

## Summer Reading 2010-2011 Pikesville High School

You are encouraged to read **three or more** books from either side of this paper in anticipation of the start of school. Most of these books are available in the public library.

Students enrolled in AP Language and AP Literature will receive a separate summer reading assignment.

### Why summer reading?

- Summer reading is a valuable way to improve vocabulary.
- Reading daily improves academic concentration.
- Reading daily helps students perform better on the SAT critical reading and writing sections.
- Reading daily improves knowledge of the world.
- Many of these works are read in the BCPS curriculum throughout the year; therefore, reading them will help you prepare for the school year.

### How will you be assessed?

If you do not read during the summer, you will be expected to read one of these titles during the month of September in preparation for the assessment described below. Toward the end of September, **all sections** of English classes will be practicing an SAT essay. The writing sections of the SAT will contain an argument essay, and writers of the essay are encouraged to use their readings, observations, and experiences. As part of your response, you will be writing about one of the books you read.

During the first few weeks of school, classes will study the books listed below. Students are encouraged to read these books over the summer in order to prepare for the start of school.

#### **Grade 9 G/T:**

*To Kill a Mockingbird*, Harper Lee

#### **Grade 9 H/S:**

*The Contender*, Robert Lipsyte

#### **Grade 10 G/T:**

*Siddhartha*, Herman Hesse

#### **Grade 10:**

*Animal Farm*, George Orwell

#### **Grade 11:**

*A Lesson Before Dying*, Ernest Gaines

#### **Grade 12**

*Grendel*, John Gardner

**Summer Reading 2010-2011**  
**Pikesville High School**

*The American Library Association* also recommends these titles:

History:

- *Forgotten Fire: A Novel*, Adam Bagdasarian
- *Collapse: How Societies Choose to Fail or Succeed*, Diamond, Jared
- *The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao*, Diaz, Junot
- *The Worst Hard Time: The Untold Story of Those Who Survived the Great American Dust Bowl*, Egan, Timothy.
- *The Complete Persepolis*, Marjane Satrapi.

Humanities:

- *Viva la Vida! Long Live Life!* Carmen Bernier-Grand
- *The Power of Myth*, Joseph Campbell and Bill Moyers
- *Pillars of the Earth*, Ken Follett
- *Water for Elephants: A Novel* Sara Gruen.
- *Girls Like Us: Carole King, Joni Mitchell, Carly Simon—And the Journey of a Generation*, Sheila Weller

Social Sciences:

- *A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy Soldier*, , Ishmael Beah
- *The Tipping Point: How Little Things Can Make a Big Difference*, Malcolm Gladwell
- *Hungry Planet: What the World Eats*, Peter Menzel and Faith D'Aluisio
- *Three Cups of Tea: One Man's Mission to Promote Peace One School at a Time*, Greg Mortenson and David Oliver Relin
- *The Glass Castle: A Memoir*, Jeannette Walls

Science and Math:

- *The Taste of Sweet: Our Complicated Love Affair With Our Favorite Treats*, Joanne Chen
- *The Weather Makers: How Man Is Changing the Climate and What It Means for Life on Earth*, Tim Flannery
- *Out of Orbit: The Incredible True Story of Three Astronauts Who Were Hundreds of Miles Above Earth When They Lost Their Ride Home*, Chris Jones
- *The Way We Work: Getting to Know the Amazing Human Body*, David Macaulay
- *Stiff: The Curious Lives of Human Cadavers*, Mary Roach