

# **Junipero Serra High School English Department Summer Reading Program, 2009-2010**

Summer reading is an important tool in developing literacy, critical thinking, and eloquent writing. The bullet points below are intended to help students bridge the gap between the summer months and the school year, encouraging students to read engaging texts and to consider a few questions in preparation for the first few weeks of English class this fall.

**Following the reading experience, students should be able to:**

- identify the essential conflicts of the book.
- identify the main characters and identify any significant changes that the main character undergoes.
- identify the importance of settings (time and place). Are there any setting shifts that occur?
- summarize the plot or sequence of events of the book.
- discuss the major stylistic features of each book.
- identify the point of view for each of the books.
- identify the essential theme(s) of each book.

**Students will choose one or all of their summer reading selections depending on the course in which they are enrolled. Students must choose books which they have not yet read. This requires maturity and independence on the part of the student, yet we are confident that this will encourage students to engage and enjoy texts that interest them. In addition, academic research suggests that students are more likely to read books when *they* get to choose them. Students will be assessed on these books; however, our primary goal is to encourage students to simply enjoy reading, and to empower students to become lifelong, passionate readers. Please get your books early—most are available online at local bookstores, Amazon.com, or through local libraries—and enjoy some of the world’s great literary selections.**

## Reading List—Summer 2009 Incoming Freshmen (class of 2013)

**All students are required to read the following book**

- *Deathwatch* by Robb White (fiction)

ISBN-10: 0440917409

ISBN-13: 978-0440917403

**Students are to read ONE additional book from the list of books below:**

- *Bad Boy, a Memoir* by Walter Dean Myers (nonfiction)

ISBN-10: 0-06-447288-4

ISBN-13: 978-0-06-447288-3

- *Maus I: A Survivor's Tale: My Father Bleeds History* by Art Spiegelman (graphic novel)

ISBN-10: 0394747232

ISBN-13: 978-0394747231

- *Ender's Game* by Orson Scott Card (Science-Fiction)

ISBN-10: 0765342294

ISBN-13: 978-0765342294

### Incoming Freshman Honors Selections:

**Read BOTH of the following novels:**

*A Tale of Two Cities* by Charles Dickens

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

## Reading List – Summer 2009

### English 3 – 4 and Honors English 3-4

**Incoming sophomores must select TWO of the following texts to read over the summer. Please select books which you have not previously read. Assessments will be administered in the fall for each of the two texts selected:**

***American Born Chinese* by Gene Yang (Fiction - Graphic Novel)**

In an action-packed modern fable about the problems young Chinese Americans face when trying to participate in American popular culture, the lives of three apparently unrelated characters--Jin Wang, Monkey King, and Chin-Kee--come together with an unexpected twist.

***Ball Don't Lie* by Matt de la Pena (Fiction)**

Seventeen-year-old Sticky lives to play basketball at school and at Lincoln Recreation Center in Los Angeles and is headed for the pros, but he is unaware of the many dangers--including his own past--that threaten his dream.

***The Boys of Winter: the Untold Story of a Coach, a Dream, and the 1980 U.S. Olympic Hockey Team* by Wayne Coffey (Non-fiction)**

Examines the 1980 U.S. Olympic hockey team, their coach, Herb Brooks, and their determination to win the gold medal against the seasoned veterans of the Soviet Union and traces the paths of the players and coach since 1980.

***The Count of Monte Cristo* by Alexandre Dumas (Fiction)**

After escaping from the island fortress where he has been imprisoned for treason, young sailor Edmund Dantes sets out to discover the treasure of Monte Cristo and seek revenge against the people who falsely accused him.

***The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time* by Mark Haddon (Fiction)**

Despite his overwhelming fear of interacting with people, Christopher, a mathematically-gifted, autistic fifteen-year-old boy, decides to investigate the murder of a neighbor's dog and uncovers secret information about his mother.

***Different Seasons* by Stephen King\* (Fiction)**

**\*or any other book by Stephen King**

Presents four novellas (*Rita Hayworth and the Shawshank Redemption*, *Apt Pupil*, *The Body*, *The Breathing Method*) each of which corresponds to a different season of the year.

***Dune*\* by Frank Herbert (Science Fiction)**

**\*or any books in the *Dune* series**

The story of a young prince, Paul Atreides, scion of a star-crossed dynasty, and of his journey from boy to warrior to ruler of a dying planet destined to become a paradise regained.

***Eagle Blue: a Team, a Tribe, and a High School Basketball Season in Arctic Alaska* by Michael D'Orso (Non-fiction)**

Follows the Fort Yukon Eagles high school basketball team from its 2004 preseason to the 2005 Alaskan state championship, exploring the lives of its players and coach and examining the six-hundred-person village's Gwich'in Athabascan heritage.

***Ender's Game*\* by Orson Scott Card (Science Fiction)****\*or any other book in the *Ender Wiggins Saga***

Young Ender Wiggin may prove to be the military genius Earth needs to fight a desperate battle against a deadly alien race that will determine the future of the human race.

***Eragon*\* by Christopher Paolini (Fantasy)****\*or any other book in the *The Inheritance Cycle***

In Alagaesia, a fifteen-year-old boy of unknown lineage called Eragon finds a mysterious stone that weaves his life into an intricate tapestry of destiny, magic, and power, peopled with dragons, elves, and monsters.

***Friday Night Lights* by H.G. Bissinger (Non-fiction)**

This book follows the 1988 season of the Permian Panthers, a high school football team in Odessa, Texas, exploring the lives of the players and the impact of the championship team on the small town.

***The Godfather*\* by Mario Puzo (Fiction)****\*or any books in *The Godfather* series**

In this story of family, loyalty, and men who rule the American underworld, Puzo introduces a haunting cast of gangsters, and offers an unforgettable look into world of organized crime that no writer has been able to duplicate since.

***The Guns of Navarone* by Alistair MacLean (Fiction)**

When an all-out naval bombardment fails to silence the German artillery on the cliffs at Navarone, five men, each a specialist in violence, death, and destruction, are sent on a commando raid to destroy the guns.

***Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone*\* by J.K. Rowling (Fantasy)****Or any other book in the *Harry Potter* series**

Rescued from the outrageous neglect of his aunt and uncle, a young boy with a great destiny proves his worth while attending Hogwarts School for Wizards and Witches.

***Heavier Than Heaven: a Biography of Kurt Cobain* by Charles R. Cross (Biography)**

Chronicles the troubled, creative life of rock singer-songwriter Kurt Cobain, who rose to fame in the early 1990s as the lead singer of Nirvana and shot himself in 1994, and describes the aftermath of his death for his wife, daughter, parents, friends, and fans.

***Holler If You Hear Me: Searching for Tupac Shakur* by Michael Eric Dyson (Biography)**

Examines the life of rap musician Tupac Shakur, explores the reasons why his music and message continue to grow five years after his death, and includes interviews with people who knew and/or admired the rapper, including his mother, Quincy Jones, Jada Pinkett Smith, and others.

***Into Thin Air: a Personal Account of the Mount Everest Disaster* by Jon Krakauer (Non-fiction)**

The author relates his experience of climbing Mount Everest during its deadliest season and examines what it is about the mountain that makes people willingly subject themselves to such risk, hardship, and expense.

***Last Breath: the Limits of Adventure* by Peter Stark (Fiction - Short Stories)**

Presents short stories in which adventurers find themselves on the brink of death from hypothermia, drowning, mountain sickness, avalanche, scurvy, heatstroke, falling, predators, the bends, cerebral malaria, and dehydration.

***A Lesson Before Dying* by Ernest J. Gaines (Fiction)**

Tells the story of a young African-American man sentenced to death for a murder he did not commit, and a teacher who tries to impart to him his learning and pride before the execution.

***Little Brother* by Cory Doctorow (Fiction)**

Interrogated for days by the Department of Homeland Security in the aftermath of a major terrorist attack on San Francisco, California, seventeen-year-old Marcus is released into what is now a police state, and decides to use his expertise in computer hacking to set things right.

***Nation* by Terry Pratchett (Fiction)**

After a devastating tsunami destroys all that they have ever known, Mau, an island boy, and Daphne, an aristocratic English girl, together with a small band of refugees, set about rebuilding their community and all the things that are important in their lives.

***Nineteen Minutes* by Jodi Picoult (Fiction)**

The people of Sterling, New Hampshire, are forever changed after a shooting at the high school leaves ten people dead, and the judge presiding over the trial tries to remain unbiased, even though her daughter witnessed events and was friends with assailant.

***October Sky: a Memoir* by Homer Hickam (Non-fiction)**

The author traces the boyhood enthusiasm for rockets that eventually led to a career at NASA, describing how he built model rockets in the family garage in West Virginia, inspired by the launch of the Soviet satellite Sputnik. Originally published as *Rocket Boys*.

***On a Pale Horse*\* by Piers Anthony (Fantasy)**

**\*or other books in the *Incarnations of Immortality* series**

Zane belongs to a world in which scientific revolution is followed by a revolution of magic, and he is thrust into the role of Death.

***One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* by Ken Kesey (Fiction)**

The struggle for power between a head nurse and a male patient in a mental institution leads to a climax of hate, violence, and death.

***Rats: Observations on the History and Habitat of the City's Most Unwanted Inhabitants* by Robert Sullivan (Non-fiction)**

Traces the history of the urban rat, based on the author's observations primarily in a Manhattan alley, introduces some of the people who deal with rats on a daily basis, including exterminators, sanitation workers, and others, and shares rat-related anecdotes.

***Rats Saw God* by Rob Thomas (Fiction)**

In hopes of graduating, Steve York agrees to complete a hundred-page writing assignment which helps him sort out his relationship with his famous astronaut father and the events that changed him from promising student to troubled teen.

***A River Runs Through It and Other Stories* by Norman Maclean (Fiction – Short Stories)**

A collection of three Western stories, featuring the title piece about the relationship between a father and his two sons, bound together by love and fly fishing.

***The Rule of Four* by Ian Caldwell and Dustin Thomason (Mystery)**

Tom Sullivan and Paul Harris are determined to unlock the centuries old mystery behind an ancient Renaissance text before their graduation from Princeton, but just as they are about to discover its secrets, campus is rocked with a series of suspicious deaths.

***Seabiscuit: an American Legend* by Laura Hillenbrand (Non-fiction)**

Describes how three men worked together to turn a rough-hewn, undersized horse into one of the fastest horses in racing history.

***Snow Crash* by Neal Stephenson (Science Fiction)**

With the strange new designer drug, Snow Crash, making zombies of nearly everyone and a deadly computer virus striking down hackers, Hiro Protagonist, the last of the free-lance hackers, comes to the rescue.

***The Spy who came in from the Cold* by John Le Carre (Fiction)**

Veteran spy Alec Leamas, hoping to "come in from the cold" to retirement, is given one last bone-chilling assignment in which he is required to pretend defection and provide the enemy with sufficient evidence to label their leader a double agent.

***This Boy's Life: a Memoir* by Tobias Wolff (Autobiography)**

Wolff's account of his boyhood and the process of growing up includes paper routes, whiskey, scouting, fistfights, friendship, betrayal, and America in the fifties.

***A Walk in the Woods: Rediscovering America on the Appalachian Trail* by Bill Bryson (Non-fiction)**

Author Bill Bryson provides an account of his experiences hiking the Appalachian Trail with a childhood friend, telling of how they survived a blizzard, got lost, and had encounters with eccentric characters, and rude yuppies along the way.

***Whale Talk* by Chris Crutcher (Fiction)**

Intellectually and athletically gifted, TJ, a multiracial, adopted teenager, shuns organized sports and the gung-ho athletes at his high school until he agrees to form a swimming team and recruits some of the school's less popular students.

***The Great Santini* by Pat Conroy**

The novel explores main character Ben Meecham's growth into manhood, his experiences playing basketball for his high school, as well as his friendships with a Jewish classmate and an African-American farmer. The novel exposes the love-hate relationship between Ben and his father—a hard-nosed Marine fighter pilot—and the lengths Ben goes to in an effort to win his father's acceptance and love.

**Upper Division Summer Reading Choice List (2009)  
(NOT including AP Courses)**

**Incoming juniors and seniors not enrolled in an AP English course must select TWO of the following texts to read over the summer. Students enrolled in AP courses should refer to their course list below. Please select books which you have not previously read. Assessments will be administered in the fall for each of the two texts selected:**

***1776* by David McCullough (Non-fiction)**

Based upon both American and British historical documents, the author presents a comprehensive history of the American Revolution during 1776, George Washington, and those who followed him.

***The 13th Juror\** by John Lescroart (Serra '68) \*or any John Lescroart novels (Fiction)**

Lawyer/investigator Dismas Hardy defends a woman accused of killing her husband, her son, and her previous husband.

***The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-time Indian* by Sherman Alexie (Fiction)**

Budding cartoonist Junior leaves his troubled school on the Spokane Indian Reservation to attend an all-white farm town school where the only other Native American is the school mascot.

***American Born Chinese* by Gene Yang (Fiction - Graphic Novel)**

In an action-packed modern fable about the problems young Chinese Americans face when trying to participate in American popular culture, the lives of three apparently unrelated characters--Jin Wang, Monkey King, and Chin-Kee--come together with an unexpected twist.

***An Army at Dawn: The War in North Africa, 1942-1943, Volume One of the Liberation Trilogy* by Rick Atkinson (Non-fiction)**

The first volume in a three volume work about the liberation of Europe opens in North Africa in 1942 and charts America's rise to world-power status by its involvement in a war on two fronts.

***Autobiography of Malcom X* by Alex Haley (Non-fiction)**

Malcolm X, the Black Muslim leader, firebrand, and anti-integrationist, tells his life story to veteran writer and journalist Alex Haley.

***The Battle for God* by Karen Armstrong (Non-fiction)**

A study of fundamentalism in the Protestant, Jewish, and Muslim religions, discussing what this type of religiosity means, how and for what reasons it has developed, what it reveals about modern culture, and how it should be dealt with.

***The Boys of Winter: the Untold Story of a Coach, a Dream, and the 1980 U.S. Olympic Hockey Team* by Wayne Coffey (Non-fiction)**

Examines the 1980 U.S. Olympic hockey team, their coach, Herb Brooks, and their determination to win the gold medal against the seasoned veterans of the Soviet Union and traces the paths of the players and coach since 1980.

***The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao* by Junot Diaz (Fiction)**

Overweight and nerdy Oscar lives with his Dominican American mother and sister in New Jersey and dreams of becoming a renowned author and finding true love, but unfortunately, a family curse stands in the way of his wishes.

***The Count of Monte Cristo* by Alexandre Dumas (Fiction)**

After escaping from the island fortress where he has been imprisoned for treason, young sailor Edmund Dantes sets out to discover the treasure of Monte Cristo and seek revenge against the people who falsely accused him.

***The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time* by Mark Haddon (Fiction)**

Despite his overwhelming fear of interacting with people, Christopher, a mathematically-gifted, autistic fifteen-year-old boy, decides to investigate the murder of a neighbor's dog and uncovers secret information about his mother.

***Devil in a Blue Dress* by Walter Mosely (Fiction)**

Unemployed African-American veteran Easy Rawlins accepts an offer of some detective work in 1948 from white gangster Dewitt Albright, who wants Easy to scour the jazz joints of Los Angeles in an effort to locate blonde femme fatale Daphne Monet.

***Different Seasons* by Stephen King\* (Fiction)****\*or any other book by Stephen King**

Presents four novellas (Rita Hayworth and Shawshank Redemption -- Apt pupil -- The Body -- The Breathing Method.) each of which corresponds to a different season of the year.

***Dune\** by Frank Herbert (Science Fiction)****\*or any books in the *Dune* series**

The story of a young prince, Paul Atreides, scion of a star-crossed dynasty, and of his journey from boy to warrior to ruler of a dying planet destined to become a paradise regained.

***Eragon\** by Christopher Paolini (Fantasy)****Or any other books in the *The Inheritance Cycle***

In Alagaesia, a fifteen-year-old boy of unknown lineage called Eragon finds a mysterious stone that weaves his life into an intricate tapestry of destiny, magic, and power, peopled with dragons, elves, and monsters.

***Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury (Fiction)**

After learning that books are a vital part of a culture he never knew, a book-burning official in a future fascist state clandestinely pursues reading until he is betrayed. Includes a 2003 introduction by the author.

***Generation Kill: Devil Dogs, Iceman, Captain America, and the New Face of American War* by Evan Wright (Non-fiction)**

The author describes the two months he spent with the twenty-three marines of First Recon, the first platoon in the ambush spots from the invasion of Iraq until the fall of Baghdad, beginning March 20, 2003, and examines the physical, emotional, moral, and spiritual challenges of men trained to kill.

***Get Shorty* by Elmore Leonard (Fiction)**

Chili Palmer, a Miami loan shark, pursues a mark who is behind in payments to Las Vegas and then to Hollywood where Harry Zimm has gambled away the \$200,000 earmarked for his next production.

***The Hades Factor* by Robert Ludlum and Gayle Lynds (Fiction)**

For days, U.S. scientists have been trying to unlock the secrets of a virus known as "Hades". When Lt. Col. Jon Smith returns home after a meeting, he finds his partner dying of the virus. Convinced she was murdered, Smith joins forces with the CIA, and uncovers a horrifying plot.

***Heavier than Heaven: a Biography of Kurt Cobain* by Charles R. Cross (Non-fiction)**

Chronicles the troubled, creative life of rock singer-songwriter Kurt Cobain, who rose to fame in the early 1990s as the lead singer of Nirvana and shot himself in 1994, and describes the aftermath of his death for his wife, daughter, parents, friends, and fans.

***Holler if you Hear Me: Searching for Tupac Shakur* by Michael Eric Dyson (Non-Fiction)**

Examines the life of rap musician Tupac Shakur, explores the reasons why his music and message continue to grow five years after his death, and includes interviews with people who knew and/or admired the rapper, including his mother, Quincy Jones, Jada Pinkett Smith, and others.

***I am the Messenger* by Markus Zusac (Fiction)**

After capturing a bank robber, nineteen-year-old cab driver Ed Kennedy begins receiving mysterious messages that direct him to addresses where people need help, and he begins getting over his lifelong feeling of worthlessness.

***Interview with a Vampire* by Anne Rice (Fiction)**

Presents the confessions of Louis, a vampire, and tells of his relationship with the vampire Lestat.

***Killer Angels* by Michael Shaara (Fiction)**

A fictional account of four days in July, 1863 at the Battle of Gettysburg discussing tactics, plans, and preparations for battle from both the Northern and Southern points of view.

***Kite Runner* by Khaled Hosseini (Fiction)**

Traces the unlikely friendship of a wealthy Afghan youth and a servant's son, in a tale that spans the final days of Afghanistan's monarchy through the atrocities of the present day.

***A Thousand Splendid Suns* by Khaled Hosseini (Fiction)**

Mariam and Laila are born a generation apart but are brought together by war and fate. Together they endure the dangers surrounding them and discover the power of both love and sacrifice.

***Lamb: The Gospel According to Biff, Christ's Childhood Pal* by Christopher Moore (Fiction)**

A humorous, speculative novel fills in the lost years of Jesus' life, told from the perspective of Biff, his childhood best friend.

***Lonesome Dove* by Larry McMurtry (Fiction)**

Two former Texas Rangers, Augustus McCrae and Woodrow Call, leave their Texas ranch to lead a cattle drive to Montana, encountering outlaws, Native Americans, and ex-loves along the way.

***The Last Picture Show* by Larry McMurtry (Fiction)**

Sonny, a high school senior who lives in a rooming house in Thalia, Texas, tries to come to grips with the changes sweeping his life and his small town in the 1950s.

***Murder on the Orient Express* by Agatha Christie (Fiction)**

Detective Hercule Poirot has a wealth of suspects to choose from when a wealthy American is stabbed to death en route to Paris on the Orient Express.

***Nineteen Minutes* by Jodi Picoult (Fiction)**

The people of Sterling, New Hampshire, are forever changed after a shooting at the high school leaves ten people dead, and the judge presiding over the trial tries to remain unbiased, even though her daughter witnessed events and was friends with assailant.

***October Sky: a Memoir* by Homer Hickam (Non-fiction)**

The author traces the boyhood enthusiasm for rockets that eventually led to a career at NASA, describing how he built model rockets in the family garage in West Virginia, inspired by the launch of the Soviet satellite Sputnik. Originally published as *Rocket Boys*.

***On a Pale Horse\** by Piers Anthony (Fantasy)****\*or other books in the *Incarnations of Immortality* series**

Zane belongs to a world in which scientific revolution is followed by a revolution of magic, and he is thrust into the role of Death.

***One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* by Ken Kesey (Fiction)**

The struggle for power between a head nurse and a male patient in a mental institution leads to a climax of hate, violence, and death.

***Rabbit, Run* by John Updike (Fiction)**

Twenty-six-year-old Harry (Rabbit) Angstrom, unhappy with his life, deserts his pregnant wife and young son and becomes involved with another woman, but when his wife gives birth, he returns home, only to be met by tragedy.

***Rats Saw God* by Rob Thomas (Fiction)**

In hopes of graduating, Steve York agrees to complete a hundred-page writing assignment which helps him sort out his relationship with his famous astronaut father and the events that changed him from promising student to troubled teen.

***A River Runs Through It and Other Stories* by Norman Maclean (Fiction – Short Stories)**

A collection of three Western stories, featuring the title piece about the relationship between a father and his two sons, bound together by love and fly fishing.

***The Road* by Cormac McCarthy (Fiction)**

In a novel set in an indefinite, futuristic, post-apocalyptic world, a father and his young son make their way through the ruins of a devastated American landscape, struggling to survive and preserve the last remnants of their own humanity.

***The Rule of Four* by Ian Caldwell and Dustin Thomason (Mystery)**

Tom Sullivan and Paul Harris are determined to unlock the centuries old mystery behind an ancient Renaissance text before their graduation from Princeton, but just as they are about to discover its secrets, campus is rocked with a series of suspicious deaths.

***Seabiscuit: an American Legend* by Laura Hillenbrand (Non-fiction)**

Describes how three men worked together to turn a rough-hewn, undersized horse into one of the fastest horses in racing history.

***Slaughterhouse Five* by Kurt Vonnegut (Fiction)**

A fourth-generation German-American is tortured by his memories of the firebombing of Dresden in 1944 which he witnessed while a prisoner of war.

***Snow Crash* by Neal Stephenson (Science Fiction)**

With the strange new designer drug, Snow Crash, making zombies of nearly everyone and a deadly computer virus striking down hackers, Hiro Protagonist, the last of the free-lance hackers, comes to the rescue.

***The Templar Legacy* by Steve Berry (Fiction)**

Cotton Malone, a former covert U.S. Justice Department operative, and his ex-supervisor Stephanie Nelle, follow a labyrinthine trail of danger, treachery, high-level intrigue, and overwhelming ambition across Europe on a quest that leads them to the enigmatic secrets of the Knights Templar. 120,000 first printing.

***This is Your Brain on Music: the Science of a Human Obsession* by Daniel Levitin (Non-fiction)**

Presents the psychological effects music has on people, investigating its role in human evolution, its effects on emotions, and how musical preferences and expertise are formed.

***Watchmen* by Alan Moore, Dave Gibbons (Fiction – Graphic Novel)**

Two generations of superheros, including Dr. Manhattan, who deals with the responsibility of his powers, and Nite Owl, who wrestles with letting go of the past, dissect their collective histories while trying to determine who is methodically killing them all off.

## AP Language and Composition - Summer Reading 2009

**All students are required to read:** *Assembling California* by John McPhee  
ISBN: 0374523932

**Students are also required to read ONE additional book from the list below:**

### **James Baldwin**

#### ***Vintage Baldwin* (2004)**

Collects eight short stories, essays, excerpts, and other writings by American author James Baldwin, including "Nobody Knows My Name: A Letter from the South," exploring race, identity, politics and what it means to be an American.

#### ***No Name in the Street* (2000)**

A personal account of the sixties and seventies displaying Baldwin's fury and despair including the murders of Martin Luther King and Malcolm X, his sojourns in Europe and in Hollywood, and his return to America's South.

### **Joan Didion**

#### ***Slouching Toward Bethlehem* (2008)**

American novelist Joan Didion's first volume of nonfiction essays, first published in 1968, consisting of twenty works that reflect the atmosphere in America during the 1960s, especially in California.

#### ***Where I was From* (2003)**

The author parallels the history of her family with that of California, focusing on the contradictions between how California is idealized and the reality of conditions in the state.

### **E.B. White**

#### ***Essays of E.B. White* (1999)**

Contains over thirty essays written by author E.B. White over the course of many years on a wide variety of topics including the farm, the planet, the city, Florida, memories, diversions and obsessions, and books, men, and writing.

### **Anne Dillard**

#### ***For the Time Being* (1995)**

A collection of personal narratives by Annie Dillard.

#### ***Pilgrim at Tinker Creek* (2007)**

The author philosophizes on the positive and negative sides of nature while observing life near Tinker Creek, in a valley in Virginia's Blue Ridge Mountains.

### **John McPhee** (other than *Assembling California*?)

#### ***The Founding Fish* (2002)**

John McPhee recounts his obsession with fishing, discussing how it has helped him cope with difficult times in his life.

***Uncommon Carriers* (2006)**

John McPhee profiles the people who work in freight transportation that he has met throughout his travels, describing their lifestyle, work, and traditions.

**Barbara Tuchman*****The First Salute* (1989)**

Examines pivotal events of the American Revolution and how Europe was affected by it.

***Practicing History: Selected Essays* (1982)**

A collection of essays in three categories: how a historian approaches the writing of history, samples of the author's historical inquiries, and thoughts on the use of historical investigation.

**Norman Mailer*****Miami and the Siege of Chicago*(2008)**

Examines the events of 1968 during which President Lyndon Johnson announced his intention not to seek a second term in office, Martin Luther King, Jr. was assassinated, Bobby Kennedy was killed, antiwar protestors raged in Chicago and around the country, and the Republican convention met in Miami to nominate Richard Nixon.

***Why are we at War* (2003)**

Argues that President George W. Bush is striving to create his own empire, revealing the flaws behind the administration's military choices and scrutinizing the administration's words and actions leading up to the current crisis.

**N. Scott Momaday*****The Man of Words: Essays, Stories, Passages* (1998)**

Collection of essays and articles in which the author explores such themes as Indian-white relations, land, language, and identity.

***The Names: a Memoir* (1997)**

Author's memoir about his boyhood in Oklahoma, at Shiprock in the Navajo country.

**Edward Hoagland*****Tigers & Ice: Reflections on Nature and Life* (2000)**

Presents an autobiographical collection of essays by American essayist, Edward Hoagland in which he recounts his blindness, depression and isolation, and his history travels around the world after regaining his sight.

***Compass Points: How I Lived* (2002).**

An autobiographical account of the life of author Edward Hoagland, discussing his personal relationships, his literary influences, his world travels, and other related topics.

**Eduardo Galeano*****Soccer in Sun and Shadow* (1998)**

A collection of brief commentaries, translated from the original Spanish text, in which Latin American writer Eduardo Galeano reflects upon life and death in the game of soccer.

***Mirrors: Stories of Almost Everyone*** (May 2009)

Recalling the lives of artists, writers, gods, and visionaries, from the Garden of Eden to twenty-first-century New York, of the black slaves who built the White House and the women erased by men's fears, and told in hundreds of kaleidoscopic vignettes, *Mirrors* is a magic mosaic of our humanity.

**Simon Winchester*****Krakatoa: the Day the World Exploded, August 27, 1883*** (2005)

In August 1883, a catastrophic volcanic eruption off the coast of Java was followed by a tsunami that killed nearly 40,000 people. The author brings new perspective to this iconic event, showing how it marked a change in East-West relations.

***A Crack in the Edge of the World: America and the Great California Earthquake of 1906*** (2006)

Discusses how the San Francisco earthquake of 1906 led to a greater scientific study of earthquakes in an attempt to understand the movements of the earth, and explains plate tectonics theory, the creation of the San Andreas Fault, and the social and political shifts caused by the disaster.

**AP Literature and Composition - Summer Reading 2009**

Book 1 (required)

***How to Read Literature Like a Professor*** – Thomas Foster  
(ISBN # 978-06-000942-7)

Book 2 (required)

***Hard Times*** – Charles Dickens (any copy)

Book 3 (Student choice)

***Life of Pi*** – Yann Martel (ISBN # 0-15-602732-1)

***Lullaby*** – Chuck Palahniuk (ISBN # 978-0-385-72219-3)

***Cat's Cradle*** – Kurt Vonnegut (ISBN # 978-0-385-33348-1)

***The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*** – Mark Haddon  
(ISBN # 978-1-4000-3271-6)

***Middlesex*** – Jeffery Eugenides (ISBN # 0-312-42773-5)