

## GBHS English I Honors Summer Reading, 2022

The purpose of English I Honors is to promote academic excellence in English language skills through enriched experience in literature and writing. Please realize that honors level work is more challenging than regular English. Students will be required to complete independent reading throughout the year in addition to summer reading.

The summer reading will consist of two novels: *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee and *The Old Man and the Sea* by Ernest Hemingway. Copies will be available from the English department to check out on a first come, first serve basis—these books must be returned in the same condition as when you received them. You may pick them up in the Guidance office. You may also choose to purchase your own copies of the novels (recommended). Either way, you will be responsible for reading both before the first day of school. This means that you may not rely on summary notes or the movie instead of reading the novels in their entirety. Also, do not wait until right before school starts to begin.

You will have a test and an in-class essay on the books the first week of school. Students who have not completed the summer reading assignment for both titles will be removed from honors English.

This class involves rigorous reading and writing skills, but, more importantly, it involves a certain level of responsibility and maturity. You will be expected to have all assignments completed on time and to use your class time taking notes and participating in the discussions and learning activities. Additionally, if you do not like reading and writing, this is not the class for you.

### ***To Kill a Mockingbird*—Harper Lee**

The novel is narrated by Scout who is the daughter of Atticus Finch, a respected lawyer in the town of Maycomb. The narrative is told from the perspective of the adult Scout looking back on her childhood. It is clear from the narrative that the adult Scout loves and respects Atticus as a father, a lawyer, and a man.

### ***The Old Man and the Sea*—Ernest Hemingway**

*The Old Man and the Sea* is one of Hemingway's most enduring works. Told in language of great simplicity and power, it is the story of an old Cuban fisherman, down on his luck, and his supreme ordeal, a relentless, agonizing battle with a giant marlin far out in the Gulf Stream. Here Hemingway recasts, in strikingly contemporary style, the classic theme of courage in the face of defeat, of personal triumph won from loss.