

**Isle of Wight Academy**  
**2021-22 Required Summer Reading Novel List**  
**11<sup>th</sup> Grade Dual Credit Class**

The goals of the summer reading assignments for IWA are to improve literacy and to promote lifelong reading. As students grow and mature, they need to continually practice their reading skills. The lists are based on recommendations from classroom teachers, librarians, and students. Each reading selection has an assignment designed to enhance the reading, thought processes and message of the selection.

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**1. *A Raisin in the Sun* by Lorraine Hansberry**

*A Raisin in the Sun* is a play about an African-American family aspiring to move beyond segregation and disenfranchisement in 1950's Chicago. Despite its specific era, the work speaks universally to the desire to improve one's circumstances while disagreeing on the best way of achieving them.

**Assignment:**

1. Use the Tic-Tac-Toe-type chart on the next page to choose three projects to complete. The student must complete three assignments in adjoining squares: horizontally, vertically or diagonally. Shaded assignments are to be completed in a 500-word essay. **INCLUDE WORD COUNT in each essay.** The response must be double-spaced using 12-point Times New Roman font and the header in the upper-left corner should be formatted as follows:

**Name**  
**Teacher's Name**  
**Class/Subject**  
**Due Date**

**2. *The Invisible Man* by Ralph Ellison**

First published in 1952 and immediately hailed as a masterpiece, *Invisible Man* is one of those rare novels that have changed the shape of American literature. Ralph Ellison's nightmare journey across the racial divide tell unparalleled truths about the nature of bigotry and its effects on the minds of both victims and perpetrators.

**Assignment:**

2. Read the Annotation Guide provided. Use the guidelines given to annotate the novel as you read. All annotations must be in **RED** ink. Annotations will be graded.

<p>In literature, as in life, a character may search for a better way of life. Show how two characters from <i>A Raisin in the Sun</i> are searching for a better way of life. Explain what each character is hoping to gain through this search and discuss the ways in which each character attempts to bring about a change in his or her life.</p>	<p>Discuss the ways in which the setting - the chronological and geographic locations in which a story takes place - of <i>Raisin</i> has a profound effect upon two of the characters.</p>	<p>If people can be divided into three groups - those who make things happen, those who watch things happen, and those who wonder what happened - apply each of these to the three characters in <i>Raisin</i> who respectively prove that this is so.</p>
<p>Often, pressure from other people or from outside forces might compel a person to take an action that he or she might not have taken ordinarily. Discuss a character from <i>Raisin</i> who was pressured into taking an action that he or she might not have taken on his or her own.</p>	<p>Draw a map of the landscape the characters in <i>A Raisin in the Sun</i> inhabit. Label the locations on your map. Include relevant information <u>explicitly stated</u> in the novel. Where explicit locations are not given, how do you imagine the places relate geographically to each another?</p>	<p>Show how <i>Raisin</i> deals with the generation gap - the problems that the older generation has in dealing with the younger generation and vice versa.</p>
<p>Discuss the ways in which two characters in <i>Raisin</i> have made adjustments to negative aspects of their environment. These adjustments might be to the character's physical surroundings, to other people, or to the customs and traditions of the society in which they live.</p>	<p>Sometimes something as seemingly trivial as a meeting or a conversation between two people can have a lasting effect upon the life of one or even of both of them. Discuss how either a seemingly unimportant meeting or a casual conversation brings about a significant change in the life of one of the characters in <i>Raisin</i>.</p>	<p>Most people define loneliness as being alone, but a person might experience loneliness even when surrounded by other people. A person can be lonely if his/her ideas, feelings, or circumstances are different from those around them. Discuss a character from <i>Raisin</i> who experiences loneliness because of the differences between them.</p>

