All incoming 12th grade students are required to read two books.

*Never Let Me Go* (Kazuo Ishiguro)

*White Teeth* (Zadie Smith)

This year, 12th grade students are encouraged to R-E-A-D. To R-E-A-D as an encounter of different perspectives and experiences. To R-E-A-D as part of their journey as lifelong learners. To R-E-A-D for inspiration, admiration, excitement, puzzlement, expansion and reflection. Focus on literature as a pleasure and an adventure. When you return to school in the fall, an in-class writing assignment will be administered to assess your comprehension of both reading assignments. (AP Lit students, there IS a separate summer written assignment required for your course).

Formal essays and lengthy journal entries are *not required* but preparing two pages of hand written notes is recommended (one for each reading selection). You may then use these notes for the aforementioned summer reading assignment. All students are expected to read selections mentioned above. All students (APers, please see your OWN separate summer reading assignment) are expected to read both selections. If you choose to read early in the summer, please review your own notes just before school begins in September.

**QUESTION:**
What should you write in your notes? Remember, you will be able to use your notes for the assessment.

A. **Title:** Explain the significance of the title in the overall work.
B. **Setting:** Describe the time and place in which the action occurs.
C. **Themes:** Plot is what happens in a literary work. THEME is what the literary work MEANS.
D. **Character:** Briefly describe the protagonist and other characters who affect the plot.
E. **Conflict:** Explain the major conflicts (2-4) of the work.
F. **Point of View:** How does the narrator’s point of view affect the work as a whole?
G. **Beginnings:** What impact does the beginning of the novel have on the overall work?
H. **Endings:** What is the novel’s final image or line? Explain its connection to themes or plot.
I. **Literary Devices:** Examine devices such as diction, syntax, symbolism, metaphor, imagery, irony, allusion, or any other dominant element the author uses throughout the novel. Identify the device and its significance in the work. Try to find at least three examples of literary devices.