In Advanced English 9, we will study literature and look for connections among multiple texts. Therefore, for your summer reading options, we have provided you with a diverse selection of books written by renowned authors. This year’s books are all contemporary fiction but from different genres. You will select and read two. You will take a test on each of your books on the first day of class.

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**Goodbye Days**

*Jeff Zentner*

*Realistic Fiction*

Interest Level: 7-12  
Lexile Level: HL620  
Page Count: 404  
Publication Date: 2017

Carver Briggs never thought a simple text would cause a fatal crash, killing his three best friends, Mars, Eli, and Blake. Carver can’t stop blaming himself for the accident, and a judge is pressuring the district attorney to open up a criminal investigation.

Eli’s girlfriend, Carver’s therapist, and Blake’s grandmother ask Carver to spend a “goodbye day” with them to share their memories and say a proper farewell. As other families ask for their own goodbye day with Carver, will it mean making peace with their losses, or bring Carver one step closer to a complete breakdown—and possibly prison?

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**Dear Martin**

*Nic Stone*

*Realistic Fiction*

Interest Level: 9-12  
Lexile Level: HL720  
Page Count: 224  
Publication Date: 2017

Justyce McAllister is top of his class and set for the Ivy League—but none of that matters to the police officer who just put him in handcuffs.

And despite leaving his rough neighborhood behind, he can’t escape the scorn of his former peers or the ridicule of his new classmates.

Justyce looks to the teachings of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. for answers. But do they hold up anymore? He starts a journal to Dr. King to find out.

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**Bruiser**

*Neal Shusterman*

*Fantasy/Paranormal*

Interest Level: 9-12  
Lexile Level: BL20  
Page Count: 352  
Publication Date: 2011

When Brontë starts dating Brewster “Bruiser” Rawlin – the guy voted “Most Likely to Get the Death Penalty” her twin brother, Tennyson, isn’t surprised.

But then strange things begin to occur. Tennyson and Brontë’s scrapes heal unnaturally fast, and cuts disappear before their eyes.

What at first seems like their good fortune turns out to be more than they bargained for...much more.

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**Girl in the Blue Coat**

*Monica Hesse*

*Historical Fiction*

Interest Level: 7-12  
Lexile Level: BL20  
Page Count: 320  
Publication Date: 2017

Amsterdam, 1943. Hanneke spends her days procuring and delivering sought-after black market goods to paying customers, her nights hiding the true nature of her work from her concerned parents, and every waking moment mourning her boyfriend, who was killed on the Dutch front lines when the Germans invaded. She likes to think of her illegal work as a small act of rebellion.

On a routine delivery, a client asks Hanneke for help. Expecting to hear that Mrs. Jansen wants meat or kerosene, Hanneke is shocked by the older woman’s fantastic plea to find a person—a Jewish teenager. Mrs. Jansen had been hiding, who had vanished without a trace from a secret room. Hanneke initially wants nothing to do with such dangerous work, but is ultimately drawn into a web of mysteries and stunning revelations that lead her into the heart of the resistance, open her eyes to the horrors of the Nazi war machine, and compel her to take desperate action.

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**Children of Blood and Bone**

*Tomi Adeyemi*

*Dystopian*

Interest Level: 8-12  
Lexile Level: BL30  
Page Count: 352  
Publication Date: 2013

They killed my mother.  
They took our magic.  
They tried to bury us.

Now we rise.

Zélie Adebola remembers when the soil of Orisha hummed with magic. Burners ignited flames, Tiders beckoned water, and Zélie’s Reapers mother summoned forth souls.

But everything changed the night magic disappeared. Under the orders of a ruthless king, maji were killed, leaving Zélie without a mother and her people without hope.

Now Zélie has one chance to bring back magic and strike against the monarchy. With the help of a rogue princess, Zélie must outwit and outgun the crown prince, who is hell bent on eradicating magic for good.