

May 16, 2014

Attention 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Teachers, Counselors and Students:

Cascade High School, in an effort to hold students to high expectations for reading and writing, has a summer English requirement for all entering 9<sup>th</sup> graders.

All incoming 9<sup>th</sup> grade students should: Read at least one “coming of age” novel. We recommend the following titles suggested by AP and Springboard.

The Absolutely True Diary of a Part- Time Indian by Sherman Alexie

Ellen Foster by Kaye Gibbons

Black Boy by Richard Wright

The Color Purple by Alice Walker

The House on Mango Street by Sandra Cisneros

The Secret Life of Bees by Sue Monk Kidd

If you choose a different novel, be ready to explain in writing what makes the novel a bildungsroman, defined by Webster as a “novel about the moral and psychological growth of a character.” Be prepared to write an in-class essay analyzing theme, point of view, conflict and author’s purpose. The essay will be assigned during the first week of school.

We also require incoming 9<sup>th</sup> graders to read Animal Farm by George Orwell. This is part of the 8<sup>th</sup> grade curriculum in the Everett School District. If you did not get a chance to read this book, find a copy online or at a library and read it this summer.

In addition to being actively engaged as a reader, we expect incoming 9<sup>th</sup> graders to know the literary and grammatical terms on the back of this letter. You can make flash cards in preparation for your classes at Cascade. Definitions of these common terms are easily found online or in editions of Writer’s Inc.

Check out our school webpage for any further announcements during the summer. Look for summer reading, incoming 9<sup>th</sup> grade English.

We look forward to having you as Bruins at Cascade High School.

Sincerely,

Carole Woods

Kelly Rogers

Michael Cane

Raegina Weber

Sarah Kelsey

---

The student does *not* need to bring the novel to CHS in the fall, only to have read it and familiarized himself/herself with the text.

Several good grammar and literary terms sites exist on the Internet.

If you registered for grade 9 English at Cascade High School, your learning will continue over the summer. Please be sure you are prepared with the following knowledge and skills when you enter campus next fall. You can expect to be tested on your first day in ninth grade.

**Summer Note Card Requirements:**

Create notecards with definitions for all of the following terms. Feel free to use the internet or other sources for parts of speech and sentence type definitions.

- the 8 parts of speech (noun, pronoun, verb, adjective, adverb, preposition, conjunction, interjection)
- the 4 basic sentence types (simple, compound, complex, compound-complex)
- All of the following Everett Public Schools grade level literary terms through grade level 8. You should use the definitions found here: [www.tinyurl.com/cascadelitterms](http://www.tinyurl.com/cascadelitterms)

<b>Alliteration</b>	<b>Exposition</b>	<b>Point of View - First Person</b>
<b>Anecdote</b>	<b>Falling Action</b>	<b>Third Person</b>
<b>Antagonist</b>	<b>Fiction</b>	<b>Limited</b>
<b>Audience</b>	<b>Flashback</b>	<b>Omniscient</b>
<b>Autobiography</b>	<b>Foreshadowing</b>	<b>Prose</b>
<b>Biography</b>	<b>Genre</b>	<b>Protagonist</b>
<b>Character</b>	<b>Hero/Heroine</b>	<b>Rising Action</b>
<b>Climax</b>	<b>Image</b>	<b>Sentence Variety</b>
<b>Comedy</b>	<b>Irony</b>	<b>Setting</b>
<b>Conflict</b>	<b>Metaphor</b>	<b>Short Story</b>
<b>Denouement</b>	<b>Mood</b>	<b>Simile</b>
<b>Dialogue</b>	<b>Narrative Voice</b>	<b>Stanza</b>
<b>Diction</b>	<b>Narrator</b>	<b>Subplot</b>
<b>Discourse-Argumentation</b>	<b>Non Fiction</b>	<b>Symbol</b>
<b>Description</b>	<b>Novel</b>	<b>Syntax</b>
<b>Exposition</b>	<b>Onomatopoeia</b>	<b>Theme</b>
<b>Narration</b>	<b>Oxymoron</b>	<b>Tone</b>
<b>Ellipsis</b>	<b>Parallel Structure</b>	<b>Tragedy</b>
<b>Essay</b>	<b>Personification</b>	<b>Understatement</b>
<b>Formal</b>	<b>Plot</b>	<b>Verse</b>
<b>Informal</b>		<b>Voice</b>

---

The student does *not* need to bring the novel to CHS in the fall, only to have read it and familiarized himself/herself with the text.

Several good grammar and literary terms sites exist on the Internet.