

## Modern American Voices of Resilience (Honors) Summer Reading Assignment

Greetings eleventh and twelfth graders!

This summer your task is to read **ONE** title from the *Honors Modern American Voices of Resilience Summer Reading Book List* (included below). We encourage you to read as many additional titles as you wish. As you read, be sure to *take notes on the book, focusing on the essential question: **To what extent, if any, can humanity surface in the face of adversity?*** It is imperative that you do this to gain meaning and insight from the novel and to think about its connection to life and to the world in which we live. Taking thorough and accurate notes will also help you remember key elements of the novel when you return to school. A structured note sheet is included below.

*As we begin the course, you will be participating in a Socratic Seminar. Each student will be sharing their views and ideas based on the book and selected image, as described in the tasks below. Your teacher will ask you to reflect on the seminar as an in - class assignment. This will count as a Learning Process grade.*

### Tasks and Resources

**Task:** You will need to reflect on and begin to dive into our essential question:

- *To what extent, if any, can humanity surface in the face of adversity?*

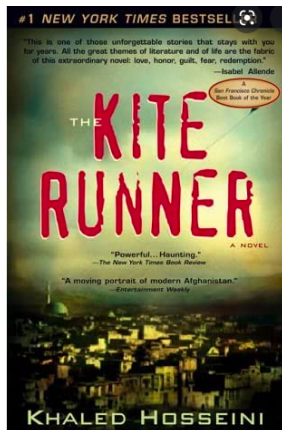
**In order to complete this task, you will need to do the following:**

1. Read **one** text from the *Modern American Voices of Resilience Summer Reading Book List*. **You can purchase your own copy, borrow one from the school or public library, or borrow one from the Hempfield English department. See your English teacher, Mrs. Lewis, or Mrs. Evans to request a copy.**
2. Prepare to participate in a Socratic Seminar by:
  - Identifying** and **Analyzing** quotes from the text that connect to, support, or answer the essential question.
  - Selecting** 4 - 5 meaningful passages that adequately draw from the beginning, middle, and end of the text.
  - Responding** to the passages in full sentences; for example, how and why did these passages speak to you?
3. **Studying** how photography can capture powerful images and tell a story about a meaningful life.
  - Take a photo or find an image that reflects your position on the essential question.
  - The photograph should represent an issue in society that you feel passionate about and would like to change
  - Communicate how the image supports your philosophy of the essential question.

## Modern American Voices of Resilience Honors Summer Reading List

Select one of the following novels as the focus of your summer reading assignment.

(Summaries of the books taken from Amazon or Barnes & Noble)



**The #1 *New York Times* bestselling novel beloved by millions of readers the world over.**

**“A vivid and engaging story that reminds us how long his people [of Afghanistan] have been struggling to triumph over the forces of violence—forces that continue to threaten them even today.” –*New York Times Book Review***

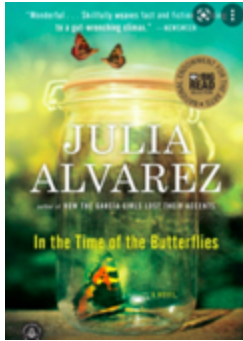
The unforgettable, heartbreaking story of the unlikely friendship between a wealthy boy and the son of his father’s servant, caught in the tragic sweep of history, *The Kite Runner* transports readers to Afghanistan at a tense and crucial moment of change and destruction. A powerful story of friendship, it is also about the power of reading, the price of betrayal, and the possibility of redemption; and an exploration of the power of fathers over sons—their love, their sacrifices, their lies.

Since its publication in 2003 *Kite Runner* has become a beloved, one-of-a-kind classic of contemporary literature, touching millions of readers, and launching the career of one of America’s most treasured writers.



**Winner of the Pulitzer Prize and the National Book Award. Alice Walker’s iconic modern classic is now a Penguin Book.**

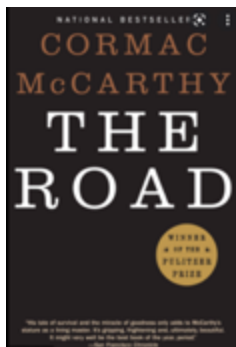
A powerful cultural touchstone of modern American literature, *The Color Purple* depicts the lives of African American women in early twentieth-century rural Georgia. Separated as girls, sisters Celie and Nettie sustain their loyalty to and hope in each other across time, distance and silence. Through a series of letters spanning twenty years, first from Celie to God, then the sisters to each other despite the unknown, the novel draws readers into its rich and memorable portrayals of Celie, Nettie, Shug Avery and Sofia and their experience. *The Color Purple* broke the silence around domestic and sexual abuse, narrating the lives of women through their pain and struggle, companionship and growth, resilience and bravery. Deeply compassionate and beautifully imagined, Alice Walker’s epic carries readers on a spirit-affirming journey towards redemption and love.



**"A magnificent treasure for all cultures and all time." --St. Petersburg Times**

It is November 25, 1960, and three beautiful sisters have been found near their wrecked Jeep at the bottom of a 150-foot cliff on the north coast of the Dominican Republic. The official state newspaper reports their deaths as accidental. It does not mention that a fourth sister lives. Nor does it explain that the sisters were among the leading opponents of Gen. Rafael Leónidas Trujillo's dictatorship. It doesn't have to. Everybody knows of Las Mariposas--the Butterflies.

In this extraordinary novel, the voices of all four sisters--Minerva, Patria, María Teresa, and the survivor, Dedé--speak across the decades to tell their own stories, from secret crushes to gunrunning, and to describe the everyday horrors of life under Trujillo's rule. Through the art and magic of Julia Alvarez's imagination, the martyred Butterflies live again in this novel of courage and love, and the human costs of political oppression.



**NATIONAL BESTSELLER • WINNER OF THE PULITZER PRIZE • A searing, post-apocalyptic novel about a father and son's fight to survive, this "tale of survival and the miracle of goodness only adds to McCarthy's stature as a living master. It's gripping, frightening and, ultimately, beautiful" (*San Francisco Chronicle*).**

A father and his son walk alone through burned America. Nothing moves in the ravaged landscape save the ash on the wind. It is cold enough to crack stones, and when the snow falls it is gray. The sky is dark. Their destination is the coast, although they don't know what, if anything, awaits them there. They have nothing; just a pistol to defend themselves against the lawless bands that stalk the road, the clothes they are wearing, a cart of scavenged food—and each other.

*The Road* is the profoundly moving story of a journey. It boldly imagines a future in which no hope remains, but in which the father and his son, "each the other's world entire," are sustained by love. Awesome in the totality of its vision, it is an unflinching meditation on the worst and the best that we are capable of: ultimate destructiveness, desperate tenacity, and the tenderness that keeps two people alive in the face of total devastation.

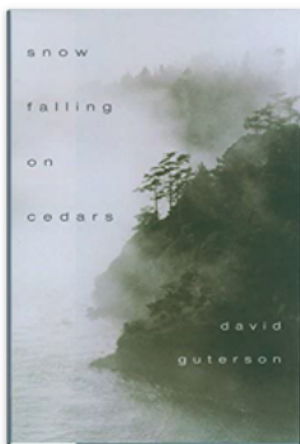


**A CLASSIC FROM THE *NEW YORK TIMES* BESTSELLING AUTHOR OF *THE THINGS THEY CARRIED***

"To call *Going After Cacciato* a novel about war is like calling *Moby-Dick* a novel about whales."

So wrote *The New York Times* of Tim O'Brien's now classic novel of Vietnam. Winner of the 1979 National Book Award, *Going After Cacciato* captures the peculiar mixture of horror and hallucination that marked this strangest of wars.

In a blend of reality and fantasy, this novel tells the story of a young soldier who one day lays down his rifle and sets off on a quixotic journey from the jungles of Indochina to the streets of Paris. In its memorable evocation of men both fleeing from and meeting the demands of battle, *Going After Cacciato* stands as much more than just a great war novel. Ultimately it's about the forces of fear and heroism that do battle in the hearts of us all.

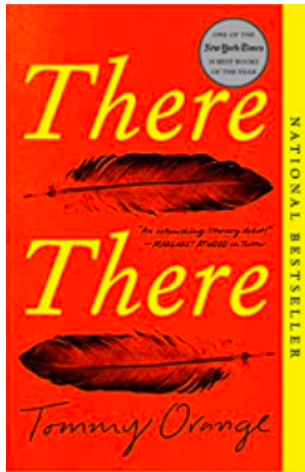


**NATIONAL BESTSELLER • PEN/Faulkner Award Winner • A gripping, tragic, and densely atmospheric masterpiece of courtroom suspense—one that leaves us shaken and changed.**

"Haunting .... A whodunit complete with courtroom maneuvering and surprising turns of evidence and at the same time a mystery, something altogether richer and deeper." —Los Angeles Times

San Pedro Island, north of Puget Sound, is a place so isolated that no one who lives there can afford to make enemies. But in 1954 a local fisherman is found suspiciously drowned, and a Japanese American named Kabuo Miyamoto is charged with his murder.

In the course of the ensuing trial, it becomes clear that what is at stake is more than a man's guilt. For on San Pedro, memory grows as thickly as cedar trees and the fields of ripe strawberries—memories of a charmed love affair between a white boy and the Japanese girl who grew up to become Kabuo's wife; memories of land desired, paid for, and lost. Above all, San Pedro is haunted by the memory of what happened to its Japanese residents during World War II, when an entire community was sent into exile while its neighbors watched.



NATIONAL BESTSELLER • PEN/HEMINGWAY AWARD WINNER • One of The New York Times 10 Best Books of the Year • A wondrous and shattering novel that follows twelve characters from Native communities: all traveling to the Big Oakland Powwow, all connected to one another in ways they may not yet realize.

Among them is Jacquie Red Feather, newly sober and trying to make it back to the family she left behind. Dene Oxendene, pulling his life together after his uncle's death and working at the powwow to honor his memory. Fourteen-year-old Orvil, coming to perform traditional dance for the very first time. Together, this chorus of voices tells of the plight of the urban Native American—grappling with a complex and painful history, with an inheritance of beauty and spirituality, with communion and sacrifice and heroism.

Hailed as an instant classic, *There There* is at once poignant and unflinching, utterly contemporary and truly unforgettable.

Modern American Voices of Resilience (Honors)  
 Summer Reading Guided Note Sheet

\*\*\*Note: you can print this note sheet or copy and paste these tables into a Word or Google document if you prefer to type your responses\*\*\*

**Identifying and Analyzing:** Select quotes from the text that connect to, support, or answer the essential question: To what extent, if any, can humanity surface in the face of adversity? These quotes should be taken from various parts of the novel. Determine how many pages in total are included in your book, divide that number by 3 and select quotes from the beginning, middle, and final sections of the book to respond to in the chart below. Include the page number with each quote, as in the sample below.

<b>Quote from the passage (including parenthetical documentation)</b>  Example: In Act IV, as Reverend Hale is pleading with Elizabeth to convince her husband to confess, he warns, “Beware, Goody Proctor—cleave to no faith when faith brings blood” (132).	<b>Explanation of how it connects to, supports, answers the essential question</b>  This quote connects to the essential question “To what extent, if any, can humanity surface in the face of adversity?” because readers see that Hale has changed and is now on the Proctors’ side. He is standing with the accused and trying to convince them to confess to save their lives. He pleads for the judges to see their errors and act humanely and save the other accused.
Beginning Quote:	Explanation:
Beginning Quote:	Explanation:
Middle Quote:	Explanation:
Middle Quote:	Explanation:
Final Quote:	Explanation:
Final Quote:	Explanation:

**Responding to the passage:** Select 5 sections of the novel, drawn from the beginning, middle, and end, and respond to these sections, identifying why they are important to the novel as a whole. Include the quote in the column on the left, including the page number at the end of the sentence. If your selection is more than three sentences, you may use an ellipsis (. . .) in the middle. Your response could include the following (written in complete sentences):

- (C) Connect – make a connection to your life, the world, or another text
- (R) Reflect – think deeply about what the passage means in a broad sense – not just to the characters in the novel. How does this passage allow you to draw conclusions about the world, about human nature, or just the way things work?
- (E) Evaluate - make a judgment about what the author is trying to say

Selecting Passages (include page numbers)	<b>Responding:</b> Connect, Reflect, or Evaluate the significance of this passage.
Passage 1:	Explanation:
Passage 2:	Explanation:
Passage 3:	Explanation:
Passage 4:	Explanation:
Passage 5:	Explanation:

**Studying** how photography can capture powerful images and tell a story about a meaningful life.

Take a photo or locate an image that reflects your position on the essential question—to what extent, if any, can humanity surface in the face of adversity? The photograph should represent an issue in society that you feel passionate about and would like to change. Explain how the image supports your philosophy of the essential question. **NOTE:** Please select something that is copyright free or give appropriate attribution if you borrow someone else’s photograph.

Image (insert your image in the box below)	Explanation: How does this image support your position/philosophy of the essential question—to what extent, if any, can humanity surface in the face of adversity?

If you have any questions, please email Mrs. Evans or Mrs. Lewis:

[shani\\_evans@hempfieldsd.org](mailto:shani_evans@hempfieldsd.org)

[lauren\\_lewis@hempfieldsd.org](mailto:lauren_lewis@hempfieldsd.org)