



Palm Harbor University High School
International Baccalaureate Language Arts
2025- 2026 School Year
Reading List and Summer Assignment

12th Grade IB Language A: Literature Instructor – S. Bradley

*"Since when," he asked,
"Are the first line and last line of any poem
Where the poem begins and ends?"*
- from "The Fragment" by Seamus Heaney

Class Reading List

Semester One

Essays of E. B. White, E. B. White
Perennial Classics, HarperCollins. ISBN-13: 9780060932237

** All other works are TBA*

Summer Reading Assignment

Students should read and annotate *The Essays of E.B. White* over the summer and be prepared for a test on the book in its entirety on session 2.

Summer Writing Assignment: Two Commentaries

- Pick *two* passages from the following five essays in *E. B. White's Essays of E. B. White*: "Coon Tree," "Death of a Pig," "World of Tomorrow," "Ring of Time" and "Once More to the Lake."
- Type both passages (approximately 20 lines) and color-mark each.
- On a separate sheet of paper for each of the color-marked passages, provide a color-marking key with each color-mark identified. Also, provide an assertion about each color-mark that expresses how the writer contributed to the meaning of the passage through this specific stylistic choice.
- On separate sheets of paper for each of the color-marked passages, write a commentary (500-word minimum, 750-word maximum). Both commentaries should demonstrate your understanding of the thought and feeling in the passages; analyze the ways in which the writer shapes meaning through specific choices of language, structure, technique, and style; develop an argument in defense of your interpretation; and employ a purposeful (not random) structure. Use clear, appropriate language.
- These are mandatory, graded summer assignments. Both commentaries are due Session 1.