

## English II Summer Reading Assignment

Please **read and annotate** BOTH of the following books. Thoughtful, careful, and reflective reading takes time. Unplug and disconnect from your digital world and read with a pencil in hand, underlining passages and making notes in the margins. Use sticky tabs or Post-Its to mark pages. Don't worry about underlining or marking the "wrong" passages or pages—this is *your* reading experience.

As you read, think. Think about not only what's going on in the text, but what messages are conveyed, and how? What values are promoted and encouraged, and what values are discouraged or looked upon with disdain? Is the writer criticizing an aspect of his or her society? What is being mocked, mourned, celebrated, or lamented? These are just a few questions you might consider as you figure out what you think about the text you are reading. You can also follow this guide for reading and annotating, and keep in mind that we'll have a quiz in the first week of school, followed by several weeks of class discussion and a graded writing assignment:

- Look for the development of certain **themes, metaphors, and symbols**;
- Examine how **characterization** is achieved;
- Consider **point of view** and how the story is told (Who is the narrator? Is the story chronological? How are flashbacks used and why?);
- Explore how **setting** is depicted and what this reveals about characters and themes;
- Consider the language in each novel and how the language contributes thematically.

### Required Books:

#### [Pride by Ibi Zoboi](#)

The classic novel *Pride and Prejudice* gets a 21st century remix in this modern story that balances identity, class, gentrification, home, and love. Zuri Benitez has pride in her Brooklyn neighborhood, her family, and her Afro-Latina roots. When the wealthy Darcy family moves in across the street, she wants nothing to do with their two teenage sons—especially Darius. Will Zuri's pride prevent her from really knowing Darius, and is he worth getting to know? Can Zuri maintain her pride in who she is, while also letting someone else into her world?

#### [Lord of the Flies by William Golding](#)

With the backdrop of a world at war, a plane crashes on a deserted island, stranding a group of schoolboys. At first, with no adult supervision, their freedom is something to celebrate. They attempt to forge their own society but splinter into groups, conflict continually building. Order collapses and the hope of unity seems as far from reality as the hope of being rescued. *Lord of the Flies* is a classic allegory about human nature, a parable about how power corrupts, and a dystopian tale that has inspired countless texts like *The Hunger Games*