

**Holy Cross High School**  
**September 2017 Sophomore English**  
**Summer Reading Assignment**

As part of the educational program at Holy Cross High School, **all students who are entering the 10<sup>th</sup> grade in September 2017 are required to read** the following books during the summer recess:

*And Then There Were None* by Agatha Christie

*I Am Malala* by Malala Yousafzai

Students who are enrolled in an **English 10 Honors class must also read**:

*Heart of Darkness* by Joseph Conrad

There are three basic reasons for this activity:

- a) to improve reading skills
- b) to increase the student's knowledge base.
- c) to prepare students for their English teacher's introductory lessons

Please note:

- All students will take the Summer Reading Exam in English class within the first few days of school. The exam will incorporate explicit elements of theme and author intention, so students should take responsible and thorough notes on the texts while they are reading.
- The Summer Reading Exam grade counts as a significant percentage of all students' first quarter grade in English class; therefore, all must take this assignment seriously.
- Students will find during the course of the year that the above texts will be valuable as response material for work incorporating the Common Core State Standards and for practicing the skills needed for the Regents Exam in English.