

**Pleasant Hill Middle School
English I Honors
2017-2018 Summer Reading Assignment**

Purpose:

Summer reading offers students an opportunity to enjoy quality literature while growing their independent reading skills. Students demonstrate their abilities through standards-based engagements in comprehension and vocabulary. This self-directed experience will allow students to reinforce skills previously learned and prepare them for future learning.

Text Selections:

Read over the summaries of the novels, and choose **ONE** novel from the list below to read and complete the task outlined in the next section.

1. *Walk Two Moons* by Sharon Creech

Thirteen-year-old Salamanca Tree Hiddle, proud of her country roots and the "Indian-ness in her blood," travels from Ohio to Idaho with her eccentric grandparents. Along the way, she tells them of the story of Phoebe Winterbottom, who received mysterious messages, who met a "potential lunatic," and whose mother disappeared.

As Sal entertains her grandparents with Phoebe's outrageous story, her own story begins to unfold--the story of a thirteen-year-old girl whose only wish is to be reunited with her missing mother.

2. *Paper Towns* by John Green

When Margo Roth Spiegelman beckons Quentin Jacobsen in the middle of the night—dressed like a ninja and plotting an ingenious campaign of revenge—he follows her. Margo's always planned extravagantly, and, until now, she's always planned solo. After a lifetime of loving Margo from afar, things are finally looking up for Q . . . until day breaks and she has vanished. Always an enigma, Margo has now become a mystery. But there are clues. And they're for Q.

3. *Rules of the Road* by Joan Bauer

Meet Jenna Boller, star employee at Gladstone Shoe Store in Chicago. Standing a gawky 5'11" at 16 years old, Jenna is the kind of girl most likely to stand out in the crowd for all the wrong reasons. But that doesn't stop Madeline Gladstone, the president of Gladstone's Shoes 176 outlets in 37 states, from hiring Jenna to drive her cross country in a last ditch effort to stop Elden Gladstone from taking over his mother's company and turning a quality business into a shop-and-schlock empire. Now Jenna Boller shoe salesperson is about to become a shoe-store spy as she joins her crusty old employer for an eye-opening adventure that will teach them both the rules of the road and the rules of life.

4. *Whirligig* by Paul Fleischman

With a family always on the move, popularity and the ability to fit in quickly are vital to Brent Bishop's high school survival. When he blows his chances with the girl of his dreams in front of everyone, he's devastated. Brent tries to end it all in a fatal car crash, but instead he finds an unlikely beginning. He's sent on a journey of repentance—a cross-country trip building whirligigs. His wind toys are found by people in need: a Maine schoolgirl yearning for her first love, a Miami street-sweeper desperate for peace and quiet, a kid in Washington who just wants to play baseball, and a San Diego teenager dealing with loss. Brent's whirligigs bring hope to others, but will they be able to heal the wounds deep inside himself?

5. *13 Little Blue Envelopes* by Maureen Johnson

Ginny Blackstone never thought she'd spend her summer vacation backpacking across Europe. But that was before she received the first little blue envelope from Aunt Peg.

This letter was different from Peg's usual letters for two reasons:

1. Peg had been dead for three months.
2. The letter included \$1000 cash for a passport and a plane ticket.

Armed with instructions for how to retrieve twelve other letters Peg wrote—twelve letters that tell Ginny where she needs to go and what she needs to do when she gets there—Ginny quickly finds herself swept away in her first real adventure. Traveling from London to Edinburgh to Amsterdam and beyond, Ginny begins to uncover stories from her aunt's past and discover who Peg really was. But the most surprising thing Ginny learns isn't about Peg . . . it's about herself.

Everything about Ginny will change this summer, and it's all because of the 13 little blue envelopes.

Task:

Each of the protagonists in these novels is on some sort of journey. For your assignment, you are to explain **10** significant moments during his or her journey and show how this moment impacted the main character. These moments can include people they meet, realizations they have, struggles they overcome, etc. Be sure to explain the impact on the character and not simply provide a summary of what happened in that chapter or scene. Create a graphic organizer like the one below. An example has been provided for you.

Chapter	Significant Moment	Impact on Protagonist
4	At her first rest stop, Ally meets Carl, an elderly janitor who works at the rest stop. At first, Ally doesn't want to stop and talk to him, but she decides to listen to what he has to say and ends up in a conversation that lasts almost three hours.	During her conversation with Carl, Ally realizes she isn't the only person on the planet who doesn't have the easiest life. She quickly connects with Carl because they both have experienced the loss of a parent at an early age.

You will submit your assignment as a PDF in Schoology during the first week of class. Your assignment will be assessed using the rubric below.

Criteria	Points Possible
Includes 10 <i>significant</i> moments in protagonist's journey	10 moments x 5 points each =50
Includes 10 <i>accurate</i> impact statements on protagonist	10 statements x 5 points each =50
	Total points possible =100