

Halls High School 2024-2025



English Honors and AP Courses Summer Reading

Committees of teachers work together at each grade level to determine the most appropriate outside reading program to prepare students academically through Honors and AP coursework. Works selected have a direct connection to the instruction during the school year. For AP courses, works selected have been identified by the College Board as acceptable texts for summer and semester reading through the AP course syllabus audits.

Expectations for Honors and AP: Students should be ready for assessments, activities, and discussions on the first full day of classes. In addition to keeping the mind active and preventing reading skill loss, summer reading assignments also provide an opportunity for early assessment for data-based course planning. Students should contact teachers through email if questions arise during the summer. Honors English I: laura.whittington@knoxschools.org Honors English II: carleen.fox@knoxschools.org AP Language and Composition: carleen.fox@knoxschools.org AP Literature and Composition: jim.mcphetrIDGE@knoxschools.org

Alternate Texts: If parents or students find a text objectionable, they should contact the teacher as soon as possible, and the teacher will provide an alternate title of similar text structure and Lexile measure. Students should read and annotate the title listed for their grade band and be prepared to participate in the summer reading assessments. Please read with these possible assessments in mind:

- Multiple Choice Exam-100 points
- Formal Essays and/or In-Class Timed Writings- 100 points
- Circle Discussions and/or Group Presentation- 50 points
- Various In-Class Close Readings/Literary Analysis Assignments (points dependent on assignment)

Honors English I:

A Separate Peace, John Knowles

Honors English II:

1984, George Orwell

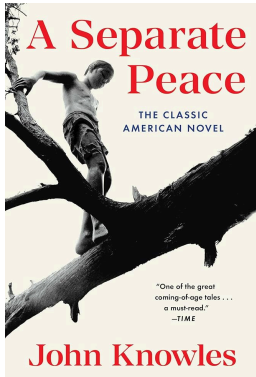
AP Language and Composition:

The Great Gatsby, F. Scott Fitzgerald

AP Literature and Composition:

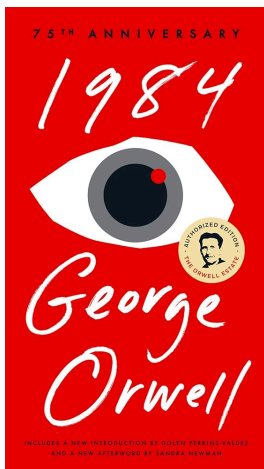
Great Expectations, Charles Dickens

*All synopsis information is cited from www.goodreads.com.



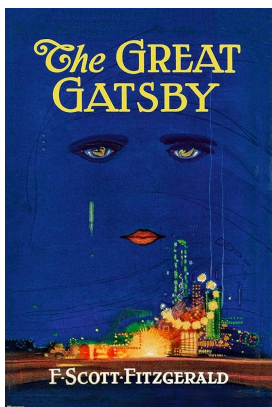
***A Separate Peace*, John Knowles**

An American classic and great bestseller for over thirty years, *A Separate Peace* is timeless in its description of adolescence during a period when the entire country was losing its innocence to the Second World War. Set at a boys boarding school in New England during the early years of World War II, *A Separate Peace* is a harrowing and luminous parable of the dark side of adolescence. Gene is a lonely, introverted intellectual. Phineas is a handsome, taunting, daredevil athlete. What happens between the two friends one summer, like the war itself, banishes the innocence of these boys and their world. A bestseller for more than thirty years, *A Separate Peace* is John Knowles' crowning achievement and an undisputed American classic.



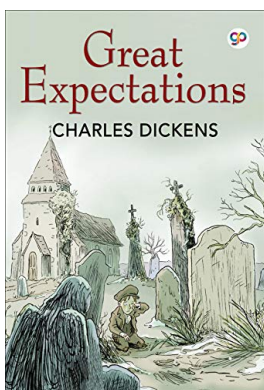
1984, George Orwell

A masterpiece of rebellion and imprisonment where war is peace, freedom is slavery, and Big Brother is watching. Thought Police, Big Brother, Orwellian: These words have entered our vocabulary because of George Orwell's classic dystopian novel *1984*. The story of one man's nightmare odyssey as he pursues a forbidden love affair through a world ruled by warring states and a power structure that controls not only information but also individual thought and memory. *1984* is a prophetic haunting tale. More relevant than ever before, *1984* exposes the worst crimes imaginable: the destruction of truth, freedom, and individuality.



***The Great Gatsby*, F. Scott Fitzgerald**

The Great Gatsby, F. Scott Fitzgerald's third book, stands as the supreme achievement of his career. This exemplary novel of the Jazz Age has been acclaimed by generations of readers. The story of the fabulously wealthy Jay Gatsby and his love for the beautiful Daisy Buchanan, of lavish parties on Long Island at a time when *The New York Times* noted "gin was the national drink and sex the national obsession," it is an exquisitely crafted tale of America in the 1920s. *The Great Gatsby* is one of the great classics of twentieth-century literature.



***Great Expectations*, Charles Dickens**

Great Expectations charts the progress of Pip from childhood through often painful experiences to adulthood, as he moves from the Kent marshes to busy, commercial London, encountering a variety of extraordinary characters ranging from Magwitch, the escaped convict, to Miss Havisham, locked up with her unhappy past and living with her ward, the arrogant, beautiful Estella. Pip must discover his true self and his own set of values and priorities. Whether such values allow one to prosper in the complex world of early Victorian England is the major question posed by *Great Expectations*, one of Dickens's most fascinating, and disturbing, novels.