

HIGH SCHOOL BOOK LIST

9th: Heroic Ideal

Mandatory:

- Antigone by Sophocles

Select one (1) from the following list:

- Henry V by William Shakespeare
- Billy Budd by Herman Melville
- Beowulf translated by Burton Raffel or Michael Alexander
- Pride and Prejudice by Jane Austen
- Joan of Arc by Mark Twain

10th: Conflict between absolute truth and reality of world

Mandatory:

- Murder in the Cathedral by T. S. Eliot

Select one (1) from the following list:

- Fahrenheit 451 by Ray Bradbury
- The Tempest by William Shakespeare
- The Importance of Being Earnest by Oscar Wilde
- Medea by Euripides
- Heart of Darkness by Joseph Conrad

11th: American Ideals/Values

Mandatory:

- Death of a Salesman

Select one (1) from the following list:

- The Crucible by Arthur Miller
- The Red Badge of Courage by Stephen Crane
- The Age of Innocence by Edith Wharton
- My Antonia by Willa Cather
- The Jungle by Upton Sinclair

12th: Universal struggle of the individual to make moral choices within the context of his/her worldview

Mandatory:

- Man's Search For Meaning by Viktor Frankl

Select one (1) from the following list:

- The Power and the Glory by Graham Greene
- Othello by William Shakespeare
- Wuthering Heights by Emily Bronte
- Ethan Frome by Edith Wharton
- The Plague by Albert Camus

HIGH SCHOOL ASSIGNMENT

Students in 9th-12th grades (non-AP courses) will complete the following assignment related to their summer reading books:

- Critical Response Journal for both summer reading books

Students will select five **different** questions to answer for each summer reading book, therefore answering all ten questions with no questions repeated.

- All journal entries should be typed, collated, and stapled together with a cover sheet indicating the student's name and grade
- Length of journal responses for each question: 100-150 words
- Each journal response should be labeled with the title of the novel and the specific question being answered
- Students may NOT cut and paste information or answers from an internet source or copy information or answers from any source other than the novel itself

Due dates for the summer reading assignments:

- Friday, August 17 for students enrolled by July 31, 2018
- Friday, August 31 for students enrolled after July 31, 2018 (mandatory reading selection only, answering 5 questions)

Critical Response Journal Questions

1. How does the title relate to the book? In your discussion, provide specific details to show how the title reflects characters, settings, events, symbols, or other ideas present in the novel or play.
2. Give an example of a specific turning point in the novel or play. Explain the importance of this event.
3. What objects, characters, or places function as symbols in the novel or play? Explain the meaning and significance of these symbols.
4. What broader social issues does the author address in the book, for example, class conflicts, poverty, prejudice, etc? How do these issues affect the plot and characters? Provide specific examples to support your answer.
5. Select a major or minor character from the novel or play and describe this character's motivations. Why does he or she act in this manner? Does the character undergo any changes during the course of the story?
6. What specific experiences, struggles, or conflicts of the characters in the work are relevant to our own experiences in the 21st century. What makes these particular experiences universal?
7. Examine the characters' actions: do they act with free will, directing their own lives, or do they act according to fate, unable to determine their own lives? Provide specific examples from the novel or play to support your answer.
8. Describe the setting (both time and place) of the novel or play. How does the setting contribute to the main ideas (themes) presented in the work?
9. Most writers use irony—a discrepancy between what we expect to be true or to happen and what actually is true or does happen—to draw attention to important ideas or themes in their works. Cite an example of irony in the novel or play and explain the important idea it reveals.
10. What moral or ethical choices do the main characters make in the novel or play? Describe the impact these decisions have on the character him or herself as well as others involved in the plot.