

Coventry High School Summer Reading List 2009



Grade 9 Requirements

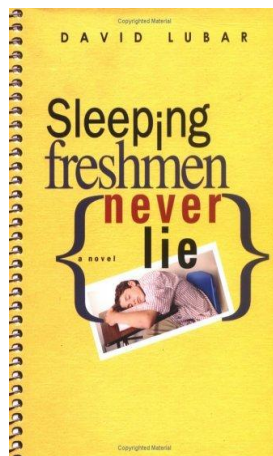
In conjunction with the commitment of the Coventry Public School System, all students will read ONE REQUIRED book during the summer break. If possible, purchasing the books is preferable, as many teachers ask students to utilize texts in class.

Each grade level has been assigned a required selection that aligns with the current curriculum.

The student's knowledge of the required book will be assessed using an objective test during the first weeks of school.

Guidelines to Choosing the Right Books:

- ✓ Books are listed according to student's grade-level.
- ✓ Grade-level is based on the grade the student will enter into in the 2009-2010 school year.



**Required Reading Text – Grade 9
(including literacy/reading students)**

Sleeping Freshmen Never Lie By David Lubar

Welcome to Scott Hudson's freshman year of high school. He isn't the handsomest or most popular guy around, and he doesn't have a clue as to how to talk to Julia, who once shared his peanut butter crackers and has morphed into the "hot chick" over the summer. On top of his woes, his parents have announced that they're having a baby, he loses out on a book reviewer's position for the school newspaper, and he gets roped into running for the student council.

Lubar offers readers a hilarious and bittersweet story about one freshman finding his place and becoming his own person almost completely by accident. For all of us who will start high school feeling a bit overwhelmed and out of place, Scott is a hero.

Like all of us, the protagonist has his strengths and weaknesses, but most importantly he keeps his sense of humor, shown through his letters to his brother and sister-to-be, and his oddly useful Guides to Surviving the perils of high school. Supported by his family and a few close friends, Scott discovers there's a lot to get out of freshman year, assuming he doesn't sleep right through it.

Fiction

ISBN: 0525473114

160 pages

A list of other recommended reads has also been created below to appeal to a variety of readers with different interests. *These reading selections, however, are NOT required only suggested.*

Recommended Readings – Grade 9

The Boy in the Striped Pajamas by John Boyne

Set in Germany in the 1940s, this story is told through the eyes of Bruno, a naive nine-year-old raised in a privileged household by strict parents. When the family suddenly moves from Berlin to a place called Out-With in Poland. When Bruno sees hundreds (maybe thousands) of people wearing striped pajamas and caps in a camp nearby, something makes him feel very cold and unsafe. Uncertain of what his father actually does for a living, the boy is eager to discover the secret of the people on the other side.

Dead on Town Line by Leslie Conner

Cassie Devlin, a teenage murder victim, tells her story in free verse. Cassie finds herself stuck with some unfinished business on the edges of the world she once knew.

Nothing to Lose by Alex Flinn

Michael Daye, is a seventeen year old runaway fleeing from his impossible home life to join a traveling carnival. He returns to Miami to find his mother on trial for the murder of his savagely abusive father. This is a good fast-paced mystery.

Side Effects by Amy Goldman Koss

Isabella is a typical teenager concerned with friends, school, and her art work. One day she is diagnosed with cancer, and is immediately sent to the hospital for long-term treatment. Follow Isabella as she goes through the ordeal, including the side effects of nausea and hair loss, with honesty and humor until she is released as a cancer survivor.

Left for Dead: A Young Man's Search for Justice for the USS Indianapolis by Peter Nelson

Can one person make a difference? This is a true account of a teenager's discovery of new and classified information that exonerates the captain and crew of the ill-fated USS Indianapolis after fifty years!

Life as We Knew It by Susan B. Pfeiffer

This story is told from the point of view of a teen girl after a meteor hits the moon and catastrophically alters the earth's climate and life for all. Read about her and her family's adaptations and struggles to survive.

Last Book in the Universe by Rodman Philbrick

Spaz, a boy who lives on the fringes of his surreal future world, partly because epilepsy prevents him from using the mind probes most people use to blot out reality, sets out on a classic quest to save his ill foster sister. To do so, he must cross forbidden territory and face frightening gangs and their leaders.