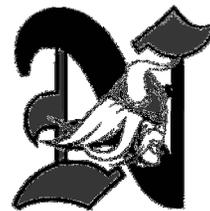


NORTHSIDE HIGH SCHOOL  
ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

# SUMMER READING

2015-2016



## Summer Reading Initiative

Northside High School encourages an interest and habit of reading; therefore, we have devised an enjoyable yet challenging summer reading initiative for our students. In order for students to maintain reading growth achieved during the school year and further develop independent reading skills, they must continually practice. For this reason, we are requiring students to continue the practice of reading throughout the summer. The texts selected will be included within our English units of study during the academic semester. Students should be sure to have thoroughly read each text required; however, we encourage them to challenge themselves to exceed the requirement.

### Reading Goals

English II-Regular	<i>Mississippi Trial, 1955</i>
English II Pre-AP	Mississippi Trial, 1955 and <i>Divergent</i> (book AND movie)
English III-Regular	<i>A Life for a Life</i>
English III-AP	<i>The Great Gatsby, The Glass Castle, Catcher in the Rye</i>
English IV-Regular	Family Ties ONLY
English IV-AP	<i>Invisible Man</i> and <i>The Sun Also Rises</i>

### Book Titles

#### English II

Mississippi Trial, 1955 by Chris Crowe

Mississippi Trial, 1955 is an eye-opening account of the tragic events leading up to the murder of Emmett Till, an African American boy from Chicago visiting relatives in 1950's Mississippi. This fictional story is based on true events and is told through the eyes of Hiram Hilburn, a white 16-year-old boy visiting his beloved grandfather in Mississippi for the summer. As a connection forms between Hiram and Emmett, Hiram must soon face the realities around him as a local young man from Mississippi decides to viciously show Emmett his place.



## Book Titles con't



Beatrice "Tris" Prior has reached the fateful age of sixteen, the stage at which teenagers in Veronica Roth's dystopian Chicago must select which of five factions to join for life. Each faction represents a virtue: Candor, Abnegation, Dauntless, Amity, and Erudite. To the surprise of herself and her selfless Abnegation family, she chooses Dauntless, the path of courage. Her choice exposes her to the demanding, violent initiation rites of this group, but it also threatens to expose a personal secret that could place in mortal danger. Veronica Roth's young adult Divergent trilogy launches with a captivating adventure about love and loyalty playing out under most extreme circumstances.

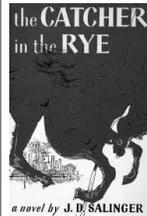
### English III

*The Glass Castle* by Jeanette Walls

The author recalls her life growing up in a dysfunctional family with an alcoholic father and distant mother and describes how she and her siblings had to fend for themselves until they finally found the resources and courage to leave home.



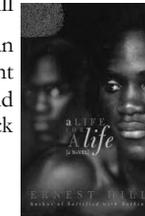
*Catcher in the Rye* by J.D. Salinger



This classic 1951 novel was originally published for adults; however, it has since become popular with adolescent readers for its themes of teenage anguish and alienation. The novel's protagonist and antihero, Holden Caulfield, has become an icon for teenage rebellion. This novel is for the mature reader due to its liberal use of profanity and portrayal of sexuality. It also deals with complex issues of identity, belonging, connection, and alienation.

*A Life for A Life* by Ernest Hill

This is the story of the unlikely bond between an African-American father and the teenager who killed his son. It is a tale of violent self-destruction reclaimed by the inexhaustible power of love and forgiveness. Hill explores the volatile emotional terrain of a black youth's coming of age in rural Louisiana



*The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald

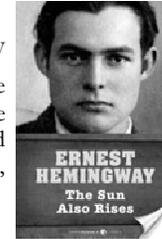
The story of the fabulously wealthy Jay Gatsby and his love for the beautiful Daisy Buchanan, of lavish parties on Long Island at a time when The New York Times noted "gin was the national drink and sex the national obsession," it is an exquisitely crafted tale of America in the 1920s.

## Book Titles

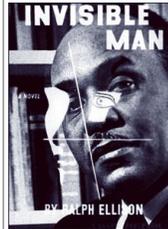
### English IV

*The Sun Also Rises* by Ernest Hemingway

This novel thrashes all the flowery things we're taught to believe about love and romance, and basically tells us that the world we live in can no longer support these old fashioned ideas – and furthermore, it offers no solutions. The novel attempts, in its way, to answer one of the great questions of life: what is love?



*Invisible Man* by Ralph Ellison



The nameless narrator of the novel describes growing up in a black community in the South, attending a Negro college from which he is expelled, moving to New York and becoming the chief spokesman of the Harlem branch of "the Brotherhood", and retreating amid violence and confusion to the basement lair of the Invisible Man he imagines himself to be.

*Family Ties* by Ernest Hill

Now, with his jail time behind him, D'Ray has returned home to find that the real fight for survival is only beginning. Everyone was shocked when Mr. Henry took D'Ray Reid under his wing. After all, Mr. Henry's real son, Stanley, was murdered by D'Ray - a crime D'Ray committed to save his own brother, Little Man. After Mr. Henry's death, D'Ray seeks out his own mother, Mira. Putting things right will mean uncovering a legacy of lies and hidden agendas.



## Additional Information

- Each English teacher has additional assignments to accompany the Summer Reading texts. Students are required to complete each assignment, which may be found on the insert or the school's website: [tinyurl.com/NHSVikings](http://tinyurl.com/NHSVikings)
- Pre-AP and AP students are encouraged to purchase copies of the texts so that annotations can be made directly onto the text. See your Pre-AP/AP teacher for annotation guidelines (and books, if needed).
- Each Lafayette branch of the public library has copies of the NHS Summer Reading list and texts.