

**King English Department**  
**Upper School Summer Reading 2021- 2022**

**Summer Reading**

Over the summer, all US students will read one required book and one book of their choosing. The books below have been carefully selected by the English Department. Each book speaks to the thematic purpose of the respective course and is intended to introduce students to the ideas and structures that will be reinforced in the fall and throughout the year. King will provide all required reading books; families will need to borrow or purchase choice books.

In the first few days of the 2021-2022 school year, students should expect to write an essay in response to their required text. Each classroom teacher will provide specific instruction. In addition to kicking off the curriculum, the written assessment acts as a benchmark and allows the teachers to evaluate students' analytical writing and critical thinking skills.

**List of Required Texts, Grades 9 - 12**

**Entering Grade 9**

- **105: Fundamentals of Literary Study and Composition**
  - *Shadow and Bone* by Leigh Bardugo

**Entering Grade 10**

- **201: Writing about Literature**
  - *Little Fires Everywhere* by Celeste Ng
- **200: Writing about Literature, Honors**
  - *How Much of These Hills Are Gold* by C. Pam Zhang

**Entering Grade 11**

- **301: American Literature**
  - *Leave the World Behind* by Rumaan Alam
- **350: AS American Language and Literature**
  - *Narrative in the Life of Frederick Douglass* by Frederick Douglass
  - *Educated* by Tara Westover

**Entering Grade 12**

- **520: AS Persuasive Writing**
  - *A Knock At Midnight* by Brittany Barnett
- **500: AP Literature**
  - *The Poisonwood Bible* by Barbara Kingsolver

**Grade 12, Senior Electives**

- **Dracula and Friends: A Look at the Psychological Thriller**
  - *The River* by Peter Heller

- **Boats Against the Current: How Time Affects Us and Our Friends**
  - *Big Fish* by Daniel Wallace
  
- **The Power of Expression: Understanding, Appreciating, and Creating Poetry**
  - *Wade in the Water* by Tracy K. Smith
  
- **The American Promise: Is That Even Legal?**
  - *The Constitutional Rights of Children: In ré Gault and Juvenile Justice* by David S. Tanenhaus