The four (non-AP) senior English courses all share the following required summer reading novel:

*LIFE OF PI* BY YANN MARTEL (ISBN: 9780156027328)

In addition to reading *Life of Pi*, all seniors in a non-AP English course must purchase and read ONE additional “choice” summer reading novel from the appropriate course list below. Some books have mature content and themes; students should consult a parent/guardian when making their selections.

**Writing from Literature**

1984 by George Orwell  
*THE ROAD* by Cormac McCarthy  
*IN COLD BLOOD* by Truman Capote  
*THEIR EYES WERE WATCHING GOD* by Zora Neale Hurston*  
*ON WRITING* by Stephen King  
*HOW THE GARCIA GIRLS LOST THEIR ACCENTS* by Julia Alvarez  
*THE HEART IS A LONELY HUNTER* by Carson McCullers  
*JANE EYRE* by Charlotte Bronte

**Heroes and Villains**

*SOMETHING WICKED THIS WAY COMES* by Ray Bradbury  
*THEIR EYES WERE WATCHING GOD* by Zora Neale Hurston*  
*DAUGHTER OF FORTUNE* by Isabel Allende  
*A LESSON BEFORE DYING* by Ernest J. Gaines  
*GRENDEL* by John Gardner  
*THE ALCHEMIST* by Paulo Coelho  
*CHRONICLE OF A DEATH FORETOLD* by Gabriel Garcia Marquez  
*THE POISONWOOD BIBLE* by Barbara Kingsolver

**Philosophy in Literature**

*BLINDNESS* by José Saramago  
*THE COLOR PURPLE* by Alice Walker  
*THEIR EYES WERE WATCHING GOD* by Zora Neale Hurston*  
*A LESSON BEFORE DYING* by Ernest J. Gaines  
*ATONEMENT* by Ian McEwan  
*THE IMMORTAL LIFE OF HENRIETTA LACKS* by Rebecca Skloot  
*100 YEARS OF SOLITUDE* by Gabriel Garcia Marquez

**Literature and Film**

*THE JOY LUCK CLUB* by Amy Tan [film: *The Joy Luck Club* (1993)]  
*THE PERKS OF BEING A WALLFLOWER* by Stephen Chbosky [film: *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* (2012)]  
*HIDDEN FIGURES* by Margot Lee Shetterly [film: *Hidden Figures* (2016)]  
*THE LOVELY BONES* by Alice Sebold [film: *The Lovely Bones* (2009)]  
*JUST MERCY* by Bryan Stevenson [film: *Just Mercy* (2019)]  
*LIKE WATER FOR CHOCOLATE* by Laura Esquivel [film: *Like Water for Chocolate* (1992)]  
*MISERY* by Stephen King [film: *Misery* (1990)]  
*PERSEPOLIS* by Marjane Satrapi [film: *Persepolis* (2007)]

Choose one specific scene or element (character, tone, symbol, etc.) from your choice novel (1-3 paragraphs) that you thought was adapted well in your film. Then, do the opposite: choose a specific scene or element from the novel (1-3 paragraphs) that you thought was poorly adapted, or changed in a way that was disappointing. When you come to the first day of class, please have both specific passages ready to cite as well as your film observations written in short paragraph or bullet-point form (aim for 50 words for each example). We will use both of these during the first week of school.

*We recommend the use of an audiobook to help with dialect in *Their Eyes Were Watching God.*