



Tracy High School
315 East Eleventh Street
Tracy, CA 95376



**Freshman Agricultural Scientific Academy
Summer Reading Ag/Science Advanced English 2023**

May 18, 2023

Dear Tracy High School Agricultural Scientific Academy Freshman:

Congratulations on being accepted into the Agricultural Scientific Academy at Tracy High School. I look forward to meeting each of you in August. As an incoming Ag/Science student you are required to complete a summer reading assignment. This summer I am requiring you to read only one book and complete two assignments using that book. You may check your book out from a library, purchase the book that you choose new at most bookstores, or search Amazon.com or another online outlet for either a new or used copy. If you plan to purchase your book online, order early because it may take a week or two before it arrives. An electronic version of any of these books is fine also.

The four books you may choose from are:

When the Emperor was Divine by Julie Otsuka

This novel explores the internment of Japanese Americans during World War II.

The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian by Sherman Alexie

This novel depicts the adolescence of a Native American boy on a reservation and is based on the author's own experiences.

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time by Mark Haddon

This novel is about a 15-year old boy "with some behavioral difficulties" who investigates the death of a neighborhood dog.

The House on Mango Street by Sandra Cisneros

This novel, written in a series of vignettes, is about a young Latina girl growing up in Chicago.

The assignments will be part of your first quarter grade. A detailed explanation of the assignments is on page 2. If you have any questions, email Mrs. Corona at dcorona@tusd.net. I will check my emails weekly during the summer months.

Have a great summer and happy reading!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Corona
Tracy High School
Ag/Science Advanced English 1
dcorona@tusd.net

Reading and Writing Project

How does this assignment work?

You must read one book from the four listed in the letter. You may choose whichever book seems the most interesting to you. You need to complete the two assignments listed for that book. These assignments are due on Tuesday, August 8, 2023 (this is the **SECOND** day of school). There will also be a reading quiz the first week of school.

Assignment #1

Write a poem that **fully summarizes** the plot of the novel you read.

- The poem must be 12+ lines in length.
- Each line should be at least 10 words in length (can be more!)
- The poem must have a rhyme scheme.
- The poem should be typed or neatly written on binder paper.
- You will present your poem to the class during the first week.

Assignment #2

Write a letter to the author of your book. The requirements for your letter are:

- The letter can be handwritten or typed. This letter must be neat; it will be mailed to the author.
- Your letter **must** have a date at the top, a greeting, a properly written body, and a closing that includes your name and signature.
- In the letter you may tell the author why you are reading their novel.
- In the letter you **must** tell the author two things that you found interesting in the book.
- You **must** ask the author two questions. Your questions can be about the plot, characters, the author's writing process, or about themselves.
- You **must** tell the author one character you felt a connection to and why.
- This letter must be appropriate and thoughtful.

Reading Quiz

Note: You will have a reading quiz on your chosen book during your first week of school. So please actually read the text.