



ONE OF THE CHESAPEAKE PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
**GREAT BRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL**  
301 HANBURY ROAD WEST • CHESAPEAKE, VA 23322  
(757) 482-5191 • FAX (757) 482-5559

---

May 18, 2009

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Your child is enrolled in Honors English at Great Bridge High School for the 2009-2010 academic school year. I extend to you a pledge to challenge your child in all aspects of language study, including writing, reading, grammar, and oral communications.

In anticipation of the rigorous course of study, your child will be required to read novels, plays, and/or essays during the summer. The list of required summer reading is attached to this letter and will be made available to local libraries and bookstores. It is advisable for students to purchase the books. Used copies of the books may be found at reduced prices on the Internet.

During the first week of English class, students will be required to turn in assessments on the required reading assignment. Required tests or essays will be completed in class during the first marking period. Please review the assessments over the summer with your child as they will play a role in the calculation of your child's English grade. A sample of A dialectic response journal is located on the Great Bridge High School website. You may access the site at [www.cps.k12.va.us](http://www.cps.k12.va.us).

Remember, students should be prepared with assessments on the first day of class in September or January depending upon their schedule. It is advised that students with English in January complete the assessments over the summer and use the time at the end of first semester to review the assignments for second semester. Should you have any questions about the summer reading, please call me at 482-5191, or e-mail me at [russecan@cps.k12.va.us](mailto:russecan@cps.k12.va.us). I look forward to working with your child.

Sincerely,

Carol B. Russell  
English Department

Joyce Dugan  
Assistant Principal for Instruction

## SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENT HONORS 9

The following literature selections may be used for the summer reading assessment for incoming Honors 9 English students at Great Bridge High School. The test assessment will be completed in school the first day of class. It will be counted as ½ a test grade in Honors English 9.

The essay assessment will be given in class before the end of the first marking period.

### **Book Choices: (CHOOSE ONE)**

*A Tree Grows in Brooklyn* by Betty Smith

*To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee

*The Hobbit* by J.R.R. Tolkien

### **Assessment:**

The student will take a short objective test based on the reading of the novel on the first day of class. The essay will be given during the course of the first marking period after students have been taught the format for writing an essay.