

English 2 Summer Reading Preview Spring 2018

As you remember from last year, all Wego students participate in summer reading. This year, current ninth graders who are enrolled in English 2 for the 2018-2019 school year have four books on the summer reading list. Your job is to preview these titles. Then, choose and read ONE before we start school in August.

Please enjoy the book you choose like a “beach read.” You will be assessed on your reading and will complete a variety of assignments and participate in a Socratic Seminar, but your English 2 teacher will help you prepare for that. Annotating is not required!

Choose one:

Animal Farm by George Orwell (1370L)

The House of the Scorpion by Nancy Farmer (660L)

Lockdown: Escape from the Furnace by Alexander Gordon Smith (1010L)

The Uglies by Scott Westerfeld (770L)

All of these books have a few things in common.

- 1.) These stories are young adult novels that feature a protagonist that is coming of age in a corrupt often dystopian world.
- 2.) A dystopian world often examines the effects of a corrupt or absent government on citizens who conform and comply with intrusive rules or traditions that cause individuals to sacrifice their humanity for survival.
- 3.) Remember what you’ve learned in English 1 and apply it to this book as you read. Think about the Hierarchy of Questions. What are key plot points that are explicit or implied? How does the main character change? What are important points of comparison and contrast, or what are the causes and effects of what’s happening? What are the most important thematic topics? What is the author saying about choices, the future, and hope? If you’re looking for a challenge, consider how the author uses literary techniques, structure, or setting to create the meaning of the work as a whole or to shape characters.

This summer, spend a few hours reading one of these books for pleasure - for fun. Enjoy your summer. Enjoy summer reading!

Please make a reading a daily part of your summer. This can include books from the summer reading list, your local library, online sources, etc. All reading is good reading. If you have questions, contact language arts division chair, Mary Howard, at mhoward@d94.org.

