

**9th GRADE REQUIRED HISTORY SUMMER READING  
2010**

If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Sharon Levin, [slevin@jbha.org](mailto:slevin@jbha.org), 610-922-70

**The Good Earth by Pearl S. Buck**

**This book will be discussed at the beginning of the school year in History class. Use active reading skills, and then answer the following questions using bullet points. The answers will be collected on the first day of class and will be used during the first few days for an in-class writing assignment.**

1. As you read, use 3 different colored highlighters to mark examples of the following concepts :
  - Religious values
  - Social and family values
  - Economic patterns

2. "And so, this parcel of land became to Wang Lung a sign and a symbol."

Identify and discuss at least three passages from the novel that relate to the land and what it means to the main character.

3. Describe 5 cultural differences between traditional Chinese society and your experiences as an American teen in the 21st Century.

Optional, but recommended:

Life and Death in Shanghai by Nien Chen  
Iron and Silk by Mark Salzman  
Diary of a Young Girl by Anne Frank  
Kitchen God's Wife by Amy Tan  
Joy Luck Club by Amy Tan  
The Woman Warrior by Maxine Hong Kingston  
Passage to India by E.M. Forster