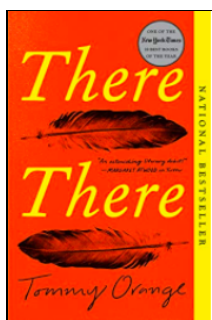


2022 English Summer Reading Guide:
AP Literature & Composition

Please Note: The following work is required for *all* students enrolled in this course, including transfer students and students who change their schedule over the summer.

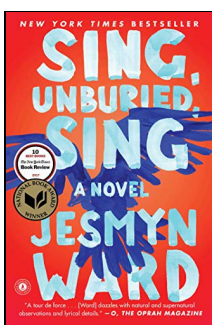
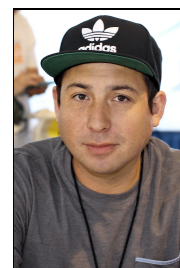
Instructions:

The Book: Choose **ONE** of the four novels listed below. Obtain a **physical copy** of the book that you will bring to class. Read your chosen book carefully and thoughtfully before the first day of school. **Follow the guidance on the next page for reading carefully and tracking your thinking.** You will write about the book in class during the first week of school. Besides reading and annotating thoughtfully, there is no separate assignment to complete. Students can see this book list on our DePaul Prep Goodreads group [here](#), using their DePaul Prep email address.



[There There by Tommy Orange](#)

“Tommy Orange’s ‘groundbreaking, extraordinary’ (The New York Times) *There There* is the story of twelve unforgettable characters, Urban Indians living in Oakland, California, who converge and collide on one fateful day. As we learn the reasons that each person is attending the Big Oakland Powwow—some generous, some fearful, some joyful, some violent—momentum builds toward a shocking yet inevitable conclusion that changes everything. There will be glorious communion, and a spectacle of sacred tradition and pageantry. And there will be sacrifice, and heroism, and loss.”

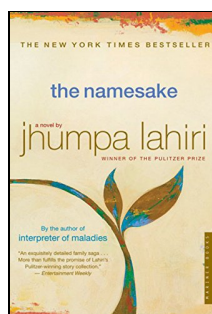


[Sing, Unburied, Sing by Jesmyn Ward](#)

“Jojo is thirteen years old and trying to understand what it means to be a man. He doesn’t lack in fathers to study, chief among them his Black grandfather, Pop. But there are other men who complicate his understanding: his absent White father, Michael, who is being released from prison; his absent White grandfather, Big Joseph, who won’t acknowledge his existence; and the memories of his dead uncle, Given, who died as a teenager. His mother, Leonie, is an inconsistent presence in his and his toddler sister’s lives. She is an imperfect mother in constant conflict with herself and those around her. She is Black and her children’s father is White. She wants to be a better mother but can’t put her children above her own



needs, especially her drug use. Simultaneously tormented and comforted by visions of her dead brother, which only come to her when she’s high, Leonie is embattled in ways that reflect the brutal reality of her circumstances. When the children’s father is released from prison, Leonie packs her kids and a friend into her car and drives north to the heart of Mississippi and Parchman Farm, the State Penitentiary. At Parchman, there is another thirteen-year-old boy, the ghost of a dead inmate who carries all of the ugly history of the South with him in his wandering. He too has something to teach Jojo about fathers and sons, about legacies, about violence, about love.”

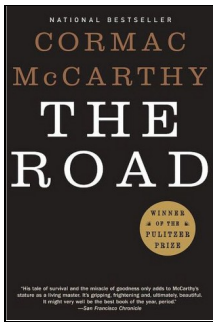


[The Namesake by Jhumpa Lahiri](#)

“Meet the Ganguli family, new arrivals from Calcutta, trying their best to become Americans even as they pine for home. The name they bestow on their firstborn, Gogol, betrays all the conflicts of honoring tradition in a new world—conflicts that will haunt Gogol on his own winding path through divided loyalties, comic detours, and wrenching love affairs. In *The Namesake*, the Pulitzer Prize winner

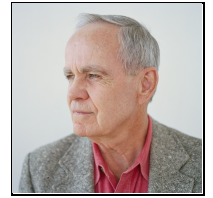


Jhumpa Lahiri brilliantly illuminates the immigrant experience and the tangled ties between generations.”



[The Road by Cormac McCarthy](#)

“A father and his son walk alone through burned America. Nothing moves in the ravaged landscape save the ash on the wind. It is cold enough to crack stones, and when the snow falls it is gray. The sky is dark. Their destination is the coast, although they don't know what, if anything, awaits them there. They have nothing; just a pistol to defend themselves against the lawless bands that stalk the road, the clothes they are wearing, a cart of scavenged food—and each other. *The Road* is the profoundly moving story of a journey. It boldly imagines a future in which no hope remains, but in which the father and his son, ‘each the other's world entire’ are sustained by love. Awesome in the totality of its vision, it is an unflinching meditation on the worst and the best that we



are capable of.”

Reading Carefully and Tracking Your Thinking:

While reading, notice and track ideas based on the guidance below. Annotate in your book so you can find your thoughts quickly when you discuss and write about the book in class.

Focus on at least two literary elements as you read: Character, Setting, Plot Structure, Narration

- **Character:** How is each character characterized? What seems to motivate each character? What conflicts must each character face? How do they respond to their conflicts? How do they interact with their environment(s)? What are their relationships to one another? How do their worldviews differ? How do characters shift and develop from start to finish? Do any stay the same?
- **Setting:** What are the main settings throughout the book? What are the physical, geographical, and social details of each setting? What values and ideas are represented by each setting? What is the mood of each setting? How do the settings influence the characters? How do the settings relate to the conflicts in the book? What role do the settings play in the book?
- **Plot Structure:** What are the main events of the story, and what order are they told in? How does each part relate to other parts and relate to the whole? When does the conflict occur? Is there any resolution? How does the plot's structure influence our experience of the story and our view of the characters? How does the novel begin, and how does it end? Is there a relationship between the two? What is the relationship between the ending and the rest of the story?
- **Narration:** Who is the narrator? Does the narrator change? How does the narrator's identity impact the way the story is told? What point of view is the story told in? How does the narration influence our perspective on each character or how the events unfold? What is emphasized and what is left out?

Focus on all of these as you read: Symbolism, Patterns & Developments, Topics & Themes

- **Symbolism:** Are there any people, places, events, objects, or details that seem to hold a larger, figurative meaning beyond their literal details? What ideas do these symbols represent? What role do they play in the story?
- **Patterns and Developments:** What do you notice building, repeating, shifting, or changing over the course of the novel?
- **Topics and Themes:** What abstract ideas does this book deal with? What is the author trying to express, question, explore, or communicate, based on the literary elements and developments in the book? What does this book reveal about some aspect of human experience?

NEED HELP?

If you are a transfer student or you are any student with a question you can't figure out yourself, email either Mrs. Galvez (lgalvez@depaulprep.org) or the teacher listed on your schedule.