**Summer Reading 2023**



**Directions:**

**You will choose** an appropriate summer reading novel this summer. As you read, focus on the elements of **emotions**, **theme**, **symbolism**, **and character development (See definitions on the following page).** **On Friday September 22, 2023,** you will meet in Advisory and take a 4- question assessment on your novel. **Bring your novel with you on this day.**

**If you do not take this assessment on the 22nd, you will be assigned 0. This will be a summative grade assigned in your English class.**

\***NEHS and AP Lit students have separate assignments. Please speak with Mrs. Brockmyre.**

Steps and checklist to complete this project:

* 1. Choose a book!
  + Choose a book that…
    - You will enjoy
    - Is age and reading level appropriate
    - Mindful and aware of triggers for you
    - Try a book that has differing viewpoint and perspectives from your own
    - You will be able to speak to the emotions, themes, symbols, and character development
  + Check out the [Recommended Booklist](https://docs.google.com/document/d/e/2PACX-1vQjElqj7mnspnCPpSKpGOBkTwfhp0Bz3vL2egq3ETOSyqaVh2wO-77Mmcf6js5odjASwkhw79hCYp-W/pub?urp=gmail_link) for suggestions.
  + You can access books at the Amesbury Public Library or online at [MVLC Overdrive](https://mvlc.overdrive.com/) (You need an Amesbury Library Card)
  + 2. Participate in a book discussion on Friday, September 22
    - Bring your book to the discussion
    - Take the summative assessment.

**Definitions** (Elements to think about and take notes on as you read)

How are these elements addressed in your novel?

**VOICE-** Voice is the personality of the author that comes through in their work. It demonstrates the unique way the author has expressed themselves and their perspectives.

**THEME-** A theme is a central unifying idea in a novel. It is the bigger issue that emerges when the characters pursue their goals (or transform). There can be more than one theme in a novel. For example, in the Harry Potter novels, death, friendship, family, power, and greed are all themes..

**EMOTION-** Emotion in writing refers to the feelings and sentiments that the author pulls from the reader. Emotions such as joy, sadness, anger or empathy (for example) are shown through vivid descriptions, storytelling and through relatable characters. By stirring emotions in you, the author can create a deeper connection between you, the reader, and the text, making the reading experience more memorable (for example, Romeo and Juliet).

**CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT-** Character development in writing refers to the process of creating well-rounded, believable, dynamic characters. The author provides complexity to how the character grows throughout the novel. Exploring character development means looking at the character’s motivations, desires, flaws and internal conflicts, as well as looking at their transformation over time. Well- developed characters are believable and relatable, which makes them more memorable.

**SYMBOLISM-** Symbolism in writing involves the use of objects, actions or concepts to represent deeper meaning beyond their literal interpretation. (for example, a dove might be a symbol for peace, or Harry Potter’s scar was a symbol for bravery). Symbols add layers of meaning, and they can evoke emotion (like the snake was symbolic in Harry Potter for evil and would evoke the emotion of fear.) Symbols can be colors in literature as well (black often represents death or evil, for example)