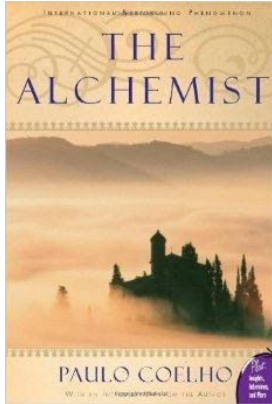


## 9th Grade Honors Summer Reading 2020

All incoming 9th grade honors students must read and annotate one required book (guidelines below) and read one book of choice from the list below.



### **Required: *The Alchemist* by Paulo Coelho**

Santiago is a shepherd living in Andalusia, Spain. Troubled by a reoccurring dream, he consults a gypsy woman. She tells him that he must travel to Egypt and seek his fortune amidst the pyramids. He follows his dream and embarks on a journey across land and sea. He encounters several obstacles and meets some peculiar characters along the way. As a result of his journey, he learns the importance of following his dreams along with many other lessons.

### **Please follow these guidelines for your assignment:**

As you read this summer, you will annotate your required book following the guidelines below. This annotation grade will replace a summer reading writing assignment. On the first day of school, you will hand in your book so your annotations can be graded. To receive the highest grade possible, please follow the formatting guidelines:

- Put a box around all new characters, dates, and places mentioned in the text.
- Underline short passages or quotations that stand out to you.
- Put a symbol (you can use a star, or whatever works best for you) in the margin of passages that might connect or do connect to major themes you've encountered in the book so far.
- At the end of each chapter:
  - Write down 3-4 bullet points of summary.
  - Write 1-3 questions that you have about the reading. These questions can be plot driven, but it's better if they are about ideas rather than content.

*Continue reading below*

Here's how you will be graded:

A-range	B-range	C-Range	D-Range	F-range	Zero (no credit)
Student follows all guidelines perfectly. The entire book is annotated thoroughly.	Student follows the guidelines most of the time, but sometimes leaves out an element or leaves small parts of the book blank.	Student sometimes follows the guidelines, but often leaves out one of the elements or leaves large portions of the book blank.	Student rarely follows the guidelines and often leaves out one of the elements <b>or</b> leaves large portions of the book blank.	Student rarely follows the guidelines and often leaves out one of the elements <b>and</b> leaves large portions of the book blank.	Student did not complete the assignment.

**You must present your book for credit on the first day of school. Preparation for class is essential for success, so you will not receive credit if you do not present your book. You can expect to be assessed on this reading in some format on the first day of class.**

**II. CHOICE BOOK: Select a book from the list below. You must be prepared to discuss on the first day of school.**

*Into Thin Air* by Jon Krakauer

The true story of a group of climbers, who were unexpectedly hit with a tragic storm while climbing Mt. Everest. A fascinating read.

*Tuesdays with Morrie* by Mitch Albom

A gripping memoir about mentorship, living with passion, and dying with grace. Albom reconnects with his professor Morrie Schwartz. On his deathbed, Morrie teaches him about what matters most: love.

*Speak* by Laurie Halse Anderson

High school freshman Melinda struggles with rejection after her friend group abandons her in the wake of her sexual assault. As she navigates the new complex and hostile social scene, she learns how to grow and heal despite immense challenges in and outside the classroom.

*The Book Thief* by Markus Zusak

Liesel, a girl growing up in 1939 Nazi Germany, steals books, learns to read, and finds comfort in words. When Liesel's foster family hides a Jew in their basement, Liesel's world is both opened up, and closed down.

Questions? Email Mrs. Handwerger: [lhanderger@rasg.org](mailto:lhanderger@rasg.org)