

All students are required to read the assigned books; however, we strongly encourage you to read several books for fun and for enrichment. At the beginning of the school year you will demonstrate your understanding and knowledge of the two books assigned; there will be an assessment in class on both novels. Begin the school year 2019-2020 with excellent grades in your English class. A major test grade will be given for the assigned essays written. Be prepared. Why not begin the school year from a position of strength? As you read, please remember to annotate text, take notes on characters, key phrases, motifs, images and reread to understand what you have read. The best readers are active readers!

We look forward to seeing you in September. Have a safe, enjoyable summer. If you have any questions or concerns please contact me at kditanna@philasd.org.

“The journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step.”

Ms. Kathleen DiTanna
English Department Chair

DIRECTIONS: Students, please pay attention to your class, the required reading, and assignments. All assignments are due the first day of school. Please be prepared. All written work must be typed in MLA format. The font should be Times New Roman, size 12. Writing is double-spaced.

English I: <u>The Pearl</u> by John Steinbeck	ISBN 0-14-017737X
<u>Good Kings, Bad Kings</u> by Susan Nussbaum	ISBN

ASSIGNMENT: Authors often use descriptive details to develop a setting for several purposes. In an essay, explain how the setting of your book relates to events from the plot, related to characters, or built suspense. You may write one body paragraph about each literary element: setting, plot, character development, conflict.

English II	<u>The Glass Castle</u> by Jeannette Walls	ISBN: 13 978074324753
Sophomore	<u>The Hate You Give</u> by Angie Thomas	ISBN: 978048843930
Grade 10		ISBN: 978-0-452-26806-7

ASSIGNMENT: There are many recurring themes *The Glass Castle*. Some of these themes are: religion or lack of, identity, family/parenting relationships, race, poverty, resilience, strength, violence, substance abuse, sexual abuse, and others forms of abuse. Select a theme and trace significance and why? Can you relate to any of the themes in *The Glass Castle*?

ASSIGNMENT: Describe the main characters in *The Hate You Give*. You may make a list and describe each character so someone who has not read the novel would know them. In addition to an in depth description of the main characters describe the problem or conflict that each character faces. Next, chose a “concept” or a “Great Idea” and relate it to the story. Some of these great ideas are: TRUTH, LOVE, FAITH, TRUST, LOGIC, MORALITY

English III *Third and Indiana* by Steve Lopez
Junior *The Catcher in the Rye* by J.D. Salinger
Grade 11

ASSIGNMENT: Write an advice column that would appear in a newspaper or magazine to both protagonists in *Third and Indiana* and *The Catcher in the Rye*. Identify each protagonist “problem” and make suggestions how Gabriel and Holden can overcome their “issues” of conflicts in their lives.

ASSIGNMENT: Write an essay of analysis about each novel. Include in your writing: the importance of setting, a brief analysis of major characters, describe conflicts of each protagonist and your reaction to each novel.

English IV *Angela’s Ashes* by Frank Mc Court
Senior *The Joys of Motherhood* by Buchi Emecheta
Grade 12

ASSIGNMENT: Write a description of the setting of the novel you selected. Include in your discussion the following elements: Time, Place, Religion, Patriarchy, Roles of Women in marriage and the family, Conflict. (Must Do)

ASSIGNMENT: Write a resume of each main female character (Angela and Nnu). Imagine the character applying for a job (appropriate to each story) and include the following: objective, education, prior experience, hobbies, skills and references. Resumes must look realistic and be typed in the proper format OR

ASSIGNMENT: Draw a map of each story’s setting. It should contain areas where significant events occurred. Use a “key” to describe/label these significant events. Be certain to show a full understanding of the story’s plots and themes. Maps must be small poster and original work (no clip art or pictures reproduced) Neatness counts.

The English 4 assignment is the completion of two assignments, number 1—must do and number 2 you can choose between the second and the third. Of course you may do all three for extra credit.