



Harlan High School

SUMMER READING English III 2025-2026

Welcome to English III! This class will focus largely on a reading and writing analysis, which examines authors' choices to influence their audience and achieve their purpose.

You will choose ONE (1) of the following novel titles for your summer reading to read and analyze. Each theme is accompanied by a short story required for that theme. Suggested novel titles were all selected to prepare you to analyze and imitate analysis in our English 3 class this upcoming year. Do your best to follow the instructions and annotate the passages in preparation for our first unit.

Notes and annotations are beneficial when studying a piece. This practice involves marking aspects of the text that you find important or influential and making comments for yourself to remember why you marked what you did. Although your notes and annotations will not be formally assessed, they will help you prepare to perform an in-depth analysis of your chosen novel and the short story that will be formally assessed in the first unit of study. It is easier to relocate choices the author uses when you can simply read back over your comments to yourself, rather than reviewing the entire text again. Your reading assignment can be found [HERE](#). - **Click to make a copy**

Reading from this list will prepare you for

- determining the rhetorical situation (persona, audience, purpose, and effect)
- analyzing specific rhetorical choices (tools/strategies/techniques) the author uses
- performing a synthesized analysis of the novel and short story that will incorporate specifically quoted rhetorical choices and analyze the effect of those choices on the audience and purpose
- responding to your reading in a variety of ways including evidence-based discussions and written responses

Novel Selection (please select only ONE title) // Short Story is assigned thematically

Recognizing that English III is a high school course and our reading features mature content, **be sure to personally research the choices** below before selecting the one you'd prefer to read and study.

The American Dream

**Paired Short Story: ["The Evolution of the American Dream" by Eva Bod](#)

- *The Hate U Give* by Angie Thomas
- *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury
- *Shoe Dog: A Memoir by the Creator of Nike* by Phil Knight (NF)

Coming of Age

**Paired Short Story: ["11" by Sandra Cisneros](#)

- *Long Way Down* by Jason Reynolds
- *Into the Wild* by Jon Krakauer (NF)
- *Paper Towns* by John Green
- *Free Lunch* by Rex Ogle (NF)

Cultural Conflicts

**Paired Short Story: ["Fish Cheeks" by Amy Tan](#)

- *Private Label* by Kelly Yang
- *All American Boys* by Jason Reynolds
- *The House on Mango Street* by Sandra Cisneros
- *Accountable* by Dashka Slater (NF)

For further information: Please contact Mrs. Trevino at candy.trevino@nisd.net. Mrs. Trevino will usually respond to emails within one week during the summer.