Purpose

J.K. Rowling, author of the *Harry Potter* series believes, “there’s always room for a story that can transport people to another place” (*goodreads.com*).

Our goal for you this summer is for you to find a text that rekindles your love for reading, challenges your understanding of the world, and transports you. Your goal will be first and foremost, to select texts that you find intriguing. We have provided summaries of the texts below. It is your job to evaluate the topics you are interested in and determine which texts will most help you achieve our goals.

If you choose to read *Night*, you may borrow a copy from Spring-Ford; sign the text out with your 9th grade teacher. If you choose to read other texts, you should find them at your local library, in the Kindle store, at the Towne Book Center, or at any other book store. Bring your texts with you when we return to school.

Once you have selected and found copies of your texts, please begin reading. Turn off your phone, television, and eliminate all other distractions because unless you give yourself a fair chance to understand and interact with the text, you will not be transported. Details about how you will interact with the texts are located under “Assignment Directions” on pages 3-4.

Standard Targets

Reading Literature

1.3.9-10.B Cite strong and thorough textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly and implicitly.

1.3.9-10.D Determine the point of view of the text and analyze the impact the point of view has on the meaning of the text.

1.3.9-10.E Analyze how an author’s choices concerning how to structure a text, order events within it, and manipulate time create an effect.

Writing

1.4.9-10.S Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research, applying grade-level reading standards for literature and literary nonfiction.

1.4.9-10.W Avoid plagiarism and follow a standard format for citation.
Summer Reading Options with Book Reviews from Amazon.com

Choose TWO texts


Nujood Ali's childhood came to an abrupt end in 2008 when her father arranged for her to be married to a man three times her age. With harrowing directness, Nujood tells of abuse at her husband's hands and of her daring escape. With the help of local advocates and the press, Nujood obtained her freedom—an extraordinary achievement in Yemen, where almost half of all girls are married under the legal age.

In *I am Nujood, Age 10 and Divorced*, Nujood's courageous defiance of both Yemeni customs and her own family has inspired other young girls in the Middle East to challenge their marriages. Hers is an unforgettable story of tragedy, triumph, and courage.


This is how wars are fought now: by children, hopped-up on drugs and wielding AK-47s. Children have become soldiers of choice. In the more than fifty conflicts going on worldwide, it is estimated that there are some 300,000 child soldiers. Ishmael Beah used to be one of them.

What is war like through the eyes of a child soldier? How does one become a killer? How does one stop? Child soldiers have been profiled by journalists, and novelists have struggled to imagine their lives. But until now, there has not been a first-person account from someone who came through this hell and survived.

In *A Long Way Gone*, Beah, now twenty-five years old, tells a riveting story: how at the age of twelve, he fled attacking rebels and wandered a land rendered unrecognizable by violence. By thirteen, he'd been picked up by the government army, and Beah, at heart a gentle boy, found that he was capable of truly terrible acts.

This is a rare and mesmerizing account, told with real literary force and heartbreaking honesty.


* As Rwanda was thrown into chaos during the 1994 genocide, Rusesabagina, a hotel manager, turned the luxurious Hotel Milles Collines into a refuge for more than 1,200 Tutsi and moderate Hutu refugees, while fending off their would-be killers with a combination of diplomacy and deception. In *An Ordinary Man*, he tells the story of his childhood, retraces his accidental path to heroism, revisits the 100 days in which he was the only thing standing between his “guests” and a hideous death, and recounts his subsequent life as a refugee and activist.


One of seven children of a high-ranking government official, Loung Ung lived a privileged life in the Cambodian capital of Phnom Penh until the age of five. Then, in April 1975, Pol Pot's Khmer Rouge army stormed into the city, forcing Ung's family to flee and, eventually, to disperse. Loung was trained as a child soldier in a work camp for orphans, her siblings were sent to labor camps, and those who survived the horrors would not be reunited until the Khmer Rouge was destroyed.

*First They Killed My Father* is harrowing yet hopeful. Loung's powerful story is an unforgettable account of a family shaken and shattered, yet miraculously sustained by courage and love in the face of unspeakable brutality.

*Night* is Elie Wiesel's masterpiece, a candid, horrific, and deeply poignant autobiographical account of his survival as a teenager in the Nazi death camps. This new translation by Marion Wiesel, Elie's wife and frequent translator, presents this seminal memoir in the language and spirit truest to the author's original intent. And in a substantive new preface, Elie reflects on the enduring importance of *Night* and his lifelong, passionate dedication to ensuring that the world never forgets man's capacity for inhumanity to man.


"I come from a country that was created at midnight. When I almost died it was just after midnight." When the Taliban took control of the Swat Valley in Pakistan, one girl spoke out. Malala Yousafzai refused to be silenced and fought for her right to an education.

On Tuesday, October 9, 2012, when she was fifteen, she almost paid the ultimate price. She was shot in the head at point-blank range while riding the bus home from school, and few expected her to survive.

Instead, Malala's miraculous recovery has taken her on an extraordinary journey from a remote valley in northern Pakistan to the halls of the United Nations in New York. At sixteen, she became a global symbol of peaceful protest and the youngest nominee ever for the Nobel Peace Prize.

*I Am Malala* is the remarkable tale of a family uprooted by global terrorism, of the fight for girls' education, of a father who, himself a school owner, championed and encouraged his daughter to write and attend school, and of brave parents who have a fierce love for their daughter in a society that prizes sons. *I Am Malala* will make you believe in the power of one person's voice to inspire change in the world.

*The memoirs* *An Ordinary Man* and *I Am Malala* include social, historical, and political context that will be taught and discussed 3rd and 4th quarters. Choosing one of these novels will definitely help you with the curriculum!

**Assignment Directions**

*Reminder:* Choose TWO memoirs to read and explore.

1. Read each text in its entirety.
2. Choose an activity to complete for each text. Be sure to choose a different activity for each text. All activities must be COMPLETED INDEPENDENTLY.
3. Bring your texts and your activities on the FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL for submission.

**Activity and Directions: Complete ONE for each memoir you read**

Choose a different activity for EACH text you read. Each response should be no shorter than 1.5 pages but no longer than 3 pages in length (approximately 350-700 words). English 10 teachers strongly advise that you type your responses using double-spaced, Times New Roman, 12 font (MLA format). During the first week of school, you will be submitting to turnitin.com, which requires typed responses. If you do not have access to a computer, please write legibly.
You should complete a total of two different responses.

1. Write a chapter from your own memoir/autobiography in the style of the text you read. Consider an event that has defined your life and describe it vividly. Use the memoir you read as a guide for how to craft the style of your writing and how to include and exclude details for maximum effect. At the end of your memoir, provide two quotes to explain how the craft and style of the memoir influenced the style of your writing or how you personally connected with the memoir. Be specific.

2. Write a letter to the author about your changed perspective of the world. Your letter should include two quotes from the text that had an impact on you and an explanation of how the memoir impacted your understanding of the world. Be sure to include some details about yourself, including how you viewed the world before you read the memoir and how you view the world after you read it.

3. Select and analyze two pivotal quotes that reveal the author’s struggle. Identify the page on which you found each quote and the context of the quote. This means you should explain the circumstances surrounding the quote and the structural choice (Consider: Is this an event listed in chronological order? Is this a flashback? Is there foreshadowing?). Analyze the significance of each quote with regards to the struggle the author faced in his or her lifetime. This means you should explain the importance of this significant quote to the author’s life story detailed in the memoir.

Reminders: Regardless of the options you choose, mention author’s point of view, personal impact of the text, and impact of the author’s choices in terms of how they structured their memoir (order of events, flashback, foreshadow, etc.). Also include a minimum of two quotes, properly cited.

When using a quote, be sure to cite that quote in MLA format; include the author’s last name and page number in parenthesis. Also, be sure to integrate the quote using your own language.

Example integration and in-text citation for Thousand Splendid Suns by Khaled Hosseini:

She truly believed that she would never see him again, because, “Her life had been marked by tragedy, but she instantly recognized this familiar face from the past. And then she was running” (Hosseini 327).

Your written activities will be submitted to turnitin.com to check for originality against current papers and all papers submitted in previous years. PLEASE be sure to complete the assignment ON YOUR OWN.