What makes a hero?

English 9: Read at least one (1) book
English 9 Honors: read two (2) books
Berkley High School
Summer Reading
ENGLISH 9

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You must read
One (1) book from the following choices
# English 9 SR List

**Berkley High School 9th Grade Summer Reading 2019... What Makes a Hero?**

*Honors English... see separate list*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Author/Series</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>The Bally</em></td>
<td>Schaff &amp; Langan</td>
<td>Darrell Mercer, a new student at Blanford High, decides it is time to take a stand after he is harassed and threatened by bully Trey Hobbs. A tale of 9th grade survival and triumph. RL: 4.9 190p.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Curveball: The Year I Lost My Grip</em></td>
<td>Sonnenblick</td>
<td>When a freakish injury ends his pitching career, Peter has some major things to figure out: life, is there life after sports? He discovers high school, photography, and girls (not necessarily in that order!) High school story with humor and wisdom. RL: 5.1 390p.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Ghosts of War</em></td>
<td>Smithson</td>
<td>Ryan Smithson recounts the experiences he had serving his first tour of duty as an Army engineer in Iraq when he was only 19. RL: 5.2 330p.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>The Hobbit</em></td>
<td>Tolkien</td>
<td>Bilbo Baggins, a Hobbit who just wanted to be left alone, embarks upon a dangerous journey with thirteen dwarfs and the wizard Gandalf to combat the dragon Smaug. Classic fantasy: a prelude to Tolkien’s “Lord of the Rings” trilogy. RL: 7.5 300p.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Into Thin Air</em></td>
<td>Krakauer</td>
<td>The author relates his experience of climbing Mount Everest during its deadliest season and examines what it is that makes people willingly subject themselves to such risk, hardship, and expense. True life action and adventure. RL: 8.9 253p.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>The Last Book in the Universe</em></td>
<td>Philbrick</td>
<td>After an earthquake has destroyed much of the planet, an epileptic teenager nicknamed Spaz begins the heroic fight to bring human intelligence back to the Earth of a distant future. A classic quest and fight for good. RL: 5.2 225p.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**RL = Reading Level (approximate grade level)**
Facing high school...

*The Bully*  
by Paul Langan

*Curveball: The Year I Lost My Grip*  
by Jordan Sonnenblick

*You’re Welcome, Universe*  
by Whitney Gardner
Facing adversity...

*Make Lemonade*
by Virginia Euwer Wolff

*Sweethart*
by Travis Mulhauser
 Worlds imagined...

*The Hobbit*
by J.R.R. Tolkien

*The Last Book in the Universe*
by Rodman Philbrick

*A Monster Calls*
by Patrick Ness
Dose of reality...

Ghosts of War
by Ryan Smithson

Into Thin Air
by Jon Krakauer

Three Rivers Rising
by Jame Richards
Berkley High School
Summer Reading
ENGLISH 9 HONORS
~
You must read
The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-time Indian
+ 1 more book from the following choices
## English 9 HONORS List

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Reading Level</th>
<th>Summary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian</td>
<td>Alexie</td>
<td>RL 4.0</td>
<td>A budding cartoonist leaves his school on the Indian Reservation to attend an all-white town school. Mixture. RL 4.0. 270p. (also on 10th grade SR list)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All the Pretty Horses</td>
<td>McCarthy</td>
<td>RL 4.9</td>
<td>At 16, John Grady Cole, his life as a rancher over, sets off for Mexico to find work as a cowboy, adventure and trouble ensue. RL 4.9. 301p.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Between the World and Me</td>
<td>Coates</td>
<td>RL 7.0</td>
<td>In a letter to his son, Coates shares the story of his awakening to the truth about his place in the world as a black man; includes historical and social perspectives. RL 7.0. 152p.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brave New World</td>
<td>Huxley</td>
<td>RL 7.5</td>
<td>A classic satirical novel about a future utopia in which babies are cultivated in bottles and only the great Ford is worshipped. RL 7.5. 200p.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Chocolate War</td>
<td>Cormier</td>
<td>RL 5.4</td>
<td>Jerry, a high school freshman, discovers the devastating consequences of refusing to join in the school’s annual fundraising event: selling chocolate bars. RL 5.4. 265p.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fahrenheit 451</td>
<td>Bradbury</td>
<td>RL 7.0</td>
<td>A fireman in a future fascist state starts fires but he then discovers that books are a vital part of a culture he never knew. Sci-Fi/realistic. RL 7.0. 199p.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feed</td>
<td>Anderson, M</td>
<td>RL 4.4</td>
<td>In a future where most people have computer implants in their heads, he controls their environment, a boy meets an unusual girl who is in serious trouble. RL 4.4. 230p.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Go Tell It On the Mountain</td>
<td>Baldwin</td>
<td>RL 6.5</td>
<td>It is John Grime’s 14th birthday; a day revealed through the lives of three generations of members of his Harlem church. RL 6.5. 272p.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jane Eyre</td>
<td>Bronte</td>
<td>RL 8.0</td>
<td>Jane, an orphan in 19th-century England, accepts employment as a governess only to later fall in love with her employer, a man hiding a terrible secret. RL 8.0. 488p.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joy Luck Club</td>
<td>Tan</td>
<td>RL 7.0</td>
<td>In 1949 four Chinese women began meeting as The Joy Luck Club. At the death of one charter member, a new generation learns of the women’s turbulent pasts. RL 6.6. 238p.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Knife of Never Letting Die</td>
<td>Ness</td>
<td>RL 4.4</td>
<td>In a post-apocalyptic world, “noise” is everywhere; only Toddi can hear the silence; then he is forced to flee. RL 4.4.477p.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Radleys</td>
<td>Haig</td>
<td>RL 7.0</td>
<td>The Radleys are an eccentric family living in the suburbs, struggling to deny their natural instincts and keep a deep secret—one that may or may not include killing the neighbor! RL 7.0. 272p.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Separate Peace</td>
<td>Knowles</td>
<td>RL 7.0</td>
<td>Gene Forrester looks back 15 years to when he and his best friend, Francis were roommates in a boarding school; a friendship marred by tragedy. RL 7.0. 204p.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speak</td>
<td>Anderson, L</td>
<td>RL 4.8</td>
<td>A traumatic event near the end of the summer has a devastating effect on Melinda’s freshman year in high school. RL 4.8. 197p.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Station Eleven</td>
<td>Mandel</td>
<td>RL 6.5</td>
<td>In a post-pandemic world, a nomadic group of actors roam the Great Lakes region, risking everything for art and humanity. RL 6.5. 333p.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Thousand Splendid Suns</td>
<td>Nouwemid</td>
<td>RL 6.0</td>
<td>This novel presents three decades of Afghani/Afghan history as it tells of two women, Mariam and Laila, who grow close despite their age difference over a shared secret. RL 6.0. 372p.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Where We Come From</td>
<td>Cassares</td>
<td>RL 5.5</td>
<td>A Mexican-American family in Brownsville, Texas, reluctantly becomes involved in smuggling immigrants into the United States. RL 5.5. 272p.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wide Sargasso Sea</td>
<td>Ilsyus</td>
<td>RL 6.5</td>
<td>The story of Bertha, a Jamaican woman, whose cold-hearted husband, Rochester, tries to use her family’s past against her; an imagined prequel to Jane Eyre. RL 6.5. 188p.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: RL = Reading Level (approximate grade level)
Required reading...

The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian
by Sherman Alexie
The African American experience...

*Between the World and Me* by Ta-Nehisi Coates

*Go Tell It On the Mountain* by James Baldwin
Futures imagined...

*Brave New World*
by Aldous Huxley

*Feed*
by M.T. Anderson
Futures imagined (round two)...

- **Fahrenheit 451** by Ray Bradbury
- **The Knife of Never Letting Go** by Patrick Ness
- **Station Eleven** by Emily St. John Mandel
History revisited (or, wild and crazy women)...

*The House of Mirth* by Edith Wharton

*Jane Eyre* by Charlotte Bronte

*Wide Sargasso Sea* by Jean Rhys
Fitting in...

*Frankenstein* by Mary Shelley

*The Radleys* by Matthew Haig

*Speak* by Laurie Halse Anderson
Friendship...

All the Pretty Horses by Cormac McCarthy

The Chocolate War by Robert Cormier

A Separate Peace by John Knowles
Different worlds...

The Joy Luck Club
by Amy Tan

A Thousand Splendid Suns
by Khaled Hosseini

Where We Come From
by Oscar Cásares
More info on the BHS LMC home page

BHS Library Media Center -- The "LMC"

LMC Resources/Quick Links... scroll down for more

- Summer Reading 2019

BHS LMC Catalog
- Search for books

BHS Staff
- Emails + Websites

EasyBib
- Works cited help

Google
- Search + Account information
- Public Libraries

Merlin Library
- Research gateways

Newsela
- Levelled articles

Of Viewpoints
- Opinion articles

Turnitin
- Submit work here

Wikipedia
- Quick research

YouTube
- Videos

BHS Summer Reading Program 2017

The Berkeley High School summer reading program is determined by a student’s in-coming grade level and focused around general themes.

Find and click on your in-coming (Fall Semester) grade level below.

Where to get the books:
- Check out a copy from the BHS LMC. Stop by the LMC during lunch hours, 9-11 a.m. books would be due in 2 weeks.
- Check out an online copy from the BHS LMC. The link is: https://www.hcc.lib.ca.us. All books are due in 2 weeks.
- Visit your local library – library cards are free and easy to get.

- Buy a copy from Book Store (Book Store Hours Extended & overstocked) 2019/2020: All BHS students receive a 10% discount.
- Buy a copy online or from other traditional book suppliers. For more info, please visit the BHS LMC website. Note: BHS LMC will be back in school and copies will be available.

English 9 Summer Reading

In-coming 9th graders, i.e., future English 9 students:

Your summer reading assignment is to read at least one book from the English 9 Summer Reading LIST (link below). In the Fall, you will be asked to reflect upon and write about this book. See the English 9 Summer Reading Project FYVER (link below) for more info.

English 9 Honors students:

You must read The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-time Indian by Sherman Alexie and then a 2nd book of your choice (not necessarily from the 9th grade SR List). We encourage you to read something exciting and challenging. See the English 9 Summer Reading Project FYVER for more info.

See also the English 9 Summer Reading BOOKMARK for a printable list of titles along with ideas on where to get your SR book.

Finally, click on the English 9 Summer Reading BOOK TRAILERS for video introductions to the English 9 Summer Reading Titles:

- English 9 SR LIST
- English 9 SR FYVER
- English 9 SR BOOKMARK
- English 9 Honors SR
- English 9 Rock Talk
- English 9 SR BOOK TRAILERS
- English 9 SR FYVER 2016
Read at least one book (Honors = 2) from the BHS Summer Reading List

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And have a *heroic* summer!

BHS LMC / Spear / 9th grade SR