

**RUMSON-FAIR HAVEN REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL
2021 SUMMER READING PROGRAM
GRADE 12**



Students enrolled in *ENGLISH IV* are required to complete the following choice reading assignment in the *Science Fiction* genre:

1. Consult the RFH Media Center or any local book store or library to select one book that:
 - falls into the Science Fiction genre (no *Fantasy* genre allowed)
 - is at least 200 pages long
 - is highly interesting to you and at or slightly above your reading level
2. Carefully read your text and take notes:
 - may be bulleted or outline
 - must be your own work
 - must include references from entire text
 - must be at least 300 words
3. Your notes will be due on the first day of school. (Your knowledge of your chosen text will also be assessed in a timed writing on a TBD date, and you will be able to use your notes for that assessment.)

Students enrolled in *AP ENGLISH LANGUAGE & COMPOSITION* are required to read the selections from both listed works and complete the corresponding tasks. Carefully listen to [this Screencastify](#) for detailed instructions. (Note: This video was made in 2019, but the directions are the same for this year, 2021, except that there is a 4th edition of *WYSKAP*.)

AMERICAN POLITICAL SPEECHES (Richard Beeman, Ed.)

American Political Speeches includes samples of American rhetoric that span our nation’s history. These selections are not limited to those spoken by elected public officials: they include the speeches of other famous Americans who moved and changed our nation through language.

1. You are required to read the following political speeches in the collection based on this chart:

ALL Students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • John Winthrop’s "City on a Hill"
AND	
Students with last names starting with A-H:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thomas Jefferson’s “We are all Republicans, We are all Federalists” • Barack Obama’s “Let Us Brave Once More the Icy Currents”
Students with last names starting with I-P:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Abraham Lincoln’s “With Malice Towards None” • Franklin D. Roosevelt’s “Nothing to Fear but Fear Itself”
Students with last names starting with Q-Z:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carrie Chapman Catt’s "The Women's Hour Has Struck" • Ronald Reagan’s “The Aggressive Impulses of an Evil Empire”

2. You must complete the following steps for annotating each speech you read in your copy of *American Political Speeches*; all notes should be recorded legibly and books will be collected and graded upon return to school in September:

- Read the introductory paragraph and underline facts and information that contextualize the speech
- Highlight the claims or assertions made throughout the text
- Identify [literary and stylistic devices](#) used by labeling the device in the margins of the speech
- Underline notable diction (word usage) throughout the speech
- Identify the topic of the passage in the space following the speech

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT POLITICS...BUT DON'T: A NON-PARTISAN GUIDE TO THE ISSUES THAT MATTER [4th EDITION] (Jessamyn Conrad)

Jessamyn Conrad's *What You Should Know About Politics . . . But Don't: a Non-Partisan Guide to The Issues That Matter* is an accessible, balanced, and timely guide to the most relevant issues in contemporary American politics. You are required to read [the introduction by Naomi Wolf](#) AND read/annotate the following chapters:

- Chapter 1: Elections
- Chapter 3: Foreign Policy
- Chapter 7: The Environment
- Chapter 10: Socioeconomic Policy
- Chapter 12: Education

Students enrolled in **AP ENGLISH LITERATURE & COMPOSITION** are required to read both of the listed works.

GHOSTS (Henrik Ibsen)

Henrik Ibsen's *Ghosts* is a powerful psychological drama that exposes the hypocrisy of social conventions and moral codes in European society at the end of the 19th Century. Ibsen was at the forefront of early modernist writers who challenged society by unmasking the corruption that was hidden behind the façade of social idealism. Even though Ibsen's Captain Alving is literally in his grave, his "ghost" will not rest: it haunts the characters of *Ghosts* and demonstrates the awful power of ingrained moral contamination. Students are asked to secure *Four Great Plays* by Henrik Ibsen (Bantam Classics: ISBN 978-0553212808; Translator—R. Farquharson Sharp).

JANE EYRE (Charlotte Brontë)

Mistakenly believed to be a true account due to its subtitle "An Autobiography," Charlotte Brontë's *Jane Eyre* expressed the idea of the "modern individual" in an era when women struggled against imposed social destinies. Brontë's first-person narrative describes a destitute orphan girl searching for a secure identity in Victorian England—first among an unloving family, then at an austere charity school, and finally with the wealthy but unattainable employer she falls in love with. Unable to find her sense of self through others (especially the man she loves), Brontë's protagonist makes the surprising decision to turn inward and find her true sense of being. *Jane Eyre* remains the greatest work of a ground-breaking writer who has been referred to as "the first historian of the private consciousness."

Students enrolled in **HONORS COLLEGE ENGLISH EXPOSITORY WRITING (DE)** are required to read all of the listed articles and complete the corresponding task.

Task: Read the three listed articles and complete *Rutgers Notes* for each (minimum 5 pages of notes per essay-see guide below). Links for each article are included.

"SPREADING SLOW IDEAS" (Atul Gawande, *The New Yorker*)

- [article](#) on [newyorker.com/pdf](#) of article

"SMALL CHANGE" (Malcolm Gladwell, *The New Yorker*)

- [article](#) on [newyorker.com/pdf](#) of article

"THE MEME MACHINE" (Susan Blackmore, *The New York Times*)

- [article](#) on [nytimes.com/pdf](#) of article

Rutgers Notes: See explanation and example on next page.

 Please note, all summer work is dependent on your finalized schedule!

Rutgers Notes Requirements: 355:100 (Comp) & 355:101 (Expos)

For each assigned reading, students must employ the following note-taking system. Notes must be typed, submitted to www.turnitin.com, and will be due on the day the reading is due. All key terms and quotes must contain accurate page citations for full credit.

A. Key Terms

Identify and define at least **five** key terms from the entirety of the reading (notes that pull terms from a limited area of the text will lose points)

B. Quote and Note

Record at least **three** quotes from the entirety of the reading that you find difficult, or that contain clarification, controversy or confusion; in the right hand column, write at least a paragraph that works through the main ideas of the quote; your Notes column should also include an analysis of important or tricky vocabulary.

C. Analytic Summary

Attempt to summarize the entire essay in **no more than 10 sentences**. This limitation will force you to think analytically about the piece and rank information. Your summary would be even more helpful if it considers methodology in addition to content. In other words, explain not just what the author is saying, but how he/she/they is saying it.

Example Text: Roxane Gay’s “My Body is Wildly Undisciplined and I Deny Myself Nearly Everything I Desire” (accessed Rutgers Canvas 355:100 site)

Key Terms (pg. citation)	Contextual Definitions
	<p>“Contagion” (pg 2)-referring to obesity “Unruly Bodies” (pg 2) -here she is referring to bodies that are judged as fat by mainstream society (referring specifically to standards present on “ The Biggest Loser”. “Thinspiration” (2)- what can be “achieved” to the body through discipline “Deny” (3)- denying oneself as a form of discipline/ deny oneself as means of punishment “public text” (4) -referring to society’s belief that women’s bodies are up for public discussion and discourse</p>
Quotes (pg. citation)	Notes
<p>1. “This is a show about unruly bodies that must be disciplined by any means necessary, and through that discipline, the obese might become more acceptable members of society. They might find happiness” (pg 2). 2. “My body is wildly undisciplined and I deny myself nearly everything I desire” (pg 3). 3.” Only the depth of our relationship allowed me to make this revelation, and then I was ashamed for buying into these terrible narratives we fit ourselves into and I was ashamed at how I am so terrible about disciplining my body and I was ashamed by how I deny myself so much and it is still not enough (pg 4).</p>	<p>1. This quote contrasts the publicized message of the show “ Biggest Loser” and reveals some of the problematic qualities of the program. The term unruly clearly connotes negative judgment for bodies that are not conventionally thin. I wonder about the implication of control with the term unruly as well- there seems to be an element of shaming, supported by the last sentence of the quote “ might find happiness”. The author draws attention to society’s implied connection between thinness and happiness. Using language such as “ any means necessary” also forces the reader to see the depth and severity of discipline in this context.</p> <p>2. The author’s choice to write from her personal perspective and experience becomes the most powerful here with the use of “ my” and following with “ wildly undisciplined”. I wonder how her statement about denial and desire, serving as a contrast to “ The Biggest Loser”</p>

	<p>resonates with readers (not just female readers and not just about weight). Gay’s strong word choice “ nearly everything” is an interesting juxtaposition to the model publicized on the show. Referring back to “happiness” referenced above I wonder how true happiness can come out of such extreme denial. Is it the appearance of happiness or achieving a goal set by society?</p> <p>3. I think repetition of the word “ashamed” is really powerful here and is illustrative of the pattern of pressure such narratives put on women (and people in general). The last part of the sentence “ it is still not enough” is significant in context of Rachel Fredrickson’s experience going “ too far.” The notion of women’s bodies as “ public texts” makes me wonder how Gay’s argument can be useful beyond discussions of weight.</p>
<p>Analytic summary of essay</p>	<p>Roxane Gay’s “ My Body is Wildly Undisciplined and I Deny Myself Nearly Everything I Desire” is a critical analysis of the role weight plays in social acceptance. Using the experience of Rachel Fredrickson from “ The Biggest Loser” Gay deconstructs the glossy reality TV definition of “ getting healthy” and instead focuses on the pattern of discipline/ denial women go through to achieve unreachable goals. Using personal pronouns and outlining her experience with shame, denying the self, and exposure to “thinspiration” media, Gay reveals how constant the socio-cultural pressures women face to fit an acceptable mode in order to achieve “happiness”, at the same time questioning the validity and truth of such definitions of happiness. By defining women’s bodies as “public texts” Gay broadens the scope of her argument beyond the discussion of weight and appearance.</p>