

High school English students at River Oaks are required to read at least two books over the summer. Honors will read at least three. First, each grade has a required text, which will be used as the basis for **an exam** when students return. Students are encouraged to mark the text and/or take reading notes on the setting, characters, symbols, and plot:

- ❖ 9<sup>th</sup> Grade – *To Kill A Mockingbird* (Lee)
- ❖ 10<sup>th</sup> Grade – *Lord of the Flies* (Golding)
- ❖ 11<sup>th</sup> Grade – *The Glass Menagerie* (Williams)
- ❖ 12<sup>th</sup> Grade – *This I Believe II* (Allison and Gediman)

The additional books (*one* for non-honors and *two* for Honors/DE/AP) are chosen by the students, with the parents' approval. Students are required to write (and type) a report on each additional book, based on the format below:

Last Name #
Your Name
Your Teacher
Name of Course
Day Month Year
Title of Book (centered)
The first line of each paragraph should be indented one tab space. The introduction for this paper should <b>provide a "book-jacket" summary</b> . Don't use someone else's work as your own; remember that plagiarism earns a grade of zero.
In your own words, write a 100-word synopsis of the key elements of the story. The purpose of the second paragraph is to <b>analyze an important quote</b> from the novel. Begin by establishing the context for the quote; introduce the quote using a signal phrase (i.e. Lee states...), and follow the quote with a parenthetical citation (page number). Then, explain why the quote is important.
In the third paragraph, <b>write a 100-word review</b> of the novel. Rate the novel and explain why you do or do not recommend this book to your peers. Be specific when offering your praise and/or criticism. Feel free to compare the book to other books and films. The entire document should be in Times New Roman, size 12 font, and double-spaced. It is not necessary to include a works cited page.

Of course, **ALL** students are encouraged to continue to read throughout the summer. There are several resources locally and online (such as the [Ouachita Public Library](#)) that have suggestions for a variety of reading levels and tastes. We hope you all have a great summer!

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### General Reading Lists

YALSA Booklists and Book Awards ~ <http://www.ala.org/yalsa/bookawards/booklists/members>

These lists, prepared by the Young Adult Library Services Association, target a variety of readers – from “Reluctant Readers” to “College Bound.” Most titles include one-two sentence summaries.

UC Berkeley ~ <http://reading.berkeley.edu/index.html>

Themed reading lists include recent topics “Social Media” and “Between Worlds.” The 2020 theme is “Connections” Titles include short summaries.

### Award-Winning Contemporary Books

The Alex Awards ~ <http://www.ala.org/yalsa/alex-awards>

Since 1992, the annual list has included “ten books written for adults that have special appeal to young adults.”

The Pulitzer Prizes ~ <http://www.pulitzer.org/>

Columbia University recognizes “distinguished” works of American fiction, history, biography, poetry and drama.

National Book Awards ~ <http://www.nationalbook.org/>

“The National Book Foundation recognizes books of exceptional merit written by Americans.” Categories include fiction, nonfiction, poetry and young adult literature.

Powell Books “Award Winners” ~ <http://www.powells.com/awards>