



BISHOP CHATARD HIGH SCHOOL

Summer Reading 2025

Course: English 9

Contact: Mrs. Kirschner (mkirschner@bishopchatard.org)

1. Select **ONE** of the graphic memoirs below to read.
2. Using the style of the graphic memoir you read, make a comic about yourself or an experience from your own life. Your comic should include at least 9-12 frames with words and pictures. You may do this on paper or digitally (must print). Plagiarism or academic dishonesty of any kind (including use of AI, copying directly from the internet, copying from a friend, etc.) will not be tolerated and will result in academic consequences. **This is due on paper on the first day of class.**
3. Be prepared to write about and discuss your book's structure, characters, and themes the first week of school.

English 9 Book Options

***Dancing at the Pity Party: A Dead Mom Graphic Memoir* by Tyler Feder** - Tyler Feder had just white-knuckled her way through her first year of college when her super-cool mom was diagnosed with late-stage cancer. Now, with a decade of grief and nervous laughter under her belt, Feder shares the story of that gut-wrenching, heart-pounding, extremely awkward time in her life—from her mom's first oncology appointment to her funeral through the beginning of facing reality as a motherless daughter. She shares the sting of loss that never goes away, the uncomfortable post-death firsts, and the deep-down, hard-to-talk-about feelings of the grieving process.

***Family Style* by Thien Pham** - Thien's first memory isn't a sight or a sound. It's the sweetness of watermelon and the saltiness of fish. It's the taste of the foods he ate while adrift at sea as his family fled Vietnam. After the Pham family arrives at a refugee camp in Thailand, they struggle to survive. Things don't get much easier once they resettle in California. And through each chapter of their lives, food takes on a new meaning. Strawberries come to signify struggle as Thien's mom and dad look for work. Potato chips are an indulgence that bring Thien so much joy that they become a necessity. Behind every cut of steak and inside every croissant lies a story. And for Thien Pham, that story is about a search—for belonging, for happiness, for the American dream.

***Huda F Are You?* by Huda Fahmy** - Huda and her family just moved to Dearborn, Michigan, a small town with a big Muslim population. In her old town, Huda knew exactly who she was: She was the hijabi girl. But in Dearborn, everyone is the hijabi girl. Huda is lost in a sea of hijabis, and she can't rely on her hijab to define her anymore. She has to define herself. So she tries on a bunch of cliques, but she isn't a hijabi fashionista or a hijabi athlete or a hijabi gamer. She's not the one who knows everything about her religion or the one all the guys like. She's miscellaneous, which makes her feel like no one at all. Until she realizes that it'll take finding out who she isn't to figure out who she is.

***March: Book One* by John Lewis and Andrew Aydin** - March is a vivid first-hand account of John Lewis' youth in rural Alabama, his life-changing meeting with Martin Luther King, Jr., the birth of the Nashville Student Movement, and their battle to tear down segregation through nonviolent lunch counter sit-ins, building to a stunning climax on the steps of City Hall during the Civil Rights Movement.

***Mexikid* by Pedro Martín** - Pedro Martín has grown up hearing stories about his abuelito—his legendary crime-fighting, grandfather who was once a part of the Mexican Revolution! But that doesn't mean Pedro is excited at the news that Abuelito is coming to live with their family. After all, Pedro has 8 brothers and sisters and the house is crowded enough! Still, Pedro piles into the Winnebago with his family for a road trip to Mexico to bring Abuelito home, and what follows is the trip of a lifetime, one filled with laughs and heartache. Along the way, Pedro finally connects with his abuelito and learns what it means to grow up and find his grito.

***Sunshine: How one camp taught me about life, death, and hope* by Jarrett J. Krosoczka** - When Jarrett J. Krosoczka was in high school, he was part of a program that sent students to be counselors at a camp for seriously ill kids and their families. Going into, Jarrett was worried: Wouldn't it be depressing, to be around kids facing such a serious struggle? Wouldn't it be grim? But instead of the shadow of death, Jarrett found something else at Camp Sunshine: the hope and determination that gets people through the most troubled of times.



BISHOP CHATARD HIGH SCHOOL

Summer Reading 2025

Course: English 9 Honors

Contacts: Ms. Fulton (sfulton@bishopchatard.org) and Ms. Schafer (bschafer@bishopchatard.org)

To prepare for English 9 Honors, students will be required to read **ONE** of the following graphic novels. Along with reading, students will also be required to turn in a notebook with 20 double entry journals. Each of the graphic novels deal with many social issues that will be discussed over the course of the school year. **The assignment will be due on the first day of school.** Below are the titles of the books, as well as a brief summary of each.

English 9 Honors Book Options

***American Born Chinese* by Gene Luen Yang** - *American Born Chinese* by Gene Luen Yang is a graphic novel that explores themes of identity, race, and cultural assimilation. It intertwines three storylines: Jin Wang, a Chinese American teenager, The Monkey King, a character from Chinese folklore, and Danny, a white high school student. The three narratives eventually intersect, with the novel showing how each character grapples with stereotypes and the challenges of balancing their cultural identity with the desire to be accepted in mainstream American society.

***The Complete Maus: A Survivor's Tale* by Art Spiegelman** - *Maus* by Art Spiegelman is a graphic novel that tells the story of the author's father, Vladek Spiegelman, a Polish Jew who survived the Holocaust. The novel alternates between two timelines: the past, where Vladek recounts his experiences during World War II, and the present, where Art interviews his father to learn about his history. The novel is notable for its use of anthropomorphic animals, with Jews depicted as mice, Germans as cats, and Poles as pigs, creating a unique way to represent the complexities of race, identity, and trauma.

***Monster: The Graphic Novel* by Walter Dean Myers** - *Monster* by Walter Dean Myers is a novel that tells the story of Steve Harmon, a 16-year-old African American boy who is on trial for his alleged involvement in a robbery that turned into a murder. The story is presented in the form of Steve's journal entries and a screenplay format, which provides a unique perspective on his thoughts and emotions as he navigates the legal system. The novel explores themes of racism, the criminal justice system, identity, and the concept of guilt and innocence.

***In the Shadow of the Fallen Towers: The Second Battle of New York* by Don Brown** - *In the Shadow of the Fallen Towers: The Second Battle of New York* by Don Brown is a historical novel that focuses on the events surrounding the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks in New York City. The story is told from the perspective of various fictional characters who experience the attack in different ways. It highlights the chaos, fear, and bravery

that emerged in the wake of the tragedy. Brown provides a dramatic and emotional portrayal of the September 11 attacks, emphasizing themes of heroism, sacrifice, and resilience in the face of disaster.

Fax from Sarajevo: A Story of Survival by Joe Kubert - *Fax from Sarajevo: A Story of Survival* by Joe Kubert is a graphic novel that recounts the true story of the Bosnian War during the 1990s. The book is based on the experiences of a man named Ervin, a friend of Kubert's who lived in Sarajevo during the siege. The story is told through a series of letters (or faxes) that Ervin sent to Kubert, detailing his life in the city as it was torn apart by war. The graphic novel is a powerful and personal account of the horrors of the Bosnian War, highlighting the resilience of the people caught in it, and it stands as a reminder of the impact of war on civilian populations.

Double Entry Journal Example

Page Number	Quote	Reaction/Analysis
	1. Write down significant or important passages (text): a. Caught your attention b. Made you react strongly c. Made you think 2. Include the page number after the text quotation	1. Write down your comments, reactions, connections, and questions about the text you selected. **Do not simply summarize what you read. Use the following prompts to help you: My reaction to this quotation is... I wonder... This reminds me of... I found this part confusing because... This makes me think that... You may also include: Connections Text to text Text to Self Text to world Observations Text Significance



BISHOP CHATARD HIGH SCHOOL

Summer Reading 2025

Course: English 10

Contact: Ms. Parsons (eparsons@bishopchatard.org)

The beginning of English 10 will be focusing on a character's journey and development. Over the summer, you will select **ONE** book that you have not read before from the following list to read. You will then complete the assignment below. You may choose to read this as a physical or digital copy and may borrow it from the library, but please keep in mind that you will want to be prepared to discuss your book when you return to class (this means you may want to have a few notes if you are going to forget what happens). You should have your book and assignment completed by the first day of school.

Assignment (due Day 1 of class): You will create a one-pager to analyze the character development in your book. One-pagers should be a **physical copy** and take up no more than **one side** of a piece of 8.5x11 paper. One-pagers should be **visually engaging** and draw **meaningful connections and analyses**.

You should include:

- Book title & author
- Demonstration of how the character changes from beginning to end of the book. Include at least two quotes WITH page numbers from the book to represent this change. Give a brief explanation (1-2 sentences) for each of the quotes to describe what they show about the character.
- At least 1 connection to another piece of media (book, movie, TV show, YouTube video, art, photo, etc.). Give a brief explanation (1-2 sentences) of how this piece of media connects to the book.
- Choose a moment in the book that made you think differently about the main character. How did this moment change your perception of them?
- 1 central image/symbol to represent the main character of your book
- 2 additional images/symbols to connect with the book and/or other media chosen (symbols should represent ideas of importance like theme, characterization, plot, etc.)
- Use of color, organization, neatness (one-pager should display effort and be visually appealing)

English 10 Book Options

(choose 1 of the following titles that *you have not read before*):

***Little Women* by Louisa May Alcott** – A true classic, *Little Women* follows the lives of Jo, Meg, Beth, and Amy March, four spirited sisters living in Civil War era America. Join the Marches as they navigate New England life with a father at war, financial hardships, and the lure and intrigue of the handsome young man who lives next

door. *Little Women* remains one of the most widely-read and beloved novels in American literature and is loosely based on the lives of the author, Louisa May Alcott, and her own three sisters. **Fiction**

***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. **Science Fiction/Dystopia**

***Turtles All the Way Down* by John Green** - Aza Holmes never intended to pursue the disappearance of fugitive billionaire Russell Pickett, but there’s a hundred-thousand-dollar reward at stake and her Best and Most Fearless Friend, Daisy, is eager to investigate. So together, they navigate the short distance and broad divides that separate them from Pickett’s son Davis. Aza is trying. She is trying to be a good daughter, a good friend, a good student, and maybe even a good detective, while also living within the ever-tightening spiral of her own thoughts. **Young Adult Fiction**

***Unbroken (The Young Adult Adaptation)* by Laura Hillenbrand** - On a May afternoon in 1943, an American military plane crashed into the Pacific Ocean and disappeared, leaving only a spray of debris and a slick of oil, gasoline, and blood. Then, on the ocean surface, a face appeared. It was that of a young lieutenant, who was struggling to a life raft and pulling himself aboard. The lieutenant’s name was Louis Zamperini. As a teenager, he had channeled his defiance into running, discovering a supreme talent that carried him to the Berlin Olympics. But when World War II came, the athlete became an airman, embarking on a journey that led to his doomed flight, a tiny raft, and a drift into the unknown. Ahead of Zamperini lay thousands of miles of open ocean, leaping sharks, a sinking raft, thirst and starvation, enemy aircraft, and, beyond, a trial even greater. Driven to the limits of endurance, Zamperini would respond to desperation with ingenuity, suffering with hope and humor, brutality with rebellion. His fate, whether triumph or tragedy, would hang on the fraying wire of his will. Perfect for fans of *The Boys in the Boat*, this book will keep you captivated as Zamperini fights to survive. **Nonfiction**

***Eragon* by Christopher Paolini** - When fifteen-year-old Eragon finds a polished blue stone in the forest, he thinks it is the lucky discovery of a poor farm boy. But when the stone brings a dragon hatchling, Eragon soon realizes he has stumbled upon a legacy nearly as old as the Empire itself. Overnight his simple life is shattered, and, gifted with only an ancient sword, a loyal dragon, and sage advice from an old storyteller, Eragon is soon swept into a dangerous tapestry of magic, glory, and power. Now his choices could save—or destroy—the Empire. **Fantasy**

***Challenger Deep* by Neal Schusterman** - Caden Bosch is on a ship that's headed for the deepest point on Earth: Challenger Deep, the southern part of the Marianas Trench. Caden Bosch is a brilliant high school student whose friends are starting to notice his odd behavior. Caden Bosch is designated the ship's artist in residence to document the journey with images. Caden Bosch pretends to join the school track team but spends his days walking for miles, absorbed by the thoughts in his head. Caden Bosch is split between his allegiance to the

captain and the allure of mutiny. Caden Bosch is torn. Based on the author's own family experiences, this book explores one teen's onset of schizophrenia and how he views the world. ***Young Adult Fiction***

The Hobbit by J.R.R. Tolkien - In one of the most beloved fantasy books ever written, 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. ***Fantasy***

Brown Girl Dreaming by Jacqueline Woodson - This novel in verse tells the story of the author's early childhood life growing up as an African American girl in the 1960's and depicts the events that led her to become a writer. Her beautiful writing captures the important moments of her childhood to explore the importance of family, memory, and the meaning of home. ***Memoir/Novel in Verse***

The Book Thief by Markus Zusak - When Death has a story to tell, you listen. It is 1939. Nazi Germany. The country is holding its breath. Death has never been busier, and will become busier still. Liesel Meminger is a foster girl living outside of Munich, who scratches out a meager existence for herself by stealing when she encounters something she can't resist—books. With the help of her accordion-playing foster father, she learns to read and shares her stolen books with her neighbors during bombing raids as well as with the Jewish man hidden in her basement. ***Historical Fiction***



BISHOP CHATARD HIGH SCHOOL

Summer Reading 2025

Course: English 10 Honors

Contacts: Mrs. Hilton (khilton@bishopchatard.org) and Ms. Fulton (sfulton@bishopchatard.org)

This assignment will be collected on the FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL! Please be advised...you are to do your own work. Plagiarism or academic dishonesty of any kind (including use of AI, copying directly from the internet, copying from a friend, etc.) will not be tolerated and will result in academic consequences. This assignment is your first chance to make a good impression as you start your career in English 10 Honors. Due dates and integrity are important!

MATERIALS:

- Physical copy of *The Great Gatsby*
 - While there are many options for a digital copy online, please make sure you have a physical copy for when you return to school. We will use these the first couple weeks of the semester and you will need to use it to find quotes, complete analyses, etc.
- Notebook
 - You will write your summer work in a notebook to be turned in on the first day of school. You may use this notebook for class during the year as we will return them to you in the first couple days.

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Read *The Great Gatsby* - as you read, make notes, annotate, mark with sticky notes as you consider things like setting, character development, recurring themes, possible symbols, etc.
2. Complete a journal entry in your notebook for each chapter. The instructions for each chapter are listed below. Each response should be at least 1 paragraph (7-8 sentences), but you could write more if you like!
 - a. Chapter 1 - Select and write down a passage that describes the setting of the novel. Be sure to include the page number. Explain how the language used in the passage makes the setting clear. In other words, are you able to picture the setting based on the passage you selected? Why or why not?
 - b. Chapter 2 - Select and write down a passage that develops a character. Be sure to include the page number. What do you learn about this character by reading this passage? After learning about this character, what is your reaction to them? How do you think this character will impact the story? Why?

- c. Chapter 3 - One of the most famous things about *The Great Gatsby* are the party scenes. For chapter 3, select and write down a passage that describes the party. Be sure to include the page number. How do you think the description of the party represents the larger culture of America in the 1920s?
- d. Chapter 4 - Select and write down a passage that gives the reader background information about Gatsby. Be sure to include the page number. Which words used in the passage do you think are the most important in explaining Gatsby's background? Why? After learning about Gatsby's background, what is your reaction to him? Do you think he is a good person? Why?
- e. Chapter 5 - Select and write down a passage that shows the relationship between Daisy and Gatsby. Be sure to include the page number. Given the information about Gatsby's background in chapter 4, is this description of their relationship surprising? Why or why not? How does this description of their relationship shape your reaction to both Daisy and Gatsby as individuals?
- f. Chapter 6 - Select and write down a passage that reveals the nature of the narrator. Be sure to include the page number. What do you think is the narrator's purpose in this chapter? How do you know? What effect does the narrator have on your reactions to the events and characters in this chapter? Why?
- g. Chapter 7 - A symbol in literature is when an object, a person, a setting, a word, or a situation is used to represent another thing. For example, rain in stories often indicates a time of change or rebirth for a character. Select and write down a passage from chapter 7 that you believe uses symbolism. Be sure to include the page number. What is the symbol? What do you think it represents? How does the use of this symbol contribute to your interpretation of the book as a whole? Why?
- h. Chapter 8 - Select and write down a passage that reveals Nick's (the narrator) attitudes towards the situation or towards other characters. Be sure to include page number. What is Nick's attitude based on this passage? What words or phrases indicate this? How does this attitude contribute to your interpretation of the book as a whole? Why?
- i. Chapter 9 - How does the ending of the book shape your overall interpretation of the book? What theme or themes stand out to you? Why do you think this book is an American classic that is still studied and remembered?



BISHOP CHATARD HIGH SCHOOL

Summer Reading 2025

Course: AP Language & Composition

Contacts: Ms. Marx (jmarx@bishopchatard.org) and Ms. Schafer (bschafer@bishopchatard.org)

One of the key elements of AP Language & Composition is being knowledgeable about the world around you AND being able to form a well-educated position about a topic. This assignment is intended to give you a foundation about themes that we will discuss throughout the year. The goal is not just for you to read a nonfiction text but to increase your rhetorical analysis skills, expand your vocabulary, and provide background information on the topics we will cover throughout the school year.

Summer Requirements

- Read *Outliers* by Malcolm Gladwell.
- Submit the written assignment on Day 1 of class.
- Participate in a Socratic Seminar and group discussion during the first few days of class.

The Assignment

- Do a close reading of the text. Although you do not need to annotate the text, please read closely so that you understand Gladwell's main points as well as the evidence he presents. Look up words that are unfamiliar; reread passages that are unclear; pause at times to reflect on what he is saying.
- As you read, concentrate on Gladwell's unique definition of success. Notice how he defines and presents this abstract concept through his chapter titles, research, personal stories, and observations. You will be surprised how much you will learn from this original perspective on success.
- For each chapter you will use the following format:
 1. Label each chapter.
 2. In 3-4 sentences you will write the main claim of that chapter. What point is Gladwell trying to make? What is his argument?
 3. After you have decided on Gladwell's main claim, list a minimum of 3 pieces of evidence that support his main claim. That support may be a quote, a story he has told, research, etc. Each piece of evidence should be a "brief" summary (1-2 sentences at most).
 4. Discuss any fallacies you see in his evidence. In other words, are there any problems with the evidence? Are there areas that you don't quite think are true, or do you personally know instances that disprove Gladwell's main claim?

5. Finally, what is your opinion of the chapter? What did you find interesting? What did you learn? If you found a chapter uninteresting or confusing, say so and discuss why.

Outliers has 9 chapters, an Introduction, and an Epilogue, so you should have a total of 11 entries, with each entry having the 5 parts outlined above. You may either type your responses into a Google doc that you will submit on the first day of school, or you may handwrite your answers into a notebook that I will collect.



BISHOP CHATARD HIGH SCHOOL

Summer Reading 2025

Course: AP Literature & Composition

Contact: Ms. Day (mday@bishopchatard.org)

For your summer reading assignment, choose one of the books listed below to read and analyze. Complete the following literary analysis assignment for your chosen text:

Before the start of the school year, students should analyze a character's development throughout the novel by completing the following:

- Double-entry journal: Write down 10 quotations from the novel that demonstrate your chosen character's development throughout the novel. After each quote, provide three or more sentences that analyze the character at that moment. In other words, what does the reader learn about the character from this quote? How is the character developing/changing throughout the course of the plot?
- Below your double-entry journal, write 4-6 sentences summarizing your analysis of the character's development, and what message you believe that the author is attempting to portray through the character's development.

The assignment is due the first day of school and should be completed electronically. You should also be prepared for a timed writing on your summer reading text during the first week of school.

AP Literature & Composition Book Options

***The Grapes of Wrath* by John Steinbeck** -Published in 1939, Steinbeck's Pulitzer Prize-winning epic of the Great Depression chronicles the Dust Bowl migration of the 1930s and tells the story of one Oklahoma farm family, the Joads—driven from their homestead and forced to travel west to the promised land of California. Out of their trials and their repeated collisions against the hard realities of an America divided into Haves and Have-Nots evolves a drama that is intensely human yet majestic in its scale and moral vision, elemental yet plainspoken, tragic but ultimately stirring in its human dignity. A portrait of the conflict between the powerful and the powerless, of one man's fierce reaction to injustice, and of one woman's stoical strength, the novel captures the horrors of the Great Depression and probes into the very nature of equality and justice in America. At once a naturalistic epic, captivity narrative, road novel, and transcendental gospel, Steinbeck's powerful landmark novel is perhaps the most American of American Classics.

***Wuthering Heights* by Emily Bronte** - Published in 1849, *Wuthering Heights* is a wild, passionate story of the intense and almost demonic love between Catherine Earnshaw and Heathcliff, a foundling adopted by

Catherine's father. The action of the story is chaotic and unrelentingly violent, but the accomplished handling of a complex structure, the evocative descriptions of the lonely moorland setting and the poetic grandeur of vision combine to make this unique novel a masterpiece of English literature.

***Frankenstein* by Mary Shelley** - Few creatures of horror have seized readers' imaginations and held them for so long as the anguished monster of Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein* (published in 1818). The story of Victor Frankenstein's terrible creation and the havoc it caused has enthralled generations of readers and inspired countless writers of horror and suspense. With *Frankenstein*, she succeeded admirably in the task she set for herself: to create a story that, in her own words, "would speak to the mysterious fears of our nature and awaken thrilling horror -- one to make the reader dread to look round, to curdle the blood, and quicken the beatings of the heart."

***Where the Crawdads Sing* by Delia Owens** - For years, rumors of the "Marsh Girl" have haunted Barkley Cove, a quiet town on the North Carolina coast. So in late 1969, when handsome Chase Andrews is found dead, the locals immediately suspect Kya Clark, the so-called Marsh Girl. But Kya is not what they say. Sensitive and intelligent, she has survived for years alone in the marsh that she calls home, finding friends in the gulls and lessons in the sand. Then the time comes when she yearns to be touched and loved. When two young men from town become intrigued by her wild beauty, Kya opens herself to a new life—until the unthinkable happens.

***Fences* by August Wilson** - Troy Maxson is a strong man, a hard man. He has had to be to survive. Troy Maxson has gone through life in an America where to be proud and black is to face pressures that could crush a man, body and soul. But the 1950s are yielding to the new spirit of liberation in the 1960s, a spirit that is changing the world Troy Maxson has learned to deal with the only way he can, a spirit that is making him a stranger, angry and afraid, in a world he never knew and to a wife and son he understands less and less. Published in 1985, this is a modern classic, a book that deals with the impossibly difficult themes of race in America, set during the Civil Rights Movement of the 1950s and 60s.



BISHOP CHATARD HIGH SCHOOL

Summer Reading 2025

Course: W131: Reading, Writing, & Inquiry

Contact: Mrs. Barnes (lbarnes@bishopchatard.org)

Please see the email from Mrs. Barnes for W131 summer reading. If you did not receive the email, contact Mrs. Barnes ASAP.