

- your own experiences in the comparison.
- 6. What would you have done in the main character's place?
- 7. Choose one character from the book. What influenced or inspired the character to act the way they did or say what they said?

# Steps To Success

- Choose one book to read from the list.
- Read the book
- Choose one project from the list.
- Complete the
- Come to school the first week ready to discuss the book and present your

Reading counts as a significant grade for your Enalish Class

## 2021 Summer Reading Choices

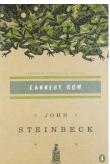
## Salt to the Sea by Ruta Sepetys

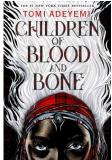
Winter 1945. WWII. Four refugees. Four stories.

Each one born of a different homeland; each one hunted, and haunted, by tragedy, lies, war. As thousands desperately flock to the coast in the midst of a Soviet advance, four paths converge, vying for passage aboard the *Wilhelm Gustloff*, a ship that promises safety and freedom. But not all promises can be kept.

## **Cannery Row by John Steinbeck**

A classic of American literature, *Cannery Row* focuses on the acceptance of life as it *is*: both the exuberance of community and the loneliness of the individual. Drawing on his memories of the real inhabitants of Monterey, California, including longtime friend Ed Ricketts, Steinbeck interweaves the stories of Doc, Dora, Mack and his boys, Lee Chong, and the other characters in this world where only the fittest survive, to create a novel that is at once one of his most humorous and poignant works.





SALT

SEPETYS

## Children of Blood and Bone by Tomi Adeyemi

They killed my mother. They took our magic. They tried to bury us. Now we rise.

Zélie Adebola remembers when the soil of Orïsha hummed with magic. Burners ignited flames, Tiders beckoned waves, and Zélie's Reaper mother summoned forth souls. But everything changed the night magic disappeared. Danger lurks in Orïsha, where snow leoponaires prowl and vengeful spirits wait in the waters.

## Zero: The biography of a Dangerous Idea by Charles Seife

The Babylonians invented it, the Greeks banned it, the Hindus worshipped it, and the Church used it to fend off heretics. Now it threatens the foundations of modern physics. For centuries the power of zero savored of the demonic; once harnessed, it became the most important tool in mathematics. For zero, infinity's twin, is not like other numbers. It is both nothing and everything.

In **Zero**, Science Journalist Charles Seife follows this innocent-looking number from its birth as an Eastern philosophical concept to its struggle for acceptance in Europe, its rise and transcendence in the West, and its ever-present threat to modern physics. Zero has pitted East against West and faith against reason, and its intransigence persists in the dark core of a black hole and the brilliant flash of the Big Bang. Today, zero

lies at the heart of one of the biggest scientific controversies of all time: the quest for a theory of everything.



### The Metamorphosis and Other Stories by Franz Kafka

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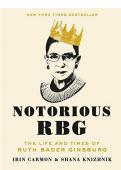
The story begins with a traveling salesman, Gregor Samsa, waking to find himself transformed (metamorphosed) into a large, monstrous insect-like creature. The cause of Samsa's transformation is never revealed, and Kafka himself never gave an explanation. The rest of Kafka's novella deals with Gregor's attempts to adjust to his new condition as he deals with being burdensome to his parents and sister, who are repulsed by the horrible, verminous creature Gregor has become.

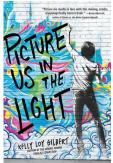
## Notorious RBG: The Life and Times of Ruth Bader Ginsberg by Irin Carmon

"It was beyond my wildest imagination that I would one day become the 'Notorious RBG." -

#### Ruth Bader Ginsburg, 2019

She was a fierce dissenter with a serious collar game. A legendary, self-described "flaming feminist litigator" who made the world more equal. And an intergenerational icon affectionately known as the Notorious RBG. As the nation mourns the loss of Ruth Bader Ginsburg, discover the story of a remarkable woman and learn how to carry on her legacy.





#### Picture Us in the Light by Kelly Loy Gilbert

Danny Cheng has always known his parents have secrets. But when he discovers a taped-up box in his father's closet filled with old letters and a file on a powerful Bay Area family, he realizes there's much more to his family's past than he ever imagined.

Still, contemplating a future without his best friend, Harry Wong, by his side makes Danny feel a panic he can barely put into words. Harry's and Danny's lives are deeply intertwined and as they approach the one-year anniversary of a tragedy that shook their friend group to its core, Danny can't stop asking himself if Harry is truly in love with his girlfriend, Regina Chan.

When Danny digs deeper into his parents' past, he uncovers a secret that disturbs the foundations of his family history and the carefully constructed facade his parents have maintained begins to crumble. With everything he loves in danger of being stripped away, Danny must face the ghosts of the past in order to build a future that belongs to him in this complex, lyrical novel.

#### Dry by Neil Shusterman

From the author of the Scythe trilogy.



The drought—or the Tap-Out, as everyone calls it—has been going on for a while now. Everyone's lives have become an endless list of don'ts: don't water the lawn, don't fill up your pool, don't take long showers. Until the taps run dry.

Suddenly, Alyssa's quiet suburban street spirals into a warzone of desperation; neighbors and families turned against each other on the hunt for water. And when her parents don't return and her life—and the life of her brother—is threatened, Alyssa has to make impossible choices if she's going to survive.

#### 1. Artistic Work, i.e. Quilt Square, Needlework, Painting, Sculpture, Mixed Media Art, etc.

As you read the book, think about the important concepts, images, or themes of the book. Design a piece that incorporates these ideas, images, or themes and reflects the book. The piece should measure at least 9 x 9 inches. In a paragraph explain why you chose the images, colors, media, etc. for your work, include at least 5 quotations that influenced your artistic choices.

## 2. Alternative Ending

How many times have you wished you could rewrite the ending of a book? Here's your chance to tie up all of the loose ends and resolve the story in a way you like. <u>Write at</u> <u>least five paragraphs to retell the ending and include at</u> <u>least 5 specific references to quotations that influenced</u> <u>your new ending.</u>

## 3. Book Map (Ideal for Non-fiction)

Create a map or collection of maps that reference important locations in the book. You can create a poster or digital map. You may use your illustrations, art, photos, collages from actual maps, etc. <u>You must include at least</u> <u>5 significant quotations from the book and explain how these impacted your maps.</u>

## 4. Video Book Talk (Ideal for Non-fiction)

Design and produce a commercial to "sell" your book and hook readers. The video should be at least 5 minutes long. Review the book, explaining its strengths as well as your own recommendations or similar/related books. Be sure to explain what type of reader will enjoy this book and why. You must choose at least 5 quotations from the book and in a paragraph explain their significance and how these passages affected the review.

## 5. Museum Exhibit (Ideal for non-fiction)

Create a museum exhibit, or a digital version of a museum exhibit, to explain, demonstrate, or illustrate key ideas or concepts from your book. Your exhibit must include at least 5 elements. Elements can include objects, pictures of objects, demonstrations, videos, photos, primary documents, etc. <u>You must</u> <u>include a paragraph for each element explaining</u> <u>what it is and how it relates to the topic.</u>

## 6. Original Play

Continue the story line or show interactions between characters outside the story. Write a script including dialogue, stage directions, scenery, and any necessary commentary in proper format. <u>In a paragraph</u> <u>explain why you have chosen to write the scene,</u> <u>include at least 5 quotations from the book, and</u> <u>show how these influenced your play/scene.</u>

## 7. Postcards From There

Create a series of four or more postcards that one of the characters has written throughout the course of the story to a friend. The front side should have an artistic image that represents the storyline. <u>The back</u> <u>side should include an address and stamp side</u>, <u>along with a message (minimum 1 paragraph)</u> from one of the novel's characters.

Understanding of the Text	<b><u>4 points</u></b> The product reflects thorough understanding of complex ideas and concepts in the text.	<u>3 points</u> The product reflects under- standing of the text beyond just the recall of facts.	<b><u>2 points</u></b> The product reflects a basic un- derstanding of the text.	<b><u>1 point</u></b> The product reflects limited understanding of the text; there is little evi- dence that the text was read.
Mechanics of Writing	The writing reflects appropri- ate spelling, grammar, punctu- ation, and sentence formation.	The writing has few spelling, grammar, punctua- tion, or sentence formation errors which do not inter- fere with comprehension.	The writing has many spelling, grammar, punctuation, or sen- tence formation errors. The er- rors interfere with comprehen- sion.	The writing reflects mini- mal control of spelling, grammar, punctuation, and/or sentence formation. It is difficult to read.
Writing/Art/ Video Product	The product reflects careful attention to detail and effort, and guidelines were complete- ly followed.	The product reflects some attention to detail and ef- fort, and guidelines were followed.	The product reflects minimal attention to detail and effort, and guidelines were not followed.	The product reflects poor effort, and the guidelines were not followed.
Group Discussion	The student participates and his/her contribution to the discussion reflects a thorough understanding of the concepts and themes of the text.	The student participates and his/her contribution to the discussion reflects an un- derstanding of the text be- yond just the recall of facts.	The student participates and his/her contribution to the dis- cussion reflects a basic under- standing of the text.	The student does not partic- ipate or his/her contribution reflects a limited under- standing of the text; there is little evidence that the text was even read.

## **Summer Reading Project Grading Rubric**