

South Windsor High School



Summer Reading

Greetings SWHS Students and Families,

As we near the end of another academic year and head into the summer months, we hope that everyone enjoys some fun in the sun, while also keeping your minds active with summer reading. The purpose of summer reading is to engage in ongoing reading and learning, and to develop a culture of literacy in our community. This year, we expect that all of our students set personal goals for reading, and commit to reading at least one book that can be shared during opening activities in your English classroom in the fall.

Assignment for Students Entering Any English Course

Read any fiction or (novel-length) informational text and write a one-page personal response to the text. You may use the following prompts to help start your thinking:

Responding to Fiction	Responding to Nonfiction
<ul style="list-style-type: none">★ Why does this text appeal to a particular audience?★ How does the author develop relatable characters?★ What themes are evident in the text? How does the author establish these themes?★ How does this book compare with other titles in the same genre?★ Do you have any unanswered questions about the story? What are they and why are you curious about them?★ What moments or quotes from the text stood out? Why are they important?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">★ What was the author's purpose? Include evidence in your response to explain your thinking.★ How is the argument or information organized? How does this affect your understanding of the text?★ What are the main ideas presented in the book? How are these supported by details?★ Describe new insights or understandings you have after reading the book.★ Do you feel like the author is believable? Is the text written with any bias? Explain.★ Describe how you can use what you learned from this book in your own life.

Text Recommendations That Support Engagement There are many book recommendation lists that can help readers select high-interest novels to read this summer. We would like to highlight the 2024 Nutmeg Nominees for both Middle and High School. You can visit the website for the complete lists and descriptions by navigating to <https://www.nutmegaward.org/> .

A Final Note: Just as athletes need to stay in shape during the off-season, your summer reading assignment is meant to “keep you in shape” over the summer. Research supports that wide reading promotes academic success across all content areas. South Windsor High School is a community that values and celebrates literacy, so we encourage you to read **several** texts throughout the summer. If you need help selecting or obtaining a copy of a text, or understanding the reading this summer, please contact your English teacher or email Alicia Farris, K-12 Literacy Curriculum Specialist at afarris@swindsor.k12.ct.us

Happy reading!