Dear Blair Senior,
Since good readers make good writers and good readers make good thinkers, each student entering Montgomery Blair High School in September is required to complete reading and writing assignments in preparation for the fall semester.

The Particulars:
• The work counts towards 1st marking period.
• The work is due September 5th or 6th.
  The deadline is September 7th or 8th.

Choosing a Book:
• Please do not select previously read works or middle school titles.
• Select titles that are on or above your reading level.
• Read the directions carefully and complete all assignments.
• You can find any appropriate books at your local library. There is no need to purchase the book you read. The English Department will check out books following the 2nd exam on June 13th and 14th in room 142.
• Call if you have questions: (301) 649-2856.

Late Enrollment:
• Students who enroll after the semester begins will have 3 weeks to submit all assignments.

READING ASSIGNMENT
Choose and read:
1. One NOVEL from the following list:
   The Farming of Bones*
   by Edwidge Danticat
   Nineteen Minutes
   by Jodi Picoult
   Son of the Mob*
   by Gordon Korman
   Romiette and Julio*
   by Sharon Draper
   Go Ask Alice*
   by Beatrice Sparks
   Kick
   by Walter Dean Myers

HONORS STUDENTS must choose a novel from the titles below:
   Pride and Prejudice*
   by Jane Austen
   Cry, The Beloved Country*
   by Alan Paton
   Hard Revolution
   by George Pelecanos
   Yellow Raft in Blue Water*
   by Michael Doris
   The Jungle*
   by Upton Sinclair
   Death With Interruptions
   by Jose' Saramago
   The Namesake*
   by Jhumpa Lahiri

Titles with an asterisk (*) may be borrowed from the English Department bookroom.

WRITING ASSIGNMENT
You will need to bring the novel you read to class with you.
The culminating writing activity will be completed in class. However, you are required to bring notes (guidelines below) with you to class on September 7th or 8th. You will turn these notes in to your teacher after the essay test.

Guidelines for Notes for On-level:
On-level Students, complete the graphic organizer that you were given along with your summer assignment as your notes. An electronic copy of the graphic organizer can also be found online: mbhs.edu/departments/english/summerread.php.

Guidelines for Notes for Honors:
• Identify three (3) important qualities the main character displays.
• Choose three (3) important events for your character, one from the beginning, one from the middle, and one from the end of the novel. Write an analysis of each of the three events, explaining how the character displays the three qualities you have identified for him or her and what the significance of the event is for the character.

On each page of notes, record the title and author of the work you are writing about. Submit work typed or handwritten neatly in blue or black ink.
Your notes will count in the HW for preparation category. The in-class writing assignment is a summative grade.

In addition to providing a paper or hard copy of your notes to your teacher, honors students should be prepared to submit electronic copies of their notes to "Turnitin.com."
Dear Parents,

Reading is not only a life-long skill that a person needs to succeed as a student and a worker, but also an essential skill in civic and personal activities. Perhaps even more importantly, reading opens the world to a person through various forms of literature. Reading gives students the opportunity to learn about people, times, regions, and ideas that may enhance their knowledge and development. Reading also can bring a lifetime of pleasure.

Research strongly suggests that reading, like most skills, improves with practice and decreases when we neglect it for even a short time. Therefore, consistent with our commitment to prepare all students for success during school and after graduation, MCPS continues to expect all students to read during the summer.

In keeping with the belief that reading promotes students’ mental growth, improves their capacity to process information, and enhances their ability to understand themselves and the world around them, students at Montgomery Blair will read, and respond—in writing—to the texts they read. Successful completion of the summer reading assignment will benefit your child as he or she progresses through our curriculum. We owe it to our students to prepare them for an increasingly competitive and complex world.

TITLES TAUGHT AT BLAIR
DO NOT CHOOSE FOR SUMMER READING
The list below contains titles that may be assigned in 12th grade English. Students wishing to get a head start on regular-term reading may read titles from this list. However, these books may not be used for the summer reading assignment.

- Catch-22
- Finding Fish
- Gulliver's Travels
- Hamlet
- In the Time of the Butterflies
- The Metamorphosis
- Oedipus
- Othello
- The Plague
- Pygmalion
- Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead
- Slaughterhouse Five
- Snow Falling on Cedars
- Song of Solomon
- The Stranger
- The Things They Carried
- This Boy's Life
- Waiting for Godot
- Wuthering Heights

Note: In addition to giving your teacher a paper copy of your work, you may also have to submit your work to "Turnitin.com" before your teacher can give you credit for the assignment.

This summer reading information can also be obtained at http://www.mbhs.edu. Click on "Depts," and then go to "English."
Montgomery Blair High School
Grade 12 On-Level Graphic Organizer
2017 Summer Reading Response Chart

Name ___________________________________________ Date Reading and Notes Completed ____________________

Title of Chosen Novel (refer to the summer reading brochure) ____________________________________________

Author ___________________________________________

**Directions:** After reading the novel, fill in each box with the appropriate responses. There are two sides to this sheet!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Selection of text</th>
<th>Favorite Character :</th>
<th>Least Favorite Character:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Discuss why you selected this particular text. Be specific. Is it a topic you’re interested in? Is it related to your culture? Were you intrigued by the plot summary?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Favorite and Least Favorite Characters</th>
<th>Favorite Character :</th>
<th>Least Favorite Character:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Identify your favorite and least favorite character.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Include a one-word description of each that reveals his/her characterization. Choose a word that describes their character/personality, such as ambitious, fearless, depressed, etc. (Do not use physical descriptions.)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Explain what you like/dislike about each character.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Quotes</th>
<th>Quote #1</th>
<th>Quote #2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Provide two of your favorite quotes from the novel. (Include the page numbers.)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Explain why each quote is one of your favorites.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Does the quote have literary techniques: figurative language (metaphor, simile, personification), sensory detail, repetition, hyperbole, etc.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Does the quote reveal a character trait? What is it?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Does this quote remind you of someone or something?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What is the author’s message to the</td>
<td>Quote #1 Explanation:</td>
<td>Quote #2 Explanation:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Question</td>
<td>Response</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>----------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>reader? (To answer this question, think about the entire novel. Think about theme and what you have learned about theme when answering this question.)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If you could change the title of this novel, what would you call it instead?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Why?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Do you appreciate the way the story ends?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes/No? Explain.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What would make a better ending?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Would you recommend this book to others to read?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes/No? Why/why not?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>