

Juanita High School Summer Reading 2018

Incoming Cambridge Juniors



RATIONALE: The Juanita High School learning community encourages all students to develop into thoughtful, avid readers. With this aim, the staff is asking all incoming Cambridge juniors to read the following book

The Namesake: A Novel by Jhumpa Lahiri

Any talk of *The Namesake*--Jhumpa Lahiri's follow-up to her Pulitzer Prize-winning debut, *Interpreter of Maladies*--must begin with a name: Gogol Ganguli. Born to an Indian academic and his wife, Gogol is afflicted from birth with a name that is neither Indian nor American nor even really a first name at all. He is given the name by his father who, before he came to America to study at MIT, was almost killed in a train wreck in India. Rescuers caught sight of the volume of Nikolai Gogol's short stories that he held, and hauled him from the train. Ashoke gives his American-born son the name as a kind of placeholder, and the awkward thing sticks.

Summer Reading Assignment

Take notes on plot, character, and your personal reactions. (What did you like or not like?). You will not turn in your notes, so there is no minimum requirement, but they will help you on assignments and tests at the beginning of the year.

Be prepared to discuss and write about this book during the first week of school.

**We value your integrity.
Plagiarism and cheating will result in
an irrevocable score of zero.**