

## Happy Summer Reading

Students entering into Grade 10 must fulfill two requirements for summer reading: (1) each student must read and annotate the assigned two books this summer and (2) complete the related assignments.

Fiction: **Things Fall Apart** by Chinua Achebe (ISBN-13 978-0385474542)

Nonfiction: **The Outliers: The Story of Success** by Malcolm Gladwell (ISBN-13 978-0316017930)

### Instructions:

1. **Buy a paper copy of each book** of the two books using the ISBN number to make sure you get the right book. You will need a paper copy that you can write in. When you get it, write your name inside of the front cover in ink (on the very first page top corner).
2. **Annotate as you read:** Write your name inside the front cover of each book. For **each chapter** include at least 3-5 thoughtful annotations. For additional information about how to annotate see: <https://www.tckpublishing.com/how-to-annotate-a-book/>. Your annotations will be worth 30 points for each book.
3. **One complete essay for each book (choose prompt):** Show care in presentation. Your audience is educated readers.  
**Requirement overview:** Length 2-3 pages (at least 5 paragraphs) for each essay, double-spaced typed, use MLA Heading, quotes to support analysis with page numbers, Title. **Each** essay will be worth **50 points**.

### **Topics Options for *Things Fall Apart*:**

1. "Novels from earlier centuries and novels about distant places take us into worlds different from our own but must have something to say about issues of importance in the world to which we, the readers, will return." Show how issues relevant to today's world are raised in *Things Fall Apart*.
2. Examine Okonkwo's attempts, as the story develops, to understand both himself and what is happening around him in *Things Fall Apart*. Has he made any progress in either of those attempts by the end of the novel?

### **Topic for *The Outliers***

In *The Outliers*, Gladwell argues that opportunities and legacy are key aspects to "outlier" success. Are Gladwell's arguments convincing? Which of his theories are strongest? Which are weakest? Be sure to define what an "outlier" is. Overall, does he effectively make his case? Give evidence to support your stance.

5. **Be prepared for an assessment of your reading.**