

PACE English 10 Summer Reading 2009

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Choose ***one**** book from the following titles and thoroughly read it. If you purchase the book, mark it up. If you borrow it from the library, take copious notes. The books are widely available in bookstores (The Avid Reader at the Tower is once again offering 20% off summer reading titles) and in libraries.

Discussion Group

While you're reading your book, I would like you to post at least three comments to a Google Group I have set up for your novel. Go to my web site (see above), follow the link to my Google Group, and post a comment that has an insight or observation about the book. I would like you to post at least three times, at intervals of at least a few days each. Respond to the previous entries, and help to build knowledge about the book. Write commentary that is supported by concrete details. Be sure to post your comment in the appropriate thread! Use proper spelling and grammar.

You must send me an email at mrbrooks303@gmail.com so I can send you an invitation to join the discussion. Once you've received an email invitation from me, follow the directions to join the group. Please send me an email so I can help you with any technical difficulties. Do this sooner rather than later. I will not be available during the last two weeks of July. Remember that your posts are available to the public, not just to me.

Book Test/Presentation

You will be taking a book test and developing a presentation during the first week of school. For your presentation, you will be the expert for your book, so read for detail and think about the big ideas the author is conveying.

Guiding Questions

- What oppressed group does the protagonist represent?
- What was the status of that group in society when the book was written? Today? (You may need to do some research.)
- What experiences contribute to the major characters' beliefs? What do those experiences have in common? What experiences can you identify with?

Book List

Reservation Blues, Sherman Alexie
Bastard Out of Carolina, Dorothy Allison
How the Garcia Girls Lost their Accents, Julia Alvarez
Caramelo, Sandra Cisneros
A Yellow Raft in Blue Water, Michael Dorris
China Boy, Gus Lee
Jasmine, Bharati Mukherjee
The God of Small Things, Arundhati Roy
The Kitchen God's Wife, Amy Tan
Johnny Got His Gun, Dalton Trumbo
The Color Purple, Alice Walker
Jubilee, Margaret Walker
Native Son, Richard Wright

All of these titles appear on the California Department of Education's list of recommended literature (<http://www.cde.ca.gov/ci/rl/ll/>). However, some of the books contain material for mature audiences. Do some research to find out which books suit your tastes and preferences. Please consult with your parents in regards to any subject matter that you believe they will be concerned about. I'll be happy to help you find a suitable title for you.

*These books are awesome. If you read more than one, enjoy!