

**MANHATTAN BEACH UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT – MIRA COSTA HIGH SCHOOL**  
**2009 SUMMER READING for INCOMING College Prep SENIORS**  
(English 7-8 CP)

- Please select ONE of the texts below and read it in its entirety before school starts in the fall. \* *Attention Parents: This list represents a diversity of reading levels and interest areas. Some books, especially those published after 1960, may contain profanity and/or sexual material. Please work closely with your child to make the appropriate selections.*
- The list below represents suggestions made by the faculty of the Mira Costa High School English Department.
- Be prepared to bring in a marked-up text and write a paper analyzing the book during the first week of school.

**Brown**

*Bridge of Sighs* - Richard Russo  
*Life of Pi* by Yann Martel

**Chen**

*The Hours* by Michael Cunningham  
*Mrs. Dalloway* by Virginia Woolf  
*When We Were Orphans* by Kazuo Ishiguro

**Croland**

*Quicksand and Passing* by Nella Larsen  
*The Professor's House* by Willa Cather

**Dansart**

*A River Sutra* by Gita Mehta  
*The Left Hand of Darkness* by Ursula K Le Guin

**Drummond**

*Slam* - Nick Hornby

**Fish**

*Darkness at Noon* by Arthur Koestler  
*Dr. No* by Ian Fleming

**Heideman**

*A Dirty Job* by Christopher Moore  
*The Gospel According to Larry* by Janet Tashjian  
*Burger Wuss* by M.T. Anderson  
*Death Be Not Proud* by John Gunther  
*The Five People You Meet in Heaven* by Mitch Albom

**Hofreiter**

*The Alchemist* by Paulo Coelho

**Holland**

*King Rat* by James Clavell  
*Pudd'nhead Wilson* by Mark Twain

**Howerton**

*Angle of Repose* by Wallace Stegner

*Oscar & Lucinda* by Peter Carey

**Jenning**

*Blue River* by Ethan Canin

*So Long, See You Tomorrow* by William Maxwell

**Nassau**

*Middlesex*, by Jeffrey Eugenides

*Tortilla Curtain* by TC Boyle

**Nelson**

*Travels With Charley* by John Steinbeck

*In Cold Blood* by Truman Capote

*Dreams of My Father* by Barack Obama

*The Audacity of Hope* by Barack Obama

**Powell**

*The Memory Keeper's Daughter* by Kim Edwards

*The Road* by Cormac McCarthy

**Sieker**

*Armies of the Night*- Norman Mailer

*The Unbearable Lightness of Being*- Milan Kunderas

*The Corrections*- Jonathan Franzen

**Skalkottas**

*Suite Française* by Irene Nemirovsky

**Thomson**

*On Beauty* by Zadie Smith

*History of Love* by Nicole Krause

**Thornton**

*Reading Lolita in Tehran: A Memoir in Books* by Azar Nafisi

**Vaughan**

*Middlesex*, by Jeffrey Eugenides

*The Pillars of the Earth* by Ken Follett

**Westerberg**

*American Pastoral*—Philip Roth

*The Human Stain* by Philip Roth

*The Echo Maker* by Richard Powers

*The Road* by Cormac McCarthy

**Zeoli**

*Breakfast of Champions* by Kurt Vonnegut Jr.

*Hocus Pocus* by Kurt Vonnegut Jr.

*253* by Geoff Ryman (a cyber-novel available in paper or online at <http://www.ryman-novel.com/>)

**Additional Titles**

*Aloft* by Chang-rae Lee

*On the Road* by Jack Kerouac

*White Oleander* by Janet Fitch