

HONORS (AND MAGNET) AMERICAN LITERATURE  
PRE-COURSE READING: 2020-2021



**Why Pre-Course Reading?** The North Cobb High School English Department knows that pre-course reading helps you expand your vocabulary, spelling, and writing skills, as well as gain new perspectives on life situations. The more reading you do, the more information you gain, and the better your reading skills will become. Reading is also an effective means of preparing for standardized tests such as the SAT, ACT, and AP exams.

**What do I read?** Please select at least **one** of the following books to read over the summer. This list is a mix of fiction and non-fiction and spans a wide variety of topics and times. Please do some research in order to select the book of most interest to you.

*Enrique's Journey* by Sonia Nazario

*The Greatest Generation* by Tom Brokaw

*The Heart is a Lonely Hunter* by Carson McCullers

*The Help* by Kathryn Stockett

*The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* by Rebecca Skloot

*The Joy Luck Club* by Amy Tan

*A Lesson Before Dying* by Ernest Gaines

*Little Fires Everywhere* by Celeste Ng

*Little Women* by Louisa May Alcott

*Profiles in Courage* by John F. Kennedy

*A Walk Across America* by Peter Jenkins

*Where the Crawdads Sing* by Delia Owens

**Important Note for Parents/Guardians:** Please be advised that some of the content in these texts is mature, containing language and/or references to material that you may need to discuss together. Please research accordingly before your student selects their book.

**What do I do?** Read attentively and enjoy your book! Annotating is **recommended** but will **not** be required as a grade. However, in the first days of the semester, you will be working with your book to understand our discussions of American values and write an essay.