

English 9 - Freshman Honors English  
San Rafael High School  
Summer 2020 Assignment  
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Hello, incoming freshmen! This last year has certainly given us a lot to think about. We hope that you and your families have all stayed healthy and safe and will have the chance to relax this summer. We also hope that reading will be part of how you do that!

In many ways your 8th grade year has prepared you for the likelihood of distance learning next year. To that end, the English 9 team is working hard to design a curriculum that will be engaging and meaningful. Our goal is to help you develop your reading and writing skills, whether we are in the classroom or working from home. It is our priority to make sure that you are challenged and are given what you need to further advance your reading and writing skills.

We want you to spend some time this summer contemplating why we read. In more ways than one, this year will go down in history. We will continue to think about 2020, and learn from it, for years to come. A good book forces us to think (and rethink) in ways that teach us something important about ourselves and the world around us. Nothing can help us build empathy quite like engaging in, and understanding, the story of someone else.

### **Summer Assignment 2020**

Please choose one book to read from the list below. While you will not be asked to submit written work over the summer, please use flags/post-its to annotate the text as you read. For each chapter, we would like you to annotate at least five times. Your annotations should be connections to the text, questions about the text, or ideas about what you are reading. This will prepare you for the writing assignment you will have once we return to school in the fall.

Reading List:

[\*Becoming\*](#) by Michelle Obama  
[\*Dry\*](#) by Neal and Jarrod Shusterman  
[\*The Distance Between Us\*](#) by Reyna Grande

**To reiterate, you will select one of these three texts and use flags/post-its to annotate at least five times for each chapter. Your annotations will be critical for your first honors assignment when school resumes in the fall.**