



**Hingham Public Schools Summer Reading**  
**AP English Language & Composition (11th grade)**  
**Summer 2022**

(Note: Students in 11th grade American Literature have a separate list.)

**Directions:** Please obtain (*be sure to extend your library rental through September 08*) the two required reading selections in advance of the first day of class. We will have multiple assessments pertaining to these readings.

**Required Text for Grade 11 AP Language. You will complete an assessment on this book selection during the first week of school.**

Author	Title	Synopsis
Senna	<i>Caucasia</i>	Birdie and Cole are the daughters of a black father and a white mother, intellectuals and activists in the Civil Rights Movement in 1970s Boston. The sisters are so close that they speak their own language, yet Birdie, with her light skin and straight hair, is often mistaken for white, while Cole is dark enough to fit in with the other kids at school. One night Birdie watches her father and his new girlfriend drive away with Cole. Soon Birdie and her mother are on the road as well, drifting across the country in search of a new home. But for Birdie, home will always be Cole. Haunted by the loss of her sister, she sets out a desperate search for the family that left her behind. <b>Amazon.com Review</b>

**Select ONE additional book from the list below. You will complete a required Reading Journal for this book selection and submit on or before September 01, 2022.**

Author	Title	Synopsis
Anzaldua	<i>Borderlands/La Frontera: The New Mestiza</i>	Rooted in Gloria Anzaldúa's experience as a Chicana, a lesbian, an activist, and a writer, the essays and poems in this volume profoundly challenge how we think about identity. <i>Borderlands/La Frontera</i> remaps our understanding of what a "border" is, presenting it as a psychic, social, and cultural terrain that we inhabit, and that inhabits all of us. <b>Amazon.com Review</b>
Bronski	<i>A Queer History Of The United States: For Young People: Student Edition</i>	Queer history didn't start with Stonewall. This book explores how LGBTQ people have always been a part of our national identity, contributing to the country and culture for over 400 years. Through engrossing narratives, letters, drawings, poems, and more, the book encourages young readers, of all identities, to feel pride at the accomplishments of the LGBTQ people who came before them and to use history as a guide to the future. <b>Amazon.com Review</b>
Brown	<i>I'm Still Here: Black Dignity In A World Made For Whiteness</i>	Austin Channing Brown's first encounter with a racialized America came at age 7, when she discovered her parents named her Austin to deceive future employers into thinking she was a white man. Growing up in majority-white schools, organizations, and churches, Austin writes, "I had to learn what it means to love blackness," a journey that led to a lifetime spent navigating America's racial divide as a writer, speaker and expert who helps organizations practice genuine inclusion. <b>From Goodreads</b>
Campbell	<i>Women in White Coats</i>	With gripping storytelling based on extensive research and access to archival documents, <i>Women in White Coats</i> tells the courageous history of three women becoming doctors, detailing the boundaries they broke of gender and science to reshape how we receive medical care today. <b>From Goodreads</b>
Gladwell	<i>Outliers: The Story of Success</i>	Malcolm Gladwell takes us on an intellectual journey through the world of "outliers" the best and the brightest, the most famous and the most successful. He asks the question: what makes high-achievers different? His answer is that we pay too much attention to what successful people are like, and too little attention to where they are from: that is, their culture, their family, their generation, and the idiosyncratic experiences of their upbringing. <b>From Library Journal</b>

Hayes	<i>The Tao of Raven: An Alaska Native Memoir</i>	In her first book, <i>Blonde Indian</i> , Ernestine Hayes powerfully recounted the story of returning to Juneau and to her Tlingit home after many years of wandering. The Tao of Raven takes up the next and, in some ways, less explored question: once the exile returns, then what? <b>Amazon.com Review</b>
Hong	<i>Minor Feelings</i>	Poet and essayist Cathy Park Hong fearlessly and provocatively blends memoir, cultural criticism, and history to expose fresh truths about racialized consciousness in America. Part memoir and part cultural criticism, this collection is vulnerable, humorous, and provocative—and its relentless and riveting pursuit of vital questions around family and friendship, art and politics, identity and individuality, will change the way you think about our world. <b>Amazon.com Review</b>
Momaday	<i>The Way to Rainy Mountain</i>	Mr. Momaday retells the Kiowa myths that he learned from his grandmother, speculates on the actual history they may symbolize, and describes, with nostalgia, the Indian life he knew as a child. <b>Atlantic Monthly Review on Amazon.com Review</b>
Roach	<i>Stiff: The Curious Lives of Human Cadavers</i>	<i>Stiff</i> is an oddly compelling, often hilarious exploration of the strange lives of our bodies postmortem. For two thousand years, cadavers—some willingly, some unwittingly—have been involved in science's boldest strides and weirdest undertakings. In this fascinating account, Mary Roach visits the good deeds of cadavers over the centuries and tells the engrossing story of our bodies when we are no longer with them. <b>Amazon.com Review</b>
Rodriguez	<i>Brown: The Last Discovery of America</i>	In his dazzling new memoir, Richard Rodriguez reflects on the color brown and the meaning of Hispanics to the life of America today. Rodriguez argues that America has been brown since its inception—since the moment the African and the European met within the Indian eye. But more than simply a book about race, <i>Brown</i> is about America in the broadest sense—a look at what our country is, full of surprising observations by a writer who is a marvelous stylist as well as a trenchant observer and thinker. <b>Amazon.com Review</b>
Ripley	<i>The Smartest Kids In The World and How They Got That Way</i>	This well-considered, fact-based book by Ripley examines the factors contributing to the United States' poor global educational performance. A great deal is conveyed about the American educational system by comparing it to that of other countries, particularly South Korea, Finland, and Poland. <b>From Library Journal</b>
Skloot	<i>The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks</i>	Like any good scientific research, this beautifully crafted and painstakingly researched book raises nearly as many questions as it answers . . . In a time when it's fashionable to demonize scientists, Skloot generously does not pin any sins to the lapels of the researchers. She just lets them be human . . . [and] challenges much of what we believe of ethics, tissue ownership, and humanity.” <b>From Science</b>
Smith	<i>How The Word Is Passed</i>	Beginning in his hometown of New Orleans, Clint Smith leads the reader on an unforgettable tour of monuments and landmarks—those that are honest about the past and those that are not—that offer an intergenerational story of how slavery has been central in shaping our nation's collective history, and ourselves. <b>Amazon.com Review</b>
Stevenson	<i>Just Mercy: Adapted For Young Adults</i>	In this very personal work--adapted from the original #1 bestseller, which the <i>New York Times</i> calls "as compelling as <i>To Kill a Mockingbird</i> , and in some ways more so"--acclaimed lawyer and social justice advocate Bryan Stevenson offers a glimpse into the lives of the wrongfully imprisoned and his efforts to fight for their freedom. <b>Amazon.com Review</b>
Tan	<i>Saving Fish From Drowning</i>	Drawing from the current political reality in Burma, Amy Tan's novel poses questions about how we can discern what is real from what is fiction and how we can know what to believe. Her provocative tale explores the mind and the heart of the individual, the actions we choose, the moral questions we might ask ourselves, and the deeply personal answers we seek when happy endings are seemingly impossible. <b>Amazon.com Review</b>
Taussig	<i>Sitting Pretty: The View From My Ordinary Disabled Body</i>	Writing about the rhythms and textures of what it means to live in a body that doesn't fit, Taussig reflects on everything from the complications of kindness and charity, living both independently and dependently, experiencing intimacy, and how the pervasiveness of ableism in our everyday media directly translates to everyday life. <b>Amazon.com Review</b>
Vowell	<i>The Wordy Shipmates</i>	To this day, America views itself as a Puritan nation, but Sarah Vowell investigates what that means—and what it should mean. What she discovers is something far different from what their uptight shoe buckles-and-corn reputation might suggest—a highly literate, deeply principled, and surprisingly feisty people, whose story is filled with pamphlet feuds, witty courtroom dramas, and bloody vengeance. <b>Amazon.com Review</b>