

**SUMMER READING 2020 - 1ere/Term**

In addition to reviewing your books from the OIB program, you are strongly advised to read a couple of the following suggestions, in order to broaden your reading repertoire. For those who would like to work on their expression in English, reading can be a pleasant way to expose yourself to English turns of phrase.

This is by no means a definitive list, but it can be a good place to start if you don't know where to begin.

**African-American literature**

- Maya Angelou - *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*
- Richard Wright - *Native Son*
- Alice Walker - *The Color Purple*
- Ralph Ellison - *Invisible Man*
- James Baldwin - *Go Tell It On the Mountain*
- Ernest J. Gaines - *A Lesson Before Dying* or *The Autobiography of Miss Jane Pittman*
- Lorraine Hansberry - *A Raisin in the Sun* (drama)
- Other novels by Toni Morrison *Sula*, *Beloved* or *The Song of Solomon*

**African-born writers** who were inspired by authors like Chinua Achebe

- *Purple Hibiscus* or *Americanah* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie

**American bi-culturalism** you can also read:

- Amy Tan - *The Joy Luck Club*.
- Jhumpa Lahiri - *The Namesake*
- Junot Diaz - *The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao*

**If you prefer reading autobiographies**, then try:

- Jim Carroll - *The Basketball Diaries*
- Mary Karr - *The Liar's Club*
- Frank McCourt - *Angela's Ashes*
- James McBride - *The Color of Water*
- Richard Wright - *Black Boy*
- Malcolm X - *The Autobiography of Malcolm X*
- Ben Franklin - *The Autobiography of Ben Franklin*

**Non-fiction**

- (HISTORY) Howard Zinn - *A People's History of the United States*, Jared Diamond - *Guns, Germs and Steel*
- (SCIENCE) Rachel Carson - *Silent Spring*, Stephen Hawking - *A Brief History of Time*
- (ESSAYS) James Baldwin - *Notes from a Native Son*, Henry David Thoreau - *Walden or Civil Disobedience*

**If you like historical novels**, try:

- Hillary Mantel - *Wolf Hall*
- Edward Rutherford - *New York*
- Graham Greene - *The Quiet American* (French-Indochina experience)

- Philip Roth - *The Plot against America* (what if the Far Right had won the 1940 American instead of F. D. Roosevelt)

**Magical Realism** (we'll be discussing this when we study *The Tempest* in Terminale)

- *House of Spirits* by Isabel Allende
- *100 Years of Solitude* by Gabriel Garcia Marquez

**Colonial literature**

- *My Brilliant Career* by Miles Franklin
- *Disgrace* by J. M. Coetzee

**If you want to catch up on some good classic American novels**, then try:

- John Steinbeck - *Of Mice and Men* or *East of Eden*
- Philip Roth - *The Plot Against America*, *The Human Stain*, or *American Pastoral*
- Carson McCuller's - *A Member of the Wedding*, *The Heart is a Lonely Hunter*
- Marilynne Robinson - *Housekeeping*
- Jack Kerouac - *On the Road*
- Ken Kesey - *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*
- Joseph Heller - *Catch 22*
- J.D. Salinger - *The Catcher in the Rye*
- Jane Smiley - *A Thousand Acres*
- Willa Cather - *My Antonia*
- Russell Banks - *The Darling*

**If you want to read about dysfunctional families**, read:

- David Vann - *Goat Mountain*
- Lionel Shriver - *We Need to Talk about Kevin*
- Doris Lessing - *The Fifth child*

**If you have always dreamt of reading classic British novels**, then read:

- Emily Brontë - *Wuthering Heights*
- Charlotte Brontë - *Jane Eyre*
- Charles Dickens - *Great Expectations*
- Jane Austen - *Pride and Prejudice*
- Thomas Hardy - *Tess of the D'Urbervilles*
- Oscar Wilde - *The Picture of Dorian Gray*
- Mary Shelley - *Frankenstein*
- Virginia Woolf - *To the Lighthouse*, *Mrs Dalloway*

**Family sagas**

- John Galsworthy - *The Forsythe Saga*
- Khaled Hosseini - *And the Mountains Echoed*
- Salman Rushdie - *Midnight's Children*
- John Steinbeck - *East of Eden*
- Isabelle Allende - *The House of Spirits*
- Gabriel Marquez - *One Hundred Years of Solitude*

**Horror, crime or melodrama, then try:**

- James Ellroy - *The Black Dahlia*
- Caleb Carr - *The Alienist*
- Donna Tart - *The Secret History*
- Truman Capote - *In Cold Blood*
- Dennis Lehane - *Mystic River* or *The Given Day*

**Graphic novels, then try:**

- Marjane Satrapi - *Persepolis*
- Alan Moore - *The Watchmen*
- Art Spiegelman - *Maus*

**Utopian/Dystopian Novels, then try:**

- Aldous Huxley *Brave New World*
- George Orwell *1984*
- Kazuo Ishiguro *Never Let Me Go*

**If you loved studying drama, here are a few gems:**

- Eugene O'Neill - *Long Day's Journey into Night*
- August Wilson - *Fences* or *The Piano Lesson*
- Tony Kushner - *Angels in America*
- Arthur Miller - *The Crucible*
- Edward Albee - *Who's afraid of Virginia Woolf?*
- Ntozake Shange - *for colored girls who have considered suicide / when the rainbow is enuf*
- Wendy Wasserstein - *Uncommon Women and Others*
- Tracey Letts - *Osage County*

**LGBT literature**

- Jeanette Winterson - *Oranges are not the only fruit*
- Sarah Waters - *The Night Watch*
- Gloria Gaynor - *The Women of Brewster Place*
- Annie Proulx - *'Brokeback Mountain' from Close Range*
- James Baldwin - *Giovanni's room*