**A Celebration of Reading**

Clements High School celebrates the joys and benefits of being a life-long reader. We also encourage students to choose works that speak to them to instill or to magnify this love of reading. To this end, teachers of the following AAC\* and AP courses require incoming students to their courses to select one or more of the listed texts to read or begin reading over the summer.

Students in the following courses will begin their fall of 2025 with a focus on reading from the following choice lists. Teachers encourage students to obtain a paper copy of their choice of works (to be used without technology in the class setting) and read or begin reading prior to the start of school. Students will not take any sort of placement assessment based on independent reading alone, but instead will begin the year with relevant skill focus for their course aligned with these readings. Students who want extra time to read (or re-read) these works will benefit from reading over the summer and discussing their reading with family and friends. Once there has been time for students to practice skills to do with these works, teachers will assign an assessment to gauge student progress in their skills no earlier than three weeks into the school year.

If you have questions, please email the CHS English Department Head:

Glenys McMennamy ([glenys.mcmennamy@fortbendisd.gov](mailto:glenys.mcmennamy@fortbendisd.gov))

**9th grade English I AAC [choose and read one of the following; check the author to make sure you get the right text]**

* *The Naturals* by Jennifer Lynn Barnes
* *We Were Liars* by E. Lockhart
* *The Inheritance Game* by Jennifer Lynn Barnes
* *Truly Devious* by Maureen Johnson

**10th grade English II AAC [choose and read one of the following]**

The English II AAC teachers recommend that you look up a summary and reviews of each of the following books and decide which sounds most interesting to you. Please do not choose a book based on length; you will enjoy the reading much more and will have an easier time engaging with the corresponding activities if you choose based on interest.

* *The Red Palace* by June Hur
* *A Thousand Splendid Suns* by Khaled Hosseini
* *Salt to the Sea* by Ruta Sepetys
* *I Must Betray You* by Ruta Sepetys

**11th grade English III AP [choose and read one of the following]**

* *Always Running: La Vida* Loca (Luis J. Rodriguez)
* American *Like Me* (America Ferrera, et al)
* *Becoming* (Michelle Obama)
* *Born a Crime* (Trevor Noah)
* *Crying in H Mart* (Michelle Zauner)
* *David and Goliath: Underdogs, Misfits, and the Art of Battling Giants* (Malcom Gladwell)
* *Dear America: Notes from an Undocumented Citizen* (Jose Antonio Vargas)
* *Eat a Peach* (David Chang)
* *Freakonomics: A Rogue Economist Explores the Hidden Side of Everything* (Stephen J. Dubner and Steven Levitt)
* *Hunger* (Roxanne Gay)
* *Me Talk Pretty One Day* (David Sedaris)
* *Outliers: The Story of Success* (Malcolm Gladwell)
* *Quiet: The Power of Introverts in a World That Can’t Stop Talking* (Susan Cain)
* *Talking to Strangers: What We Should Know about the People We Don’t Know* (Malcolm Gladwell)
* *The Drunkard’s Walk: How Randomness Rules Our Lives* (Leonard Mlodinow)
* *Tightrope: Americans Reaching for Hope* (Nicholas Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn)

**12th grade English IV AP [choose and read one of the following]**

* *Exit West* (Mohsin Hamid)
* *Sing, Unburied, Sing* (Jesmyn Ward)
* *There, There* (Tommy Orange)
* *Purple Hibiscus* (Chimanda Ngozi Adichie)
* *Pachinko* (Min Jin Lee)
* *Interior Chinatown* (Charles Yu)
* *Hamnet* (Maggie O’Farrell)
* *Clara and the Sun* (Kazuo Ishiguro)
* *Tomorrow, and Tomorrow, and Tomorrow* (Gabrielle Zevin)