

New Bedford High School Summer Reading List

All students entering grades nine through twelve are required to read TWO books from the assigned list. Summer reading contributes to the first quarter English grade through either book reports, tests, or other enrichment project/activities on their selected books. Summer reading gives students a chance to explore reading for their own interests, exploring the fancies of their imaginations as opposed to reading only what has been assigned to their entire class!

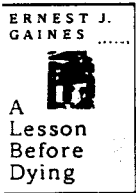
Entering 9th Grade



Eggers, David – *What is the What.*

WAR

The story of a refugee from the second Sudanese Civil War (1983-2005)—one of the 20,000 lost boys who walked thousands of miles seeking the relative safety of Ethiopia and Kenya.



Gaines, Ernest – *A Lesson Before Dying.*

CIVIL & POLITICAL RIGHTS

The story of a young, black man wrongly accused of murdering a white man. Facing a death sentence, the young man and his lawyer find self-respect and dignity in the painful journey.



George, Jean C. – *My Side of the Mountain.*

ADVENTURE

Sam is tired of living in a crowded New York City apartment, so he runs away to the Catskill Mountain wilderness to live off the land and forge a life of his own – learning about courage, danger, and the value of companionship along the way.

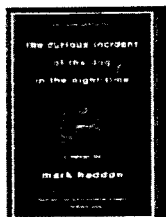
AWARD WINNING
AUTHOR



Gotfryd, Bernard – *Anton the Dove Fancier and Other Tales from the Holocaust.*

WAR

These thirty short “stories” recount the authors first hand experiences, or accounts others told as true, while serving with the Polish underground until his capture by the Nazis in WWII. After spending time in six concentration camps, he was liberated by Allied forces in 1945 and two years later emigrated to the U.S.



Haddon, Mark – *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time.*

FAMILY

Christopher knows all of the countries of the world and their capitals, every prime number up to 7,057, and relates well to animals but does not understand human emotions and cannot stand to be touched. This unique young man embraces the challenge of investigating the suspicious death of a neighborhood dog and teaches those around him a new way to perceive the world.



Halberstram, David – *The Education of a Coach.*

SPORTS

Bill Belichick is one of the best American Football coaches of the era. The biography focuses not only on his successes but the upbringing with his father, also a highly respected coach. His ability to coach at the highest level, despite lacking the ability to play the game at that level, inspires many athletes and fans alike.



Hinton, S.E. – *That was Then, This is Now.*

FRIENDSHIP

Byron and Mark have been as close as brothers for as long as they can remember. Yet as they grow up, they begin to grow apart; Byron thinks seriously about his future while Mark only focuses on the thrill of the moment. Will their bond survive?

AWARD WINNING
AUTHOR



Junger, Sebastian – *The Perfect Storm: A True Story of Men against the Sea.* **ADVENTURE**
 The true story of the loss of the “Andrea Gail,” a fishing boat lost in a storm off the coast of Nova Scotia in October 1991. Interviews, memoirs, radio conversations and research allow the author to recreate the last days of the crew.

AWARD WINNING
AUTHOR

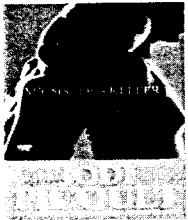
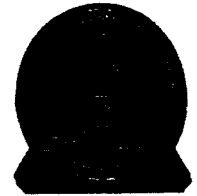


Lyons, Mary E. – *Letters from a Slave Girl* **CIVIL & POLITICAL RIGHTS**
 Based on Harriet Jacobs’s 1861 autobiography, this fictionalized letters of a slave girl reveal what life was like for a young black female longing for freedom, and struggling not to let hardship and disappointment defeat her hope and spirit.

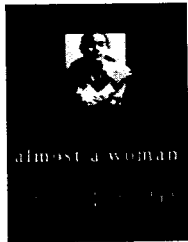


Myers, Walter Dean – *Slam!* **SPORTS**
 “Slam” Harris is counting on his basketball talent to give him a chance to succeed, but his coach sees things differently.

AWARD WINNING
BOOK



Picoult, Jodi – *My Sister's Keeper.* **FAMILY**
 A young girl battling a killer disease, a younger sister born to be her savior. When is the price of selflessness too high, and can a family survive the most difficult choice of all?



Santiago, Esmeralda – *Almost a Woman.* **FAMILY**
 A true story of a young woman who leaves her poor but happy childhood in Puerto Rico to begin anew as an immigrant in New York City, struggling to fit in with new friends and environment and still hold on to the culture and values of her large and loving family. A coming of age story, Esmeralda searches for belonging, identity, and ultimately, independence.



Tolkein, J.R.R. – *The Hobbit.* **ADVENTURE**
 Relatives of “The Race of Men,” the hobbits of Middle Earth begin the fantasy saga of Tolkein. This story begins with Bilbo Baggins, his nephew Frodo, and a quest to keep an object of power from falling into the hands of a variety of evil adversaries.

ALICE H. WOODSON



Woodson, Jacqueline – *After Tupac and D Foster.* **FAMILY**
 The friendship of three girls from very different families fills the emptiness of uncertainty as they struggle with Tupac Shakur’s troubles as well as their own.

AWARD WINNING
BOOK

