

Rising 9th Grade Summer Reading Assignment

Prior to the start of the 2019-2020 school year, all rising 9th graders are expected to complete the summer reading assignment explained below. This assignment will set the tone for the school year ahead, and will provide students with an opportunity to challenge themselves as a student and a reader. The selected texts exemplify core themes that students will be working with during the school year.

English 9 On-Level:

Students should read the following two texts:

- *March: Book 1* by Andrew Aydin and John Lewis
- “Thank you Ma’am” by Langston Hughes (this short story can be found [online](#))

English 9 Honors:

Students should read the following two texts:

- *March: Book 1* by Andrew Aydin and John Lewis
- *Just Mercy (Adapted for Young Adults)* by Bryan Stevenson*

* This version has been adapted to remove mature content that may not be suitable for some children. Students are allowed to read the adult version (still titled *Just Mercy*) with parent permission.

Please note that some of the books students will read may contain mature content and/or controversial material (e.g. offensive language, violence, and/or implied or explicit sexual situations). The resources listed below can be used to get more information about the books:

- Fairfax County Library <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/>
- Bartleby.com: Great Books Online <http://www.bartleby.com>
- Book Reporter <http://www.bookreporter.com>

If your parent or guardian would like to review any of these texts or request an alternate reading assignment please have him or her contact the department chair, Kelly Ashton, at Kfashton@fcps.edu.

Assignment:

Students are expected to read and annotate their novels. These texts will be a core part of the first quarter curriculum in all 9th grade English classes. Students should expect both a reading comprehension assessment as well as an analysis-based activity the first week back to school. After that, these novels will be connected thematically throughout the quarter and the year, with students expected to make connections directly to the book(s) read.