

ENGLISH I GT/PRE-AP SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENT

Welcome to English I GT/Pre-AP! We will read extensively in multiple genres, learn literary forms and terms, think critically and creatively, and produce innovative and effective products. We will explore some of the big questions in life: What meaning(s) are we searching for in our lives? What meanings do we share globally? What meaning(s) are the characters searching for in their lives? To begin exploring these ideas, you are required to complete a summer reading assignment for English I GT/Pre-AP.



STEP ONE

Obtain a copy of *The Chosen* by Chaim Potok. As you read the novel, make notes in the margins or on “sticky notes.” This is called **annotating** the text. Your notes should include **questions and predictions** as well as **definitions** for unfamiliar vocabulary. Also note **themes, characterization, conflicts, and literary devices**. Literary devices include **similes, metaphors, imagery, details, allusions, connotative words** and the narrator’s **tone**.

STEP TWO

Choose **three (3) passages from the novel**—one from the **beginning** (exposition), one from the **middle** (rising action/climax/falling action), and one from the **end**—that you consider important because they exemplify expressive use of **literary devices AND** effectively present **characterization, theme, or conflict**.

Each passage must reflect certain characteristics: one passage must be chosen because it represents characterization; one passage must reflect conflict; one passage must reflect theme.

STEP THREE

Bring your copy of *The Chosen* with annotations and selected passages to class with you as directed by your teacher to be used in preparation of a written assignment. This will occur shortly after the beginning of the school year, so you should have completed Steps One and Two prior to the opening of school.

Ninth Grade Reading List

Consider **purchasing** copies (new or used) of the following novels so that you can make textual notes more easily as we read these books during the year:

- *Frankenstein* by Mary Shelley
- *A Tale of Two Cities* by Charles Dickens
- *Childhood’s End* by Arthur Clarke
- *The Alchemist* by Paulo Coelho
- *Romeo and Juliet* by William Shakespeare (found in literature book)