

TRINITY HIGH SCHOOL ENGLISH DEPARTMENT



2009 Summer Reading Requirement for Incoming Freshmen



To foster active reading which is critical to success in each subject area, we require all incoming freshmen to read two novels over the summer:

The House on Mango Street by Sandra Cisneros

We Have Always Lived in the Castle by Shirley Jackson

Students are expected to read actively by highlighting important passages and taking marginal notes directly in their books. Items to highlight or notate include any of the following elements of literature:

- a. character descriptions (major and minor characters)
- b. descriptions of the setting (time and place)
- c. uses of imagery, symbolism and figurative language
- d. instances of conflict between characters or within characters
- e. interesting bits of dialogue that help to develop the characters or conflict
- f. new vocabulary words (check definitions in a dictionary)

Students should be ready for an essay test on this reading at the start of their English I course. They should also bring their paperback editions of these novels to the first class meeting and be prepared to show evidence of their active reading.

If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Rose Crnkovich, English Department Chair, at (708) 453-8392 or e-mail: ib@trinityhs.org.

*Have a safe and happy summer!
Enjoy the novels!*