

**English 9- Academic Summer Reading Choose two of the following novels and prepare for a test on each:**

***Hoot*** by Carl Hiassen-In this humorous mystery, three unlikely teens lead a protest to save endangered burrowing owls that live on the property where a Mother Paula's All American Pancake House is about to be built.

***The Five People You Meet in Heaven*** by Mitch Albom-This is a story about an amusement park mechanic named Eddie who dies trying to save a little girl. The book begins by detailing Eddie's movements during his last hour alive. When Eddie dies, he finds himself in heaven, where he soon learns that he will meet five people who will explain to him the meaning of his life.

***Between Shades of Gray*** by Ruta Sepetys-The nations of Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia disappeared from maps in 1941 and did not reappear until 1990. As this is a story seldom told, the author wanted to give a voice to the millions of people who lost their lives during Stalin's cleansing of the Baltic region.

***Look Me In The Eye*** by John Elder Robinson-John Elder Robinson shares his, often hilarious life story, as someone who was diagnosed with Asperger's syndrome, a form of autism, but not until he was forty years old. He takes the reader on his adventures from an unhappy childhood, to developing exploding guitars for the rock band KISS, to pioneering talking electronic games in the late 1970's, to marriage and fatherhood, and finally as a successful owner of an automotive business. His fantastic life story is engaging and encouraging.

***The Honest Truth*** by Dan Gemeinhart It's never too late for the adventure of a lifetime. In all the ways that matter, Mark is a normal kid. He's got a dog named Beau and a best friend, Jessie. He likes to take photos and write haiku poems in his notebook. He dreams of climbing a mountain one day. But in one important way, Mark is not like other kids at all. Mark is sick. The kind of sick that means hospitals and treatments. The kind of sick some people never get better from. So Mark runs away. He leaves home with his camera, his notebook, his dog, and a plan. A plan to reach the top of Mount Rainier...even if it's the last thing he ever does.

**There will be a test on the two books that you choose to read the first Friday of the new school year. The test will be a combination of true/false, matching, multiple choice, quotes, and essay. The test will be worth 100 points.**

**In order to keep track and remember what you have read, you should take notes on the setting, the main characters, plot summary, and themes.**

**This evaluation will be your first grade for the first quarter. Please check the website as some of the above titles may have reading guides.**