**Summer Reading Assignment 2017: 9th and 10th Grades**

**Modern World Literature and Writing**

**COLLEGE PREPARATORY AND HONORS:**

*American Born Chinese* byGene Luen Yang

*The Book Thief* by Marcus Zusak

**HONORS ONLY:** *The Secret Life of Bees* by Sue Monk Kidd

This assignment must be completed for **each** book by the first day of class to prepare for an assignment your English teacher will give you the first few days of school. Please be specific and thorough with your answers. For **each** book, answer the following questions. Be sure to write the title of the book (book titles are italicized or underlined) and the author’s name.

1. What are your initial thoughts about this story? You should reflect on the plot, characters, conflict, themes, symbolism, etc.
2. Describe the character or person or situation that changes the most from the beginning of the book to the end of the book. Explain the change and what causes it.
3. What does this story say about human nature and people in general? How does this story remind you of experiences you have had, or ideas you have seen in other stories, books, movies, television shows, etc.?
4. Choose the three (3) of the most important quotations from the book. These should be exact words you find and feel stand out for some reason (it connected with you personally, it was important to the main ideas of the book, it was creative in its wording, etc.). Write the direct quotations and briefly explain why you chose each as significant. Include the page number in MLA format.
5. **For *American Born Chinese*:** Gene Leun Yang says that he created the character of Cousin Chin Kee out of stereotypes that people have held of Chinese Americans. Why do you think he included this character in his book? What do you think he wants us to learn from this character?

**Please use the following guidelines:**

* Typed in 12 pt. font/Double-spaced
* 275-500 word count for each book