



11th Grade Summer Reading Assignment

This year, all high school students will be participating in one whole-class read and one independent reading assignment of their choice. Our whole-level read will be Tara Westover's *Educated*. For an independent choice, students may select a text of any genre and style that presents one of the following themes:

- Tradition vs. Innovation
- Identity
- Cultural Exchange
- Family

For each of these books, students should answer the following questions. Be sure to support your answers with **specific examples from your text** and point out any significant similarities or differences in how your readings approach these topics.

1. How are we affected by texts in various ways?
2. How does the structure or style of text affect meaning?
3. How do texts offer insights and challenges?
4. How does the meaning and impact of a text change over time?
5. How do texts reflect, represent, or form a part of cultural practice?
6. How does language represent social distinctions and identities?
7. How do texts adhere to and deviate from conventions associated with literary forms or text types?
8. In what ways can diverse texts share points of similarity?
9. How can texts offer multiple perspectives of a single issue, topic, or theme?

For *Educated*, please also answer the following question: Westover's memoir has generated controversy over the truthfulness of her claims, with some claiming she exaggerated or even outright fabricated parts of her story. To what extent does the accuracy of the story she tells affect its impact on you? Does it matter if parts of it are made up or exaggerated, and why or why not? If parts of it are made up, how does this affect the overall message you believe Westover is trying to convey? Defend your answer **using evidence from the text**.