter Dean Myers** - Seventeen-year-old Greg "Slam" Harris can do it all on the basketball court. He's seen ballplayers come and go, and he knows he could be one of the lucky ones. Maybe he'll make it to the top. Or maybe he'll stumble along the way. Slam's grades aren't that hot. And when his teachers jam his troubles in his face, he blows up.

9. ***Monster* by Walter Dean Myers** - While on trial as an accomplice to a murder, sixteen-year-old Steve Harmon records his experiences in prison and in the courtroom in the form of a film script as he tries to come to terms with the course his life has taken.
  
10. ***The Chocolate War* by Robert Cormier** - High school freshman Jerry Renault discovers the devastating consequences of refusing to join in the school's annual fund raising drive and arousing the wrath of the school bullies.