

Tenth Grade Regular English 2009-2010 Summer Reading List Opelika High School

***STUDENTS CHOOSE ONE BOOK**

Title	Author	Genre	Description
<i>The Ransom of Mercy Carter</i>	Caroline B. Cooney	Historical Fiction French and Indian War	Mercy Carter is a girl who is forced to quickly become a woman when she is kidnapped by Native Americans and forced to make the long trek from the American colonies to French Canada. Mercy is separated from what is left of her family and taken to live in an Indian village where she is adopted into the tribe. As the years go by, Mercy must struggle with her identity and what culture she belongs in. This book is an example of a captivity narrative and discusses the problems between races and different cultures, which will be helpful background when it is time to read Mary Rowlandson in early American literature.
<i>Copper Sun</i>	Sharon M. Draper	Historical Fiction African slave trade	From the author of <i>Tears of a Tiger</i> comes the story about a young African girl who is kidnapped from her home and transported to America where she is sold into slavery. This novel will help young adult readers to better understand the depths and horrors of slavery and gain a deeper knowledge of the impact slavery would have for many generations. We will use this book in class discussions about slavery and the influence slavery had on early American literature. <i>Winner of the Coretta Scott King Award, ALA Best Books for Young Adults nominee, CBC/NCSS Notable Social Studies Trade Book, and a starred review in the January 2006 issue of School Library Journal.</i>
<i>Day of Tears</i>	Julius Lester	Historical Fiction Slavery	In a desperate attempt to pay off his gambling debts, a slave owner auctions off over 300 slaves in the country's largest slave auction in history. The owner decided to sell a slave named Emma, although he had promised her parents he would not. However, money, desperation, and greed seem to justify every misdeed he commits. Told through the thoughts and words of slaves and free blacks, slave owners and abolitionists, men and women, white and black, this is a powerful and moving novel. We will discuss this book's theme and the impact slavery had on early American literature. <i>Winner of the Coretta Scott King Award.</i>
<i>Journey into Mohawk Country</i>	H. M. van den Bogaert and George O'Connor	Graphic novel Historical Autobiography	In this graphic novel, van der Bogaert details his journey through Iroquois country in attempts of improving relations, and therefore the fur trade, between the Dutch and Native Americans. What starts out as a simple journey soon turns into a much longer, more difficult adventure. Throughout the journey, the author keeps a journal of his adventures, recording his fears, successes, and the rough conditions of making their journey in the depths of winter. This book will be a useful tool for discussing different modes and genres of writing.

**Tenth Grade Honors English
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***STUDENTS CHOOSE TWO BOOKS**

Title	Author	Genre	Description
<i>Cold Sassy Tree</i>	Olive Ann Burns	Fiction	In turn-of-the-century America, fourteen-year-old Willy lives in a small Georgia town. When Grandpa marries a much younger woman, the whole town is shocked. Think of how you would react in this situation.
<i>The Red Badge of Courage</i>	Stephen Crane	Historical Fiction Civil War	Nineteen-year-old Henry struggles to earn his own "red badge of courage" after running away from a battle like a coward. Based on the Civil War battle of Chancellorsville, the novel's action is shown through vivid snapshots of battle. The reader feels like he or she is there, right beside Henry.
<i>Copper Sun</i>	Sharon M. Draper	Historical Fiction African slave trade	From the author of <i>Tears of a Tiger</i> comes the story about a young African girl who is kidnapped from her home and transported to America where she is sold into slavery. This novel will help young adult readers to better understand the depths and horrors of slavery and gain a deeper knowledge of the impact slavery would have for many generations. We will use this book in class discussions about slavery and the influence slavery had on early American literature. <i>Winner of the Coretta Scott King Award, ALA Best Books for Young Adults nominee, CBC/NCSS Notable Social Studies Trade Book, and a starred review in the January 2006 issue of School Library Journal.</i>
<i>1776</i>	David McCullough	Non-Fiction Revolutionary War	Two-time Pulitzer Prize winner and twice National Book Award recipient David McCullough tells the very human story of real people who marched with General George Washington in the year of the Declaration of Independence. This book covers one year in the conflict between Great Britain and the freedom-seeking colonies. <i>1776</i> , in news-reporting style, chronicles the events leading up to the signing of the Declaration of Independence and the events immediately following. McCullough emphasizes, "These are the times that try men's souls." It is important to remember those times, and the spirit and struggle that sent our country on its path to greatness.
<i>The Killer Angels</i>	Michael Shaara	Historical Fiction Civil War	This Pulitzer Prize winning novel tells the story of the Battle of Gettysburg, one of the climactic battles of the American Civil War. The author brings historical figures to life as he shows us the heroic, tragic, and personal sides of warfare.