

Coventry High School

Grades 11 & 12 Summer Reading 2015

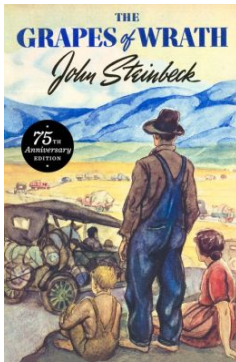
In conjunction with the commitment of the Coventry Public School System to foster reading skills, all students are HIGHLY ENCOURAGED to read at least ONE book during the summer break to earn up to two points on their quarter one English average.

If possible, purchasing the book is preferable so that students can annotate the text as they read. Local libraries are also good sources to find selected books. Exercise your right to read and enjoy your summer!

Grades 11 and 12 have been assigned the same four optional selections. This year the selections are meant to celebrate the freedom to read in that all of the titles were, in at least one time and place, banned or challenged books. The hope is that we can have some great discussions across grade levels in September about the readings and participate in a Banned Books Week celebration taking place nationally from September 27-October 3. Students should select a title appropriate for their reading level, interests, and level of maturity.

Students' knowledge of their selected book will be demonstrated by creating a "Read Out" (see back). Students will submit their work to their English teachers who will assess the project using the Read Out Rubric.

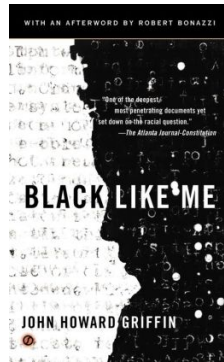
Option ONE



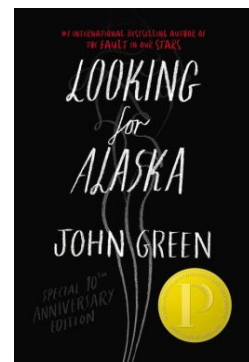
Option TWO



Option THREE



Option FOUR



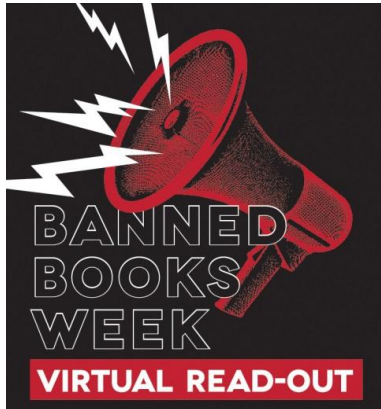
<p>Steinbeck's Pulitzer Prize-winning epic of the Great Depression chronicles the Dust Bowl migration of the 1930s and tells the story of one Oklahoma farm family, the Joads, driven from their homestead and forced to travel west to California. They encounter many trials and repeatedly come into contact with the hard realities of an America divided into haves and have-nots.</p> <p>Published in 1939. Challenged for views that "fueled the fire of public debate" about class issues.</p>	<p>On November 15, 1959, in the small town of Holcomb, Kansas, four members of the Clutter family were murdered by blasts from a shotgun held a few inches from their faces. There was no apparent motive for the crime, and there were almost no clues. Truman Capote reconstructs the murder and the investigation that led to the capture, trial, and execution of the killers.</p> <p>Published in 1966. Challenged for violence and mature language.</p>	<p>In the Deep South of the 1950s, journalist John Howard Griffin decided to cross the color line. Using medication that darkened his skin to deep brown, he exchanged his privileged life as a Southern white man for the world of an unemployed black man. He trudged streets searching for a place where he could eat or rest, looking vainly for a job other than menial labor.</p> <p>Published in 1959. Challenged for examining issues of race and violence against African Americans.</p>	<p>Ten years ago, readers were awestruck by John Green's debut novel <i>Looking For Alaska</i>, which tracked the coming of age of Miles Halter, a misfit Florida teenager who leaves home for the uncertainty of a boarding school in Birmingham, Alabama. In this "Great Perhaps," he discovers new friends and one unpredictable love. The book has been compared to Salinger's <i>Catcher in the Rye</i>.</p> <p>Published in 2005. Challenged for containing mature language and scenes.</p>
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Completing the “Virtual Read-Out”

You have **FOUR** assessment options to demonstrate that you have done your summer reading:



1) Create a Youtube video, no more than 3 minutes long, for your banned or challenged book discussing what the book means to you and how you would feel if someone prevented you from reading the book.

2) Create a Youtube video, no more than 3 minutes long, of a reading from a banned or challenged book. The video must include information on where and why the book was banned or challenged. You may also add a comment about why you believe the book is important.

3) Create a promotional Youtube video for Banned Books Week. The video should be no longer than five minutes long. The video’s message should focus on celebrating the freedom to read during Banned Books Week.

4) Construct a 250-word narrative from the point-of-view of any major character in your banned or challenged book. Discuss why it is important that your story not be censored and should be read.

Check out this link for a sample: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sxgcfWLx-Ns>

Simply send your summer reading Virtual Read-Out link to your English teacher by September 7, 2015. Students who complete their summer reading and post their Virtual Read-Out may earn up to two points on their quarter one English average.

Read Out Rubric

The summer reading assessment will be graded pass/fail. Those students who meet all of the requirements below will earn two points on their quarter one English grade.

Content	The material presented is informed, well-chosen, meaningful, and provides a clear message to the viewer about the chosen topic. It is evident that the student read and understands the material.
Format	The video presentation is recorded in a school appropriate space that limits distraction from the message being delivered and/or enhances the presentation’s effect. The student is dressed in school appropriate clothing and makes eye contact with the audience.
Language Use	The language used is school appropriate with well-chosen vocabulary, good description, and few to no grammatical errors. The pace and volume of the speaker is good.

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