

English Course Reading

Assignment: As you read your assigned text(s) (see the next page), use a two-column chart to track one **theme** of your choice for the book. In the first column for each entry, cite a **quotation** that contributes to the theme. In the second column, write 4-6 sentences of your own **commentary** that connects the quotation to the theme with thoughtful, thorough analysis. Assignments are due on the first day of school.

Create a chart like this on your own paper or a document. As you read, record important quotations and original commentary:

Title of Text: Theme (selected from list below):		
Entry #	Quotation <i>cited with page number</i>	Commentary <i>4-6 sentences that connect the quote to your chosen theme</i>
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
*		

* Add more entries as necessary for your grade and level.

English Course Reading

Texts: You will read the text(s) designated for the course for which you are enrolled for the 2025-2026 school year. Choose one theme from the chart to track as you read.

Course	Text	Themes <i>Choose one</i>	Number of Entries
English 6	<i>The Lions of Little Rock</i> by Kristin Levine	friendship, courage, social justice, family, loyalty, perseverance, racism	5
English 7	<i>The War That Saved My Life</i> by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley	gender roles, mental health, grief, living with disability, child abuse	6
English 8	<i>Feathers</i> by Jacqueline Woodson	hope, faith, identity, family, friendship, racism	7
English 9	<i>Almost American Girl</i> by Robin Ha	cultural identity, racism, friendship, gender, identity	8
English 10	<i>The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time</i> by Mark Haddon	truth, family, interpersonal connection, independence, loss, identity, order vs. disorder, honesty vs. dishonesty	9
AP English 10	<i>The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time</i> by Mark Haddon	truth, family, interpersonal connection, independence, loss, identity, order vs. disorder, honesty vs. dishonesty	5
Read both books.	<i>Pride and Prejudice</i> by Jane Austen	money, marriage, morals, manners	8
English 11	<i>The Things They Carried</i> by Tim O'Brien	shame, burdens (literal & figurative), storytelling, truth, morality, courage vs. cowardice, gender, obligations	10
AP English 11	<i>The Things They Carried</i> by Tim O'Brien	shame, burdens (literal & figurative), storytelling, truth, morality, courage vs. cowardice, gender, obligations	7
Read both books.	<i>How Not to Drown in a Glass of Water</i> by Angie Cruz	culture, family, generational trauma, identity, gender, American Dream, storytelling, resilience	7
English 12	<i>The Stranger in the Woods</i> by Michael Finkel	isolation, conformity, morality, mental health, nature, survival	11
AP English 12	<i>The Midnight Library</i> by Matt Haig	regret, resilience, success, choice, storytelling, self-acceptance, kindness, connection, identity	8
Read both books.	<i>How Not to Drown in a Glass of Water</i> by Angie Cruz	culture, family, storytelling, identity, gender, American Dream, resilience	8