



May, 2026

Dear Rising Seniors,

Next year, you will be a senior at North Shore Hebrew Academy High School. It is our hope that you have developed habits that include doing your assigned homework in all of your classes. In your English classes, the assigned work next year will consist of doing a great deal of reading. In class, you will be expected to use your experience of reading the assigned literature in order to participate in the class activities. These activities may be discussions, group work, vocabulary study, presentations, quizzes or worksheets. A careful reading of all assigned texts is the first step to achievement in your English classes. In twelfth grade, the literature we assign for summer reading will depend on the elective you choose for English .

If you will be taking:

your assignment is

AP English

Read *In Country* by Bobbie Ann Mason
Write a short essay on the narrative technique (both point of view and narrative time) used in the novel

Myth and Folklore

Read four myths (see approved titles on the reverse side)*
Write a short essay on common themes or motifs you see in the tales

Monsters and Madness
Film as Literature

Read any non-fiction work that is **not** a biography or memoir.
Write a short essay on why you selected the topic of the book and what you learned about it.

***approved myths**

The Story of Prometheus — *Ancient Greek Myth*

Author: Attributed to Hesiod

King Midas and the Golden Touch — *Greek Myth*

Author: Retold by Nathaniel Hawthorne

Pandora's Box — *Ancient Greek Myth*

Author: Attributed to Hesiod

The Monkey's Paw — *Supernatural Folktale*

Author: W. W. Jacobs

The Crane Wife — *Japanese Folktale*

Author: Collected/retold by Yei Theodora Ozaki

Anansi and the Pot of Wisdom — *West African Folklore*

Author: Oral tradition (often recorded by Peggy Appiah)

The Tortoise and the Birds — *West African Folktale*

Author: Collected by Chinua Achebe

Rumpelstiltskin — *German Folktale*

Author: Collected by Jacob Grimm & Wilhelm Grimm

The Fisherman and His Wife — *German Folktale*

Author: Collected by Jacob Grimm & Wilhelm Grimm

How the Leopard Got His Spots — *African-inspired Folktale*

Author: Rudyard Kipling

Persephone and Hades — *Greek Myth*

Author: From the Homeric Hymns (anonymous)

Have a nice summer!

Mrs. Susan Newborn,
Chair of the English Department