

# Tenth Grade Summer Reading Assignment

## Directions

The first 10th grade unit is Clash of Culture and Creation of Conflict. Your summer reading task is to choose two age appropriate books that represent people of different cultures clashing with each other. If you are struggling to find books, we have provided a list of suggestions for you located at the end of the packet. You are not required to choose either book from the list, but you may if you like. If you choose books off the list, they must be of the conflicting cultures genre and you must have your teacher's approval. With your teacher, complete the approval form on the back of this page. Hold on to the approval form to turn into your 10th grade English teacher in September.

1. For each book, complete a chart like the one below.
2. Choose **7-8** *significant* decisions or choices your character made in the story. Explain the protagonist's options and potential consequences for each decision/choice. Then, explain what his/her choice reveals about his/her identity. Lastly, choose a quote that demonstrates the impact each decision has on the character (cite page numbers) and explain the quote's significance.
3. Be prepared to turn in your charts to your 10<sup>th</sup> Grade English teacher in September.
4. You will take a written assessment in the beginning of the year to demonstrate your reading comprehension and critical thinking skills. You will be allowed to use your notes on this assignment. The assessment will measure the New Jersey Student Learning Standards:  
W.9/10. 3, RL 9/10.1 and RL 9/10.3

Where can I get my summer reading books?

- At bookstores (i.e. Barnes and Noble)
- Amazon.com has most books at affordable prices
- At the Franklin Township Public Library
- Copies of older titles are sometimes available online for free

### **Book Approval Form**

**(Please keep in mind your book must fall under the theme of clash of culture and creation of conflict)**

Student Name\_\_\_\_\_

Current Grade\_\_\_\_\_

Book Title\_\_\_\_\_

Author\_\_\_\_\_

Teacher Signature\_\_\_\_\_

Book Title\_\_\_\_\_

Author\_\_\_\_\_

Teacher Signature\_\_\_\_\_

**Student: Remember to keep this sheet to turn in to your teacher in September.**

*Note: If for any reason you do not read the book approved on this form, you can go back and choose a book from the list or get a new book approved over the summer by the Director of Language Arts, Dr. Karen Schubert-Ramirez, at the board office. 732-873-2400 ext. 274; [kschubert-ramirez@franklinboe.org](mailto:kschubert-ramirez@franklinboe.org)*

Your name \_\_\_\_\_

Book title \_\_\_\_\_ Book Author \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Significant decision the character needs to make</b>	<b>Character's options and potential consequences</b>	<b>What does the protagonist choose to do and what does this choice reveal about his/her identity?</b>	<b>Quote demonstrating the impact of the choice on the character (cite pg #). Explain the quote's significance.</b>
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			

Your name \_\_\_\_\_

Book title \_\_\_\_\_ Book Author \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Significant decision the character needs to make</b>	<b>Character's options and potential consequences</b>	<b>What does the protagonist choose to do and what does this choice reveal about his/her identity?</b>	<b>Quote demonstrating the impact of the choice on the character (cite pg #). Explain the quote's significance.</b>
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
6.			
7.			

Book Title	Author	Synopsis
<i>The Absolutely True Diary of a Part Time Indian</i>	Sherman Alexie	Bestselling author Sherman Alexie tells the story of Junior, a budding cartoonist growing up on the Spokane Indian Reservation. Determined to take his future into his own hands, Junior leaves his troubled school on the rez to attend an all-white farm town high school where the only other Indian is the school mascot.
<i>Something in Between</i>	Melissa De La Cruz	Jasmine de los Santos has always done what's expected of her. Pretty and popular, she's studied hard, made her Filipino immigrant parents proud and is ready to reap the rewards in the form of a full college scholarship. And then everything shatters. A national scholar award invitation compels her parents to reveal the truth: their visas expired years ago. Her entire family is illegal. That means no scholarships, maybe no college at all and the very real threat of deportation. For the first time, Jasmine rebels, trying all those teen things she never had time for in the past. Even as she's trying to make sense of her new world, it's turned upside down by Royce Blakely, the charming son of a high-ranking congressman. Jasmine no longer has any idea where—or if—she fits into the American Dream. All she knows is that she's not giving up. Because when the rules you lived by no longer apply, the only thing to do is make up your own.
<i>Dreamland Burning</i>	Jennifer Latham	When seventeen-year-old Rowan Chase finds a skeleton on her family's property, she has no idea that investigating the brutal century-old murder will lead to a summer of painful discoveries about the past, the present, and herself. One hundred years earlier, a single violent encounter propels seventeen-year-old Will Tillman into a racial firestorm. In a country rife with violence against blacks and a hometown segregated by Jim Crow, Will must make hard choices on a painful journey towards self discovery and face his inner demons in order to do what's right the night Tulsa burns.
<i>Skunk Girl</i>	Sheba Karim	If Nina Khan were to rate herself on the unofficial Pakistani prestige point system – the one she's sure all the aunties and uncles use to determine the most attractive marriage prospects for their children – her scoring might go something like this: <b>+2 points</b> for getting excellent grades. <b>–3 points</b> for failing to live up to expectations set by genius older sister. <b>+4 points</b> for dutifully obeying parents and never, ever going to parties, no matter how antisocial that makes her seem to everyone at Deer Hook High. <b>–1 point</b> for harboring secret jealousy of her best friends, who are allowed to date like normal teenagers. <b>+2 points</b> for never drinking an alcoholic beverage. <b>–10 points</b> for obsessing about Asher Richelli, who talks to Nina like she's not a freak at all, even though he knows that she has a disturbing line of hair running down her back. In this debut novel, the smart, sassy, and utterly lovable Nina Khan tackles friends, family, and love, and learns that it's possible to embrace two very different cultures – even if things can get a little bit, well, <i>hairy</i> .
<i>Rebels Like Us</i>	Liz Reinhardt	Culture shock knocks city girl Agnes "Nes" Murphy-Pujols off-kilter when she's transplanted mid–senior year from Brooklyn to a small Southern town after her mother's relationship with a coworker self-destructs. On top of the move, Nes is nursing a broken heart and severe homesickness, so her plan is simple: keep her head down, graduate and get out. Too bad that flies out the window on day one, when she opens her smart mouth and pits herself against the school's reigning belle <b>and</b> the principal. Her rebellious streak attracts the attention of local golden boy Doyle Rahn, who teaches Nes the ropes at Ebenezer. As her friendship with Doyle sizzles into something more, Nes discovers the town she's learning to like has an insidious undercurrent of racism. The color of her skin was never something she thought about in Brooklyn, but after a frightening traffic stop on an isolated road, Nes starts to see signs everywhere—including at her own high school where, she learns, they hold proms. Two of them. One black, one white. Nes and Doyle band together with a ragtag team of classmates to plan an alternate prom. But when a lit cross is left burning in Nes's yard, the alterna-prommers realize that bucking tradition comes at a price. Maybe, though, that makes taking a stand more important than anything.
<i>Nilda</i>	Nicholasa Mohr	Nicholasa Mohr's classic novel, NILDA, about life as an immigrant in New York City offers a poignant look at one young girl's experiences. Issues of race, religion and machismo are movingly depicted in this groundbreaking coming-of-age novel that was one of the first by a Latina author to be hailed by the mainstream media. It's the summer of 1941, and all ten-year-old Nilda wants to do is enjoy the cool water from an open fire hydrant with her friends. But policemen lash out at the Puerto Rican residents, ending their fun. The cops' animosity is played out over and over again in Nilda's life as she is repeatedly treated with contempt by adults in positions of authority: teachers, nurses and social workers. At home, though, Nilda is surrounded by a loving but eccentric family that—while experiencing financial hardship, the onset of World War II and the death of loved ones—supports and encourages her artistic abilities.
<i>Does My Head Look too Big in</i>	Randa Abdel-Fattah	When sixteen-year-old Amal decides to wear the hijab full-time, her entire world changes, all because of a piece of cloth... Sixteen-year-old Amal makes the decision to start wearing the hijab full-time and everyone has a reaction. Her parents, her teachers, her friends, people on the

<i>This?</i>		street. But she stands by her decision to embrace her faith and all that it is, even if it does make her a little different from everyone else. Can she handle the taunts of "towel head," the prejudice of her classmates, and still attract the cutest boy in school? Brilliantly funny and poignant, Randa Abdel-Fattah's debut novel will strike a chord in all teenage readers, no matter what their beliefs.
<i>Piecing Me Together</i>	Renee Watson	Jade believes she must get out of her neighborhood if she's ever going to succeed. Her mother says she has to take every opportunity. She has. She accepted a scholarship to a mostly-white private school and even Saturday morning test prep opportunities. But some opportunities feel more demeaning than helpful. Like an invitation to join Women to Women, a mentorship program for "at-risk" girls. Except really, it's for black girls. From "bad" neighborhoods. But Jade doesn't need support. And just because her mentor is black doesn't mean she understands Jade. And maybe there are some things Jade could show these successful women about the real world and finding ways to make a real difference. Friendships, race, privilege, identity—this compelling and thoughtful story explores the issues young women face.
<i>Infinite Sky</i>	C.J. Flood	True love is never lost—but how much loss can it endure? Iris confronts the complexities of family and prejudice in this exquisite and searing debut novel whose "understated, gently embellished prose cuts to the bone" Just two months after her mother abandons her family, leaving her gruff, introverted father to raise two children alone, Iris watches a family of gypsies set up an illegal camp in the paddock by her house. The gypsy boy, Trick, is restless and warm and full of life—he'll settle when he's in his grave, he tells Iris—and she feels as though she understands him completely. Yet even as Iris's secret friendship with Trick blooms into something more, tensions run high between their families. Iris's father is bent on evicting the travelers, and her beloved brother Sam is impulsive, lost, and headed for trouble. But Trick might not be everything he seems, and as Iris struggles to find where her loyalties lie, all of the prejudice, vulnerability, and anger that surrounds her collides in an unspeakable tragedy. Like love, and like sorrow, the blue summer sky is infinite in this coming-of-age story that is both breathtaking and heartbreaking.
<i>My Name is Not Easy</i>	Debby Dahl Edwardson	Luke knows his I'nupiaq name is full of sounds white people can't say. He knows he'll have to leave it behind when he and his brothers are sent to boarding school hundreds of miles from their Arctic village. At Sacred Heart School things are different. Instead of family, there are students - Eskimo, Indian, White - who line up on different sides of the cafeteria like there's some kind of war going on. And instead of comforting words like tutu and maktak, there's English. Speaking I'nupiaq - or any native language - is forbidden. And Father Mullen, whose fury is like a force of nature, is ready to slap down those who disobey. Luke struggles to survive at Sacred Heart. But he's not the only one. There's smart-aleck Amiq, a daring leader - if he doesn't self destruct; Chickie, blond and freckled, a different kind of outsider; and small quiet Junior, noticing everything and writing it all down. Each has their own story to tell. But once their separate stories come together, things at Sacred Heart School - and in the wider world - will never be the same.



