

**Upper School Sophomore Summer Reading**  
**English 10: Honors British Literature**  
2022–2023

**Welcome to Sophomore Year and**  
**Honors English 10**

*The faculty at Heathwood Hall is convinced of the power of reading. We know regular reading is the best way to improve vocabulary and reading comprehension. We also know the strong correlation between regular reading and good writing. Recently, we have seen other exciting benefits of reading, especially fiction. In “Your Brain on Fiction,” published in the New York Times March 18, 2012, Annie Murphy Hall examines the interesting and unexpected effects that reading has on our brains. Neuroscientists have found that reading fiction “stimulates the brain and even changes how we act in life.” Research shows, “Individuals who frequently read fiction seem to be better able to understand other people, empathize with them, and see the world from their perspective.”*

**In addition to reading fiction, reading and considering it through an analytical lens helps develop and sharpen critical thinking. To that end, you will be reading two critical texts about Mary Shelley’s *Frankenstein* to help you start to think about the text in terms of a broader conversation involving history, philosophy, culture, and interpretive emphasis.**

All students must read **TWO** books.

One **must be** . . .

Frankenstein by Mary Shelley

(ISBN:978-0393927931)

Students must also read Lawrence Lipking’s “Frankenstein, the True Story” beginning on page 416 and

Patrick Brantlinger’s “The Reading Monster” beginning on page 468.

These essays are found in the second Norton Critical Edition. For that reason, you will need this edition of the book to complete the summer reading.

Your second book **must be your choice of one of the following:**

Jane Eyre by Charlotte Brontë

(ISBN: 978-0141441146)

Wuthering Heights by Emily Brontë

(ISBN: 978-0141439556)

Paradise by Abdulrazak Gurnah

(ISBN: 978-1565841635)

The Remains of the Day by Kazuo Ishiguro

(ISBN: 978-0679731726)

Dracula by Bram Stoker

(ISBN: 978-0393970128)

**PLEASE NOTE: The use of SparkNotes or other reading substitutes is strictly forbidden and will be treated as an honor violation.**

Read Actively!

I suggest that as you read, you take notes in a journal.

Note important details about characters, plot, setting, possible themes.

Note interesting passages and imagery.

Note questions that come from your reading.

Look up any unfamiliar vocabulary words and write down the definitions.

**Final Notes:**

**-Summer reading is not going to be entertaining or engaging in the same way that beach reading or pleasure reading is, much like how a well-prepared, nuanced, gourmet meal will go down differently than Taco Bell (nothing against Taco**

Bell; I happen to like their crunch wraps). The point is that you should expect there to be a little bit of effort involved. Like someone skiing or hiking at higher altitudes, some acclimation may need to take place. Hang in there. Not all pain or discomfort is bad. Strength and growth come from encountering resistance and struggle.

-There may be intense or sensitive material in some of the books, and for that reason I would recommend checking out a review or summary before choosing your second novel. Also, I do not endorse or condone all language or actions taken in these books. I am, for example, personally against grave robbing and would strongly decry attempts to re-animate dead tissue. Please feel free to form your own opinions on the characters and plots of the novels.