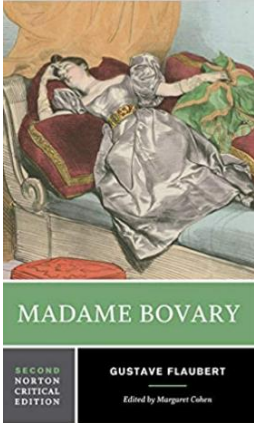


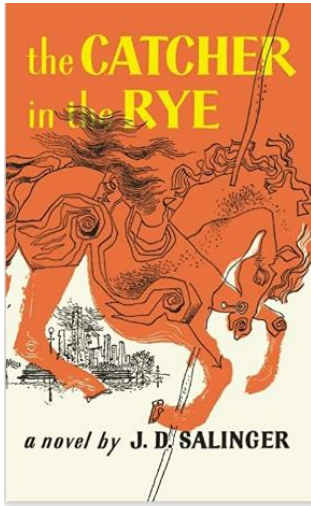
**12<sup>th</sup> Grade IB Literature**  
**Summer Reading Assignment: 2023-2024**

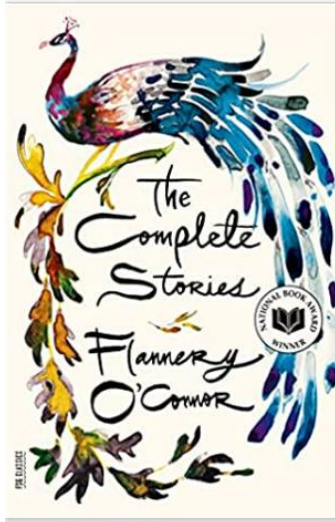
The following is your summer reading assignment for English next year. I ask that you set the goal to read once a day for 20-30 minutes. Please feel free to contact me this summer if you have any questions or concerns. I can be reached by e-mail at [hruedi@uplifteducation.org](mailto:hruedi@uplifteducation.org).

**Anchor Text:** Please complete this text during Summer Break. See note about SR Zoom group.

	<p>Emma Bovary is the original desperate housewife. Beautiful but bored, she spends lavishly on clothes and on her home and embarks on disappointing affairs in an effort to make her life everything she believes it should be. “As bored with marriage as she was with adultery”, she takes drastic action, with tragic consequences for her husband and daughter.</p> <p>Please purchase a translation by <b>Eleanor Marx</b>, preferably the Norton Critical Edition.</p>
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**Choice Novel (or Short Stories):** Please select 1 to use for small group study in Quarter 1.

	<p>The hero-narrator of <i>The Catcher in the Rye</i> is an ancient child of sixteen, a native New Yorker named Holden Caulfield.</p> <p>Through circumstances that tend to preclude adult, secondhand description, he runs away from his prep school in Pennsylvania and goes underground in New York City for three days. The boy himself is at once too simple and too complex for us to make any final comment about him or his story. Perhaps the safest thing we can say about Holden is that he was born in the world not just strongly attracted to beauty but, almost, hopelessly impaled on it.</p>
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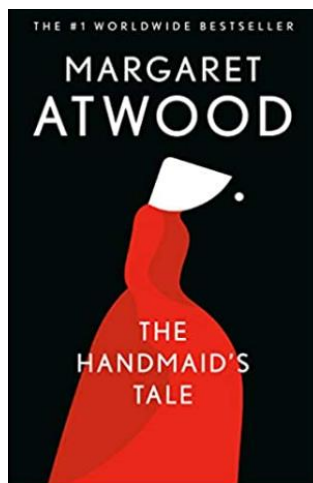


“There’s something about grotesque things that captivates us. We want to look away, but we can’t. This morbid truth may frighten some, but others have endeavored to face it. One such person is Flannery O’Connor. When reading her stories, you find yourself going back and forth between being entertained and disturbed. But if you give her time and thought, you’ll find yourself to have been enlightened by a master of the grotesque....

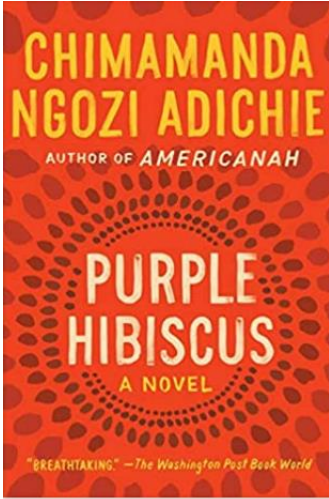
Much like today, the world was a mess during O’Connor’s lifetime. She was surrounded by racism, apathy for commitments, practical atheism, social tensions, and many other issues that are familiar to us as well...O’Connor recognized that the world is not a fairy tale. She unabashedly exposed its grotesqueness and, at the same time, revealed the grace at work in it.

O’Connor exposed the flaws of our manners without indulging in moralizing lessons of “Don’t do this or that.” Instead, her stories invite us to search for the mystery of grace. Sometimes it’s hard to recognize this grace because “a good man *is* hard to find.”

\*You will read a selection of short stories including: “A Good Man is Hard to Find”, “Good Country People”, and “Revelation”. Please be advised that these stories are both deeply disturbing and hilarious. ☺



In Margaret Atwood’s dystopian future, environmental disasters and declining birthrates have led to a Second American Civil War. The result is the rise of the Republic of Gilead, a totalitarian regime that enforces rigid social roles and enslaves the few remaining fertile women. Offred is one of these, a Handmaid bound to produce children for one of Gilead’s commanders. Deprived of her husband, her child, her freedom, and even her own name, Offred clings to her memories and her will to survive. At once a scathing satire, an ominous warning, and a tour de force of narrative suspense, *The Handmaid’s Tale* is a modern classic.

	<p>Fifteen-year-old Kambili and her older brother Jaja lead a privileged life in Enugu, Nigeria. They live in a beautiful house, with a caring family, and attend an exclusive missionary school. They're completely shielded from the troubles of the world. Yet, as Kambili reveals in her tender-voiced account, things are less perfect than they appear. Although her Papa is generous and well respected, he is fanatically religious and tyrannical at home—a home that is silent and suffocating.</p> <p>As the country begins to fall apart under a military coup, Kambili and Jaja are sent to their aunt, a university professor outside the city, where they discover a life beyond the confines of their father's authority. Books cram the shelves, curry and nutmeg permeate the air, and their cousins' laughter rings throughout the house. When they return home, tensions within the family escalate, and Kambili must find the strength to keep her loved ones together.</p> <p><i>Purple Hibiscus</i> is an exquisite novel about the emotional turmoil of adolescence, the powerful bonds of family, and the bright promise of freedom.</p>
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### Reading Assignment:

- A. Read and annotate your assigned novel and choice novel.
- B. As you read, annotate:
  - a. Read and annotate very carefully because we will be discussing and analyzing both novels in class. ***You will be able to use your annotated texts for a graded discussion and writing assessment in first quarter.***
  - b. Marking and annotating a text is like having a conversation with a book—it allows the reader to ask questions, comment on meaning, and mark passages to revisit.

### How to Annotate:

- Make brief notes on the page or on a sticky note marking important plot events, narrative shifts, or themes, images, and details that form a pattern throughout the text (motif).
- Circle words that are unfamiliar or unusual—try to figure out the word's meaning through contextual clues and supplement with a dictionary.

### **College Application Essay**

Write a college application essay based of the ‘common application’ essay prompts.

- The word limit for the essay is 650 words (so be concise, yet eloquent!).
- Choose ONE of the following ‘common application’ essay prompts to write about:

***\*Supplementary support materials such as advice on how to write a college essay as well as exemplar essays will be available on our Schoology page under ‘Summer Reading’.\****

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.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Personal Statement Evaluation Rubric**

Criterion	Poor 1	Below Average 2	Average 3	Above Average 4	Exceptional 5
<b>Writing Structure</b>					
1. The essay is grammatically accurate.					
2. The sentence structure is varied.					
3. Syntax is neither too wordy nor too concise.					
4. The essay demonstrates clear paragraphs.					
5. The essay shows distinct style and voice.					
<b>Content Structure</b>					
6. Addresses the prompt question clearly.					
7. Creative and original topic choice.					
8. Clear flow of ideas- beginning to end.					
9. Focuses on a clear central theme throughout.					
10. Captures the reader's attention from the start.					
11. Get in and out of the essay with finesse.					
12. Provides detail, anecdotes, and imagery.					
13. Stays within the word count limit (650 words).					
<b>Personal Characteristics</b>					
14. Shows what you bring to the community.					
15. Demonstrates positivity toward the future.					
16. Shows what sets you apart from others.					
17. Conveys that you are humble.					
18. Conveys that you are mature.					
19. Conveys that you are compassionate.					
20. Avoids repeating information.					

**Total Points:** \_\_\_\_\_