## 2019-2020 AMERICAN LITERATURE SUMMER READING PROJECT

All incoming juniors are required to read The Joy Luck Club by Amy Tan and complete the project below.

## All students must complete the following project:

You will record at least 20 significant quotes (see graphic organizer attached). Each entry should include a quote, the page number on which it is found, and a two sentence analysis of why the quote is significant.

Tracing characterization, theme, symbols: For each chapter of the novel, pay particularly close attention to characterization, theme, and symbolism. For each chapter of the book you are to choose a quote that reveals something important about a character, helps develop a theme, or has some symbolic significance, making sure to include page number(s). The quotations should be kept in the order in which they appear in the book.

## The project is due on the first day of class.

Print out your quote graphic organizer and turn in it to receive credit for the project.

## Synopsis:

Four mothers, four daughters, four families whose histories shift with the four winds depending on who's "saying" the stories. In 1949 four Chinese women, recent immigrants to San Francisco, begin meeting to eat dim sum, play mahjong, and talk. United in shared unspeakable loss and hope, they call themselves the Joy Luck Club. Rather than sink into tragedy, they choose to gather to raise their spirits and money. "To despair was to wish back for something already lost. Or to prolong what was already unbearable." Forty years later the stories and history continue.

With wit and sensitivity, Amy Tan examines the sometimes painful, often tender, and always deep connection between mothers and daughters. As each woman reveals her secrets, trying to unravel the truth about her life, the strings become more tangled, more entwined. Mothers boast or despair over daughters, and daughters roll their eyes even as they feel the inextricable tightening of their matriarchal ties. Tan is an astute storyteller, enticing readers to immerse themselves into these lives of complexity and mystery.

The Joy Luck Club by Amy Tan may be purchased at Bestseller bookstores or on amazon.com \& other online retailers.

If you have any questions, please e-mail aymartinez@ndhsguam.com


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