AICE English Language:

For the summer reading in Cambridge you are to read the novel, *The Namesake*. In addition, you should read ONE book off the AP Language and Composition list.

Summer Reading Novel(s):

* **The Namesake** **by Jhumpa Lahiri:** *The Nameksake* takes the Ganguli family from their tradition-bound life in Calcutta through their fraught transformation into Americans. On the heels of their arranged wedding, Ashoke and Ashima Ganguli settle in Cambridge, Massachusetts. An engineer by training, Ashoke adapts far less warily than his wife, who resists all things American and pines for her family. When their son is born, the task of naming him betrays the vexed results of brining old ways to the new world. Author Jhumpa Lahiri, brings penetrating insight, she reveals not only the defining power of the names and expectations bestowed upon us by our parents, but also the means by which we slowly, sometimes painfully, come to define ourselves.
* **One novel selected from the Advanced Placement English Language List**

AICE English Language Assignment:

Summer writing – You must address the prompt from **Paper 1**. In addition, you will write two essays: answer one question from **Paper 2** Section A and one question from **Paper 2** Section B. This is a total of three essays.

**Paper 1**

A. The following text is excerpt from the novel *The Namesake* by Jhumpa Lahiri. The novel is about an Indian immigrant family adjusting to life in America.

1. Comment on the style and language of the excerpt (your answer should be between 300-500 words development).
2. Continue the novel for a further 120-150 words. You should base your answer closely on the style and language of the original excerpt. You do not need to bring it to a conclusion.

**1968**

On a sticky August evening two weeks before her due date, Ashima Ganguli stands in the kitchen of a Central Square apartment, combining Rice Krispies and Planters peanuts and chopped red onion in a bowl. She adds salt, lemon juice, thin slices of green chili pepper, wishing there were mustard oil to pour into the mix. Ashima has been consuming this concoction throughout her pregnancy, a humble approximation of the snack sold for pennies on Calcutta sidewalks and on railway platforms throughout India, spilling from newspaper cones. Even now that there is barely space inside her, it is the one thing she craves. Tasting from a cupped palm, she frowns; as usual, there's something missing. She stares blankly at the pegboard behind the countertop where her cooking utensils hang, all slightly coated with grease. She wipes sweat from her face with the free end of her sari. Her swollen feet ache against speckled gray linoleum. Her pelvis aches from the baby's weight. She opens a cupboard, the shelves lined with a grimy yellow-and-white-checkered paper she's been meaning to replace, and reaches for another onion, frowning again as she pulls at its crisp magenta skin. A curious warmth floods her abdomen, followed by a tightening so severe she doubles over, gasping without sound, dropping the onion with a thud on the floor. The sensation passes, only to be followed by a more enduring spasm of discomfort. In the bathroom she discovers, on her underpants, a solid streak of brownish blood. She calls out to her husband, Ashoke, a doctoral candidate in electrical engineering at MIT, who is studying in the bedroom. He leans over a card table; the edge of their bed, two twin mattresses pushed together under a red and purple batik spread, serves as his chair. When she calls out to Ashoke, she doesn't say his name. Ashima never thinks of her husband's name when she thinks of her husband, even though she knows perfectly well what it is. She has adopted his surname but refuses, for propriety's sake, to utter his first. It's not the type of thing Bengali wives do. Like a kiss or caress in a Hindi movie, a husband's name is something intimate and therefore unspoken, cleverly patched over. And so, instead of saying Ashoke's name, she utters the interrogative that has come to replace it, which translates roughly as "Are you listening to me?"

Paper 2

**Section A: Imaginative Writing**

1. Write the opening section of a story called *New Horizons* in which someone sets off on a long journey. In your writing, create a sense of anticipation and adventure (600-900 words)

2. Write two contrasting pieces (between 300-450 words each), the first about a strict family-oriented life of a student living in India (like Gogol from the novel, *The Namesake*) and the second about the same student who has been provided the chance to study abroad in America where life is more relaxed and independent. In your writing, create a sense of change and nostalgia.

3. Write a descriptive piece called *The Voyage*. In your writing, create a sense of atmosphere and focus on colours and sounds to help your reader imagine the scene. (600-900 words)

**Section B: Writing for an Audience**

4. Pretend that Gogol from the novel, *The Namesake* is a real character. You have been asked to produce an article for your school magazine on the ways that he has changed over the course of the novel. You must also report on what he can expect for his future. Write the article. In your writing, show your interest in these changes. (600-900 words)

5. Two literary critics read Jhumpa Lahiri’s *The Namesake* and write their reviews for the newspaper, *The Orlando Times*. Write each of their reviews (300 - 450 words each). In your writing create a sense of strong opposing opinions.

6. Take a scene from the novel, *The Namesake.* Write the script for the scene in play format. In your writing, strive to create realistic emotions and stage directions. Make the script as authentic as possible. (600-900 words)

Advanced Placement English Language:

For summer reading in Advanced Placement English Language, you are to read ONE of the following books.

Novels to choose from:

* [**Lone Survivor: The Eyewitness Account of Operation Redwing and the Lost Heroes of SEAL Team 10**](http://www.amazon.com/Lone-Survivor-Eyewitness-Account-Operation/dp/0316044695/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1274974148&sr=1-1) **by** [**Marcus Luttrell**](http://www.amazon.com/Marcus-Luttrell/e/B001H6IQ9S/ref=ntt_athr_dp_pel_1)**:** This is the story of the only survivor of Operation Redwing, SEAL fire team leader Marcus Luttrell, and the extraordinary firefight that led to the largest loss of life in American Navy SEAL history.   
  **My Losing Season by Pat Conroy:** A re-creation of the losing basketball season Conroy and his team endured during his senior year at the Citadel, 1966- 1967, Conroy gives readers an intimate look at how suffering can be transformed to become a source of strength and inspiration

# I Am Malala: The Girl Who Stood Up for Education and Was Shot by the Taliban by [Malala Yousafzai](http://www.amazon.com/Malala-Yousafzai/e/B00EZMLL5W/ref=dp_byline_cont_book_1): Thisis the remarkable tale of a family uprooted by global terrorism, of the fight for girls' education, of a father who, himself a school owner, championed and encouraged his daughter to write and attend school, and of brave parents who have a fierce love for their daughter in a society that prizes sons.

# Killing Lincoln by Bill O’Reilly: In the spring of 1865, the bloody saga of America's Civil War finally comes to an end. In the midst of the patriotic celebrations in Washington D.C., John Wilkes Booth murders Abraham Lincoln at Ford's Theatre. Page-turning action, Killing *Lincoln* is history that reads like a thriller.

# Shoe Dog: A Memoir by the Creator of Nike by Phil Knight: In this candid and riveting memoir, for the first time ever, Nike founder and board chairman Phil Knight shares the inside story of the company’s early days as an intrepid start-up and its evolution into one of the world’s most iconic, game-changing, and profitable brands.

# Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance by [Robert M. Pirsig](http://www.amazon.com/s/ref=dp_byline_sr_book_1?ie=UTF8&text=Robert+M.+Pirsig&search-alias=books&field-author=Robert+M.+Pirsig&sort=relevancerank): A powerful, moving, and penetrating examination of how we live . . . and a breathtaking meditation on how to live better. An unforgettable narration of a summer motorcycle trip across America's Northwest, undertaken by a father and his young son.

AP English Language Assignment:

After you have read your selection(s), you should:

* Decide on the predominant theme from the novel (discovery, bravery, triumph over adversity, perseverance etc.).
* Over the summer, you will find ten articles about that theme in newspapers, magazines or internet commentary.
* In the first week of school, please bring the book(s) you have read and all articles. You may expect to be tested on one of these books during the first weeks of school.

If you have questions about this assignment, please feel free to e-mail Mrs. Jones at [Sharon.Christensen-Jones@ocps.net](mailto:Sharon.Christensen-Jones@ocps.net) or Mr. O’Callahan at [Matthew.O’Callahan@ocps.net](mailto:matthew.o'callahan@ocps.net)