



## Northside ISD Curriculum & Instruction On-Level English I & II Class Summer Reading

### Welcome to English I & II,

Reading is one of the best things you can do to prepare yourself for the challenges of the upcoming school year. Enjoying a good book will help expand your vocabulary, deepen critical thinking, and enhance focus and imagination. Equally important, reading is the very best way to strengthen your writing skills!

As a Northside English student, we ask that you read at least one novel of **your choice** this summer. There is no other assignment than to read and be ready to discuss your book when school starts. However, Harlan students are encouraged to participate in a TWO PAGE SPREAD using the sentence stems from [“TRACK YOUR THINKING”](#) by Kelly Gallagher to assist in their Summer Reading Assignments at the beginning of the school year.

Remember, you can choose whichever book you wish to read - it does not have to be on the list below. The following titles are included just to give you some ideas. They are books that are popular in the library, award winners, or recommended by teachers. **The novels marked by an asterisk indicate those which are on the Northside approved book list. Other titles may contain adult themes and content, so we encourage you to do some research or speak with your parents before selecting a title.**

You can check out digital books on Sora, Libby, and Overdrive through your school library.

Happy Reading!

### There Might Be Kissing: Romance

1. *Everything, Everything* by Nicola Yoon
2. *Love, Hate and Other Filters* by Samira Ahmed
3. *Pride and Prejudice*\* by Jane Austen
4. *There's Something About Sweetie* by Sandhya Menon
5. *The Sun is Also a Star* by Nicola Yoon
6. *Turtles All the Way Down* by John Green

## Nice Place to Visit, But I Wouldn't Want to Live There: Sci Fi, Dystopian, Post Apocalyptic

1. *Anthem\** by Ayn Rand
2. *Dry* by Neal Shusterman
3. *Legend* by Marie Lu
4. *The Martian Chronicles\** by Ray Bradbury
5. *Uglies* by Scott Westerfeld
6. *Unwind\** by Neal Shusterman
7. *Warcross* by Marie Lu

## Everybody Has Secrets: Mystery

1. *One of Us Is Lying* by Karen McManus
2. *Spin* by Lamar Giles
3. *Truly Devious* by Maureen Johnson

## Creepy and We Like it: Horror/Thriller

1. *In the Woods* by Tana French
2. *The Raven's Tale* by Cat Winters
3. *There's Someone Inside Your House* by Stephanie Perkins

## Remembering Wars and Other Larger-Than-Life Events: Historical Fiction

1. *Audacity* by Melanie Crowder
2. *The Book Thief\** by Markus Zusak
3. *The Downstairs Girl* by Stacey Lee
4. *Salt to the Sea* by Ruta Sepetys
5. *The Watch That Ends The Night* by Allan Wolf
6. *What I Saw and How I Lied* by Judy Blundell

## What? You Thought only Boys could be Tough?: Books with Strong Female Protagonists

1. *Graceling* by Kristin Cashore
2. *Heartless* by Marissa Meyer
3. *The House on Mango Street\** by Sandra Cisneros
4. *The Impossible Knife of Memory* by Laurie Halse Anderson
5. *Moxie* by Jennifer Mathieu
6. *Three Dark Crowns* by Kendare Blake
7. *We Are Not From Here* by Jenny Torres Sanchez

### So, You Think You're a Tough Guy?: Books with Strong Male Protagonists

1. *Code of Honor* by Alan Gratz
2. *Darius The Great is Not Okay* by Adib Khorran
3. *Golden Arm* by Carl Deuker
4. *Here to Stay* by Sara Farizan
5. *Lord of the Flies\** by William Golding
6. *We Were Here* by Matt De la Pena

### Teen Angst: Relatable Stories of High School Drama

1. *Every Exquisite Thing* by Matthew Quick
2. *Goodbye Days* by Jeff Zentner
3. *Holding Up The Universe* by Jennifer Niven
4. *I'm Not Dying with You Tonight* by Kimberly Jones

### This Is My Life: Coming of Age

1. *All-American Muslim Girl* by Nadine Jolie Courtney
2. *Hey Kiddo* by Jarrett Krosoczka
3. *How It Went Down* by Kekla Magoon
4. *The Secret life of Bees\** by Sue Monk Kidd
5. *Tyler Johnson was Here* by Jay Coles

### Incredibly Real Life: Nonfiction

1. *Born a Crime: Stories from a South African Childhood* by Trevor Noah
2. *Dragon Hoops* by Gene Luen Yang
3. *I am Malala\** by Christina Lamb and Malala Yousafazi
4. *Muck City: Winning and Losing in Football's Forgotten Town* by Bryan Mealer

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\* Indicates vetted, approved titles from the NISD English I-IV Approved Reading List