



**SAINTS JOHN NEUMANN AND MARIA GORETTI  
CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL**

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**Summer Reading Assignment  
9th Grade English I  
2017-2018**

Hello class of 2021,

I am so happy to be teaching you this 2017-2018 school year! I am looking forward to helping you start your journey at Neumann Goretti. You will be amazed by how much you can grow and achieve in just one year. To start our year off on a strong note, I require each incoming freshman to complete a summer reading assignment. The summer reading assignment is meant for you to continue to expand your interest in reading and discover what types of books you actually enjoy reading. All I ask of you is that you do your best, keep a positive outlook, and have an open mind.

Below you will find the novel options you are to choose from and the writing assignment that will accompany your reading. **Your summer reading assignment is due at the beginning of class, typed and printed, by Friday, September 15th.** Please see below for more information:

Choose **TWO** of the following novels to read:

1. The Fault in our Stars by John Green
2. The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian by Sherman Alexie
3. Stargirl by Jerry Spinelli
4. It's Kind of a Funny Story by Ned Vizzini
5. A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy by Ishmael Beah

**Then, write a five paragraph essay according to the following format:**

1. **Paragraph one- Opening:**
  - a. Tell the audience what two books your read.
  - b. Explain why you chose each book.
  - c. Give your personal opinion on book one-what you liked, what you didn't like.
  - d. Give your personal opinion on book two-what you liked, what you didn't like.
2. **Paragraph two- Book One:**
  - a. Summarize book one. What were the key details? What was the main idea?
  - b. Describe the character in the first book you read. What three characteristics would you use to describe that person? Explain why.
  - c. What problem/challenges is the character faced with?
  - d. How do you relate to the character? Are you similar or different to them? Explain how.

*Forging our future . . . treasuring our tradition.  
Compassion, Courage, Commitment*



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**3. Paragraph three- Book Two:**

- a. Summarize book two. What were the key details? What was the main idea?
- b. Describe the character in the second book you read. What three characteristics would you use to describe that person? Explain why.
- c. What problem/challenges is the character faced with?
- d. How do you relate to the character? Are you similar or different to them? Explain how.

**4. Paragraph four- Compare/Contrast:**

- a. How are the main characters in BOTH your books similar? For example- Do they deal with similar challenges? Do they react in the same way to problems? Do they live similar lives?
- b. How are the main characters in BOTH your novels different? Which character do you find more relatable?

**5. Paragraph five- Conclusion**

- a. Restate what two novels you read.
- b. Explain if you were happy or not with your choice. If not, what would you have preferred to read?
- c. Would you recommend these books to someone else?

**Style/Formatting:**

- Typed
- Double Spaced
- Times New Roman font, Size 12
- Name, Miss Doran, Date, English I, and Title in the top left hand corner, each on separate lines.

Thank you very much for completing your assignment! The writing assignment will count as a **quiz grade and be due Friday, September 15th**. Please reach out via email if you have any questions or concerns at [mdoran@neumanngorettihs.org](mailto:mdoran@neumanngorettihs.org) .

Happy Reading!

Best,  
Miss Doran

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