

## **Summer Reading Assignment**

Text: *The Thing Around Your Neck*, Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie

This is the first work we will study as part of our IB Literature 11th grade curriculum. Please read all **12** short stories in the collection over the summer, to give you a strong foundation for our work together. The IB asks us to draw meaningful connections both between the texts we study and to cultural, social and historical elements that shape the texts.

During the first week back, you will be writing a medium grade assessment in class in which you will demonstrate your knowledge and understanding of a selection of these stories.

To prepare for this written assessment, you should annotate and take notes to help you develop ideas related to the author's stylistic choices. You might consider any of the following:

narrative point of view, theme, structure of the story, use of symbolism, characterization, setting, etc. Consider how each story employs these elements to shape meaning. You might want to undergo some research if necessary to help you understand their setting/context.

You may also wish to create a chart in which you note key details relevant to each story. More information will be forthcoming about this assessment once we return to school. Over the summer you are expected to focus on reading the stories and engaging closely with each.

**Questions?** Feel free to email Ms. Crocker ([acrocker@asparis.fr](mailto:acrocker@asparis.fr)) or Ms. Burlow ([aburlow@asparis.fr](mailto:aburlow@asparis.fr)) if you have questions.

We hope that you enjoy the stories and that you're looking forward to a great year in English class!