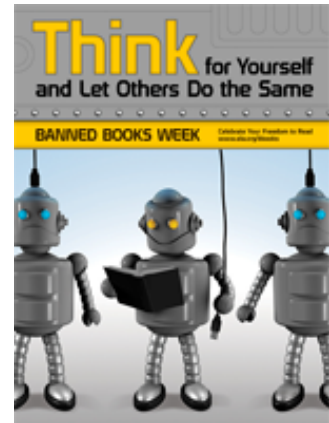


Mira Costa High School Library Banned Books Week Contest

September 25-October 2, 2010 is *Banned Books Week*.



Banned Books Week: Celebrating the Freedom to Read has been observed during the last week of September each year since 1982. This annual event, sponsored by the American Library Association, reminds Americans not to take this precious democratic freedom for granted.

Banned Books Week emphasizes the freedom to choose or the freedom to express one's opinion even if that opinion might be considered unorthodox or unpopular and the importance of ensuring the availability of those unorthodox or unpopular viewpoints to all who wish to read them. For more information, please visit:

<http://www.ala.org/ala/issuesadvocacy/banned/bannedbooksweek/index.cfm>

In honor of Banned Books Week, please visit the Mira Costa High School Library display of recently banned and challenged books and participate in this contest. Answer each of the following questions and return your answer sheet to the library by Tuesday, October 5. Everyone with a complete set of correct answers will be entered in a drawing to win a Starbucks Gift Certificate.

1. This book by T.C. Boyle, challenged on the Santa Rosa, Calif. High School reading list (2010), explores hardships faced by illegal immigrants in Southern California and their interactions with well-to-do neighbors. _____
2. This book about a boy faced with a terminal disease by author and therapist Chris Crutcher was withdrawn from classroom use and the approved curriculum in Montgomery County, Kentucky in 2009. Parents complained both about foul language and unsuitable content. What is the title? _____
3. This book was the second most frequently banned book in the 1990s. In 1993, the Mingus, Arizona, Union High School challenged the choice of it as appropriate English curriculum because of "profane language, moral statement, treatment of the retarded and the violent ending." Mainly, though, people want it discontinued due to the "vulgar language throughout." Written by John Steinbeck, what is it called?

4. In April 2010, the Stockton, Missouri School District voted to ban this book by a Native American about his culture after a parent protested its use in high school English classes. The District says it voted to ban the book due to violence, language and some sexual content. What is the title?

5. This book by famed poet Maya Angelou was challenged in 1994 at Westwood High School in Austin, Texas, because those objecting called it “pornographic” saying it contains profanity and encourages “premarital sex and homosexuality.” It continues to be challenged in other schools. What is the title?

6. This book, the top-selling book of all time, has been challenged as “obscene and pornographic” as well as including “tales of incest and murder.” Many Sunday School teachers and pastors use it for reference and study. We know it as _____
7. This famous book by J. D. Salinger has been challenged because it is “centered around negative activity.” It has been commonly used in English classes. Which book is it? _____
8. In September 2010, an opinion piece in the News-Leader of Springfield, MO, characterized this book, which contains two rape scenes, as “soft pornography.” When Laurie Halse Anderson, the author, blogged about her outrage at the opinion piece, huge Twitter feed in support of the book immediately followed. What is the book title? _____
9. Two commonly read books by Mark Twain have been subjects of challenges and outright banning in many high schools due to complaints of “racially charged language.” What are they? _____
10. Yakima, Washington, schools went through a five-month dispute over whether this Richard Wright book should be read by advanced high school English students. It was finally retained as part of the curriculum. Name the book.

11. This section of the Bill of Rights guarantees the freedom of religion, speech, press, assembly and petition. It is called _____.
12. This popular author wrote *Forever*, *Deenie*, and the Fudgemia series. Her books are often the target of proposed bans in schools. What is her name? _____
13. S. E. Hinton was only 17 when she wrote her first novel about teenagers living on the poor side of Tulsa, Oklahoma. Many people object to her real-life portrayal of the differences in the lives of the “socials” and the “greasers.” What’s the name of this novel? _____
14. Activists across the country have crusaded to have this J. K. Rowling series banned from school libraries, claiming it encourages interest in Satanism and the occult. However, the essential element is the inspiring depiction of a boy's triumphant struggles. What is the name of the series? _____

Prepared for Banned Book Week 2010 by Jane Lofton, Teacher Librarian, Mira Costa High School, Manhattan Beach USD.

With thanks to, Jeri Calcote, District Library Media Specialist, Poolville (TX) I.S.D. for the original version and many of these questions.