

To senior Honors students:

All students who will be taking 12th grade Honors English during the 2010/2011 school year must complete the reading assignments listed below before the school year begins. In addition to the reading, **you are required to keep a reading journal that will be turned in on the first day of school.** Your journal will count for 25% of your summer reading test grade, and should be set up as follows:

- All entries are to be typed, double-spaced, size 12 font
- Cover sheet with your name and the titles of the books you selected
- For each book include 1-2 paragraphs about the author. Rather than a mere biography, include personal or historical information that influenced the writing of the work. This should be in your own words, and not “cut and pasted” from the Internet.
- For each book select three passages that you found particularly meaningful. Copy the passage and write 2-3 paragraphs explaining why these lines were important to you. Select your quotes carefully as you read each work. Use this as an opportunity to reflect on your own ideas/values, and consider how the words of writers from various time periods and places speak to us as readers today. Allow yourself the opportunity to engage in conversation with them, and you may be surprised by what they will help you discover about yourself.

Required reading for all students:

- *Brave New World* by Aldous Huxley
- *A Passage to India* by E.M. Forster
- *Angela’s Ashes* by Frank McCourt

Select one:

- *The Return of the Native* by Thomas Hardy
- *Pride and Prejudice* by Jane Austen

Select one:

- *About a Boy* by Nick Hornby
- *The Remains of the Day* by Ishiguro Kazu

These books will be available at a variety of prices through a range of publishers. All local bookstores cooperate with the school district and purchase multiple copies of the texts for purchase by our students. One such bookstore is Border’s near the Viewmont Mall. Another option is Amazon.com for new and used editions. The Scranton and Abington Libraries also have several of these titles available. Please read the full texts, rather than abridged options for each title.

These titles are recognized as texts which college-bound students should read. They represent important concepts in British literature which will enrich your understanding and inspire meaningful class discussion. While they should present some challenge, they should also allow you hours of enjoyable summer reading.

Sincerely,

Honors English Teacher