

**Bowie High School Incoming Freshmen
Pre-AP English I REQUIRED Summer Reading Assignment**

The 2014-2015 Summer Reading Assignment involves two books, one is a major work of fictional literature and the other is a non-fiction memoir.

REQUIRED: All incoming 9th grade pre-AP English students must read *A Separate Peace* by John Knowles and ONE of the following memoirs: *My Forbidden Face* by Latifa or *Black Boy* by Richard Wright. *Students and parents should be aware that these memoirs contain some mature themes and situations.*****

- 1) Extra Credit Opportunity:** Complete the same annotation assignment below for the *memoir* and receive extra credit from your teacher consisting of five points on a test in the first six weeks grading period.

There will be a multiple choice exam over the novel during the first week of school.

In addition to reading these books, students MUST complete the assignment below:

A Separate Peace Summer Reading Assignment (2 parts):

- 1- As you read, select four pages to thoroughly annotate. Photocopy these pages, making sure that the page numbers are visible. THEN, highlight, underline, or otherwise note literary elements, new vocabulary, characterization, etc. and comment on or define each. See the attached "A Reader's Guide to Annotation" for specific instructions. A sample of expected annotations is provided on the Bowie website to help you. **Your four annotation pages will be turned in on the first day of school.**

- 2- **Once you are completely finished reading the book and annotating, pick the three most important thematic statement(s) for A Separate Peace** from the list below. Fill in the blanks as appropriate. Write those themes neatly (typed or written in print). THEN, find **supporting evidence from the text** for each thematic statement (at least two examples of supporting evidence per theme). Record those supporting passages below each theme. **Staple this paper to the annotations to turn in on the first day of school.** Possible Thematic Statements List:
 - a. A just individual has obligations toward society.
 - b. A just society has obligations it owes to an individual.
 - c. Individual freedom is limited by _____.
 - d. An individual can develop methods for judging right from wrong.
 - e. _____ kind of government is effective.
 - f. Society must contend with the dichotomies presented by freedom and equality.
 - g. An individual can experience redemption through _____.
 - h. A society can experience redemption through _____.
 - i. The accumulation of money and power leads to a loss of spirituality.

Students will be tested over *A Separate Peace* by John Knowles the first week of school. The test will require you to have a complete understanding of the text. This is a REQUIRED assignment for all pre-AP English I students. You have all summer to get it done. **No excuses will be accepted.**

In addition to taking the test in the first week of school, you will be asked to discuss, analyze and complete various assignments pertaining to both *A Separate Peace* and one of the two memoirs in the first grading period. You **must have an individual copy of each book to bring to class**. Thus, your completion of the summer reading assignment is imperative not only for the test itself but also for your participation and success in Pre-AP English in the first grading period of the course.

Students will additionally have an essay exam over the memoir of choice. Students will learn *how* to structure and organize an essay using the novel, and then students will *write* a detailed essay, as an in-class exam, over the memoir of choice.