

English 4 Honors Dual Credit

Students and their parents or guardians are encouraged to carefully review the selected nonfiction book for appropriate language and content prior to finalizing a title. Titles marked with an asterisk are included on the Northside ISD approved book list.

Expectations

- Select and read ONE book from the list over the summer.
- Come prepared to discuss your reading during the **first week of school**.
- **No required written assignment** is due at the start of the year, but **note-taking and annotations are encouraged**.
- Choose a book that speaks to your interests— writer’s craft, writing process, storytelling, academic clarity, or creative discovery. **Choose only ONE book from the list below (from any category).**

Summer Reading Book List (Choose ONE)

Category 1: Style, Clarity, and Craft

These books explore writing at the sentence, paragraph, or stylistic level, helping students sharpen their prose.

- **On Writing Well: The Classic Guide to Writing Nonfiction** by *William Zinsser** (*district approved*)
ISBN-13: 978-0060891541 Amazon: [Link](#)
- **The Sense of Style: The Thinking Person’s Guide to Writing in the 21st Century** by *Steven Pinker* ISBN-13: 978-0143127796 Amazon: [Link](#)
- **First You Write a Sentence: The Elements of Reading, Writing... and Life** by *Joe Moran*
ISBN-13: 978-0143134343 Amazon: [Link](#)

Category 2: The Writer’s Life & Creative Process. Books in this category focus on the internal journey of writing, including reflection, creativity, and personal development.

- **On Writing: A Memoir of the Craft** by *Stephen King* ISBN-13: 978-1982159375 Amazon: [Link](#)

- **Bird by Bird: Some Instructions on Writing and Life** by *Anne Lamott*
ISBN-13: 978-0385480017 Amazon: [Link](#)
- **Writing Down the Bones: Freeing the Writer Within** by *Natalie Goldberg*
ISBN-13: 978-1611803082 Amazon: [Link](#)
- **The Art of Memoir** by *Mary Karr*
ISBN-13: 978-0062223074 Amazon: [Link](#)
- **Writing With Power: Techniques for Mastering the Writing Process** by *Peter Elbow*
ISBN-13: 978-0195120189 Amazon: [Link](#)

Category 3: Writing Across Disciplines & Scientific Insight. Books here expand writing into learning and brain science, useful for students pursuing science, business, or education fields.

- **Writing To Learn** by *William Zinsser*
ISBN-13: 978-0062720405 Amazon: [Link](#)
- **Writing for Impact: 8 Secrets from Science That Will Fire Up Your Readers’ Brains** by *Bill Birchard*
ISBN-13: 978-1400241484 Amazon: [Link](#)