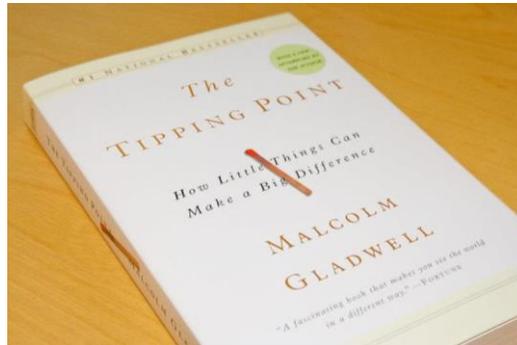


In Conroe ISD, we encourage all students to read over the summer in order to enrich learning and provoke thought. Summer reading strengthens reading skills, increases academic achievement, fosters a love for reading, and empowers students to become life-long learners.

Dual Credit English Summer Reading and Assignment



Your summer reading for Dual Credit English is the bestseller *The Tipping Point* by Malcolm Gladwell. It is not the typical book you read for an English class, but I think you will find it is valuable and engaging. Gladwell will challenge you to connect events and trends that you have previously seen as unconnected. He also argues that small changes can have a major impact on outcomes. He writes:

The Tipping Point is the biography of an idea, and the idea is very simple. It is that the best way to understand the emergence of fashion trends, the ebb and flow of crime waves, or, for that matter, the transformation of unknown books into bestsellers, or the rise of teenage smoking or the phenomena of word of mouth, or any number of other mysterious changes that mark everyday life is to think of them as epidemics. Ideas and products and messages and behaviors spread just like viruses do. (Gladwell 7)

Gladwell, Malcolm. *The Tipping Point: How Little Things Can Make a Big Difference*. Boston: Little, Brown, 2000.

Assignment:

In addition to reading *The Tipping Point*, write a reader response for each chapter in a journal format. Include the following for each entry:

- An explanation of Gladwell's major point(s) in the chapter. **Use specific references to the text with page numbers.** I encourage you to think critically. If you don't agree with Gladwell, explain why.
- An application of the concept(s) in the chapter to your life, current events, history or other issues.

Each entry should be a half page of double-spaced 12-point type. It will be due the first week of class.

In addition, you will be required to have your own copies the following books:

- *Arguing About Literature* by John Schlib and John Clifford – Try to get the first edition (2014). If you cannot, then get the second edition (2017). Do not buy the abbreviated

online version. The book should be more than 1,000 pages. This is a primary text for the class, and you will need it for BOTH semesters. Get this book now, over the summer. You should have it when school starts. This textbook is not optional.

- *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury – any edition
- *The Importance of Being Earnest* by Oscar Wilde – any edition
- *How to Read Literature Like a Professor* by Thomas C. Foster – any edition 2003 or later

I look forward to seeing you in the fall. Have a great summer.

Mrs. Nelson – Room 2301

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