

# Junior Honors English Summer Reading List 2019

## District Mission/Philosophy/Goals for Summer Reading

- Encourage a love of reading
- Engage students in reading and responding to high-quality literature (written assessments)
- Foster critical reading skills
- Expand vocabulary

**Directions:** Welcome to Junior Honors English! Each book below connects with a unit from *MyPerspectives: American Literature*, the eleventh-grade English textbook. Please **select three** of the four titles below, and prepare to take the **summer reading assessment in September** by annotating as you read. To help you make a choice, there are many websites that can give you insight into the contents of these books, including synopses at [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com) and ratings for elements at [www.commonsemmedia.org](http://www.commonsemmedia.org).



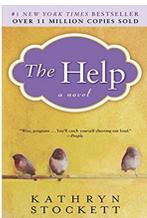
### ***Catcher in the Rye* by J.D. Salinger** *Connects to Unit 2: The Individual and Society*

After being kicked out of his elite preparatory school in Pennsylvania, sixteen-year-old Holden Caulfield spends three days wandering the streets of New York City, trying to make sense of society and his place in it. Holden's personal journey illuminates the essential question: *What role does individualism play in American society?*



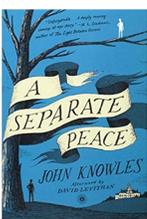
### ***Eat Pray Love* by Elizabeth Gilbert** *Connects to Unit 6: Ordinary Lives, Extraordinary Tales*

Around the time Elizabeth Gilbert turned thirty, she went through an early-onslaught midlife crisis. She had everything an educated, ambitious American woman was supposed to want. But, instead of feeling happy and fulfilled, she was consumed with panic, grief, and confusion. A celebrated writer's irresistible, candid, and eloquent account of her pursuit of worldly pleasure and spiritual devotion, *Eat Pray Love* explores the essential question: *What do stories reveal about the human condition?*



### ***The Help* by Kathryn Stockett** *Connects to Unit 6: Ordinary Lives: Extraordinary Tales*

A group of women in 1960s Mississippi become friends and write a book exposing terrible labor conditions among African American housekeepers. This novel focuses on a friendship forged to help reveal the indignity that housekeepers endured. The work required to gather details for the groundbreaking, dangerous book and the friendships that develop in this challenging work combine to provide an angle on the essential question: *What do stories reveal about the human condition?*



### ***A Separate Peace* by John Knowles** *Connects to Unit 3: Power, Protest, and Change*

Rivalry and a serious injury test two young men's friendship. The teenagers have a lot of freedom during the summer, but this is a temporary respite from the war that they may have to fight. Time constrains freedom here—as the young men get older, they get closer and closer to enlisting. Their experience offers another perspective on the essential question: *In what ways does the struggle for freedom change with history?*