

Interboro High School
Eleventh Grade Summer Reading

All students enrolled in 11th grade English [not including AP]

All students enrolled in 11th grade English for the upcoming school year will be required to read *Ordinary People* by Judith Guest as their summer reading selection. Students will be tested on this text starting on the first Friday of the school year. Because students will be tested on this novel, they should practice active reading strategies as they take notes. Some active reading strategies are listed below along with a brief summary of the novel.

***Ordinary People* by Judith Guest**

Tormented by guilt following the death of his older brother, Buck, in a sailing accident, alienated teenager Conrad Jarrett attempts suicide. Returning home following an extended stay in a psychiatric hospital, Conrad tries to deal with his mental anguish and also reconnect with his mother, Beth, who has grown cold and angry, and his emotionally wounded father, Calvin, with the help of his psychiatrist, Dr. Berger.

ACTIVE READING STRATEGIES

Ask questions

Active readers question anything they wonder about or don't understand. Then they are on the lookout for clues to answer those questions.

Make predictions

Active readers predict what might happen based on the information in the story.

Clarify

Active readers look for answers to their questions to clarify and gain a better understanding of the text.

Make connections

Active readers relate what they are reading to their own knowledge and experience, as well as to other texts.

Evaluate

Active readers draw conclusions about what they have read. By evaluating a selection, active readers are able to form their own opinions about characters, actions and the selection as a whole.

Determine the meanings of new words

Active readers try to figure out what new words mean. They may look in a dictionary, examine the different parts of the word or read surrounding text for clues.

React personally

Active readers comment on different aspects of the text according to their own beliefs and attitudes.