




BHS Summer Reading

Dear Bristol High School students, parents, and guardians:




Congratulations on the completion of the 2023–24 school year; we hope that it was fun, productive, and successful!

In order to prepare for next year, the English department strongly recommends the completion of a summer reading assignment for students entering English 9, 10, 11, and 12; students may choose a title from the 2025 BCIU Reading Olympics titles attached. These titles will be available in the Bucks County Library system or any local or national retailer. After reading and choosing a book, students should complete 3 of the assignments listed on the choice board. These can be done digitally or with traditional materials and assignments will be turned in when we return to school. Satisfactory completion of the assignments will result in extra credit on the midterm exam in January 2025.

Additionally, any student taking a 12th grade English class will be writing a college application essay. Options and guidelines are attached. Senior English students are strongly encouraged to begin brainstorming and drafting during the summer. 

Please direct any questions to Mrs. Werner at ewerner@bbsd.org. We thank you for your support! Have a wonderful summer!

Happy reading,
The BHS English Department



2025 Reading Olympics Senior 25 Book List

Title	Author Last Name	Author First Name	Level	
Everlost	Shusterman	Neal	SR	
Lovely War	Berry	Julie	SR	
Pumpkinheads	Rowell	Rainbow	SR	
Six of Crows	Bardugo	Leigh	SR	
They Called Us Enemy	Takei	George	SR	
All American Boys	Reynolds	Jason	SR	
Life As We Knew It	Pfeffer	Susan Beth	SR	
Running Dream, The	Van Draanen	Wendelin	SR	
Beauty Queens	Bray	Libba	SR	
Field Guide to the North American Teenager, The	Philippe	Ben	SR	
First Part Last, The	Johnson	Angela	SR	
Game Change	Monninger	Joseph	SR	
Illuminae	Kaufman	Amie	SR	
Salt to the Sea	Sepetys	Ruta	SR	
Red Queen	Aveyard	Victoria	SR	
Under the Mesquite	McCall	Q. Garcia	SR	
Weight of Feathers	McLemore	Anna-Marie	SR	
X: A Novel	Shabazz	Ilyasah	SR	
Accountable	Slater	Dashka	SR	NEW
How Dare the Sun Rise	Uwiiringiyimana	Sandra	SR	NEW
Promise Boys	Brooks	Nick	SR	NEW
Rez Ball	Graves	Byron	SR	NEW
Victory. Stand!: Raising My Fist for Justice	Smith	Tommie	SR	NEW
Warrior Girl Unearthed	Boulley	Angeline	SR	NEW
Work With What You Got	Clark	Zion	SR	NEW

<p>Write a letter to your teacher and tell him/her about the novel you read! Make sure you tell him/her the main characters, problem, solution, and if you enjoyed the book!</p>	<p>CHARACTER TRADING CARD</p> <p>Choose 2 characters from the novel you read and create a CHARACTER TRADING CARD for each one.</p>	<p>Character Descriptions</p> <p>Choose 2 characters from your book and create a T-Chart. Write 5 adjectives to describe each character and show the evidence from the text to support the adjectives you've used to describe these characters.</p> <p>https://www.worksheetworks.com/miscellanea/graphic-organizers/tchart.html</p>
<p>Create a word cloud online. Type in words that help describe the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. title and author 2. Setting 3. Problem 4. Solution 5. Characters <p>(10 words in each category)</p> <p>https://wordart.com/create</p>	<p>Compare/Contrast the book and movie versions of a book.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Venn diagram -Reflective opinion <p>http://www.readwritethink.org/classroom-resources/student-interactives/venn-diagram-30973.html</p>	<p>Theme Song</p> <p>Choose a theme song for the book - explain how 3 different lyrics fit the book. (Write a paragraph for each lyric.)</p> <p>For inspiration see: http://tencentnotes.blogspot.com/2012/02/tuesday-ten-book-theme-songs.html or http://www.paperiot.com/2013/04/top-ten-books-with-a-theme-song/</p>
<p>Book Review</p> <p>Use technology or good ol' fashioned pen and paper and write a book review. See the components below!</p> <p>https://www.readwritethink.org/sites/default/files/resources/lesson_images/lesson876/ReviewComponents.pdf</p>	<p>Literary Artifacts</p> <p>Gather 5 artifacts that represent your book. Each artifact must have a paragraph that explains its connection to the book. Your paragraph must also include a quote from the book with an explanation of why you feel this quote represents this artifact. (Be sure to cite each quote's page number.)</p>	<p>Create a Crossword</p> <p>Find at least 10 difficult or interesting words you found in your book. Create a crossword or word find using these words at</p> <p>http://puzzlemaker.discoveryeducation.com/WordSearchSetupForm.asp</p>

Bristol High School English Department

2024-25 Suggested Summer Writing Assignment for Incoming Grade 12 Students

Although the Bristol Borough English Department encourages students to choose, read, and explore books this summer, the suggested summer assignment for incoming seniors involves writing. In particular, students should prewrite and draft a personal essay in response to one of the 2023-2024 College Common Application Essay Prompts. Of course, students are free to draft a response to a different prompt as it relates to a specific college application or post-high school goal.

When seniors return to school in September, the Personal Statement Essay (in response to one of the Common Application Essay Prompts) will be the first major essay completed in the first marking period. In other words, a final draft of the Personal Statement Essay will be completed as part of a processed writing unit with a proper feedback loop and multiple student revisions.

This is the assignment required of all incoming seniors at BHS, regardless of college/career plans beyond 2024. Personal essay-writing is a real-life skill needed for the college essay, scholarship applications, cover letters for jobs, and much more. The final draft of this assignment will be a 100-point assessment grade for all senior students in their English class.

Please do not hesitate to contact Mrs. Peltier, Mrs. Quattrocchi, Mrs. Renard, or Mrs. Werner if you have any questions or concerns.

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*Assignment and Assessment (for incoming Grade 12):

For video tutorials on this piece of writing, visit the YouTube Channel below:

College Essay Academy: Everything You Need to Know About Writing the College Essay
<https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLIohDgavxzCagTsDM36i6SdjPLrVcS-ze>

Additional books on college essay writing are available for your review at the school and public libraries.

Next, prewrite and draft a response (approximately 500 words) to one of the **2023-2024 Common Application Essay Prompts on the next page.**

These prompts are also available on the Common Application website:
<https://www.commonapp.org/blog/2023-2024-common-app-essay-prompts>

Below is the full set of essay prompts for 2024-2025

1. Some students have a background, identity, interest, or talent that is so meaningful they believe their application would be incomplete without it. If this sounds like you, then please share your story.
2. The lessons we take from obstacles we encounter can be fundamental to later success. Recount a time when you faced a challenge, setback, or failure. How did it affect you, and what did you learn from the experience?
3. Reflect on a time when you questioned or challenged a belief or idea. What prompted your thinking? What was the outcome?
4. Reflect on something that someone has done for you that has made you happy or thankful in a surprising way. How has this gratitude affected or motivated you?
5. Discuss an accomplishment, event, or realization that sparked a period of personal growth and a new understanding of yourself or others.
6. Describe a topic, idea, or concept you find so engaging that it makes you lose all track of time. Why does it captivate you? What or who do you turn to when you want to learn more?
7. Share an essay on any topic of your choice. It can be one you've already written, one that responds to a different prompt, or one of your own design.