

2010 High School Summer Reading: Instructions

After you have found your summer rhythm—staying up late, sleeping in late and sauntering through sun-dappled days—find a spare hour now and then to read “the good stuff”. To satisfy the summer reading assignment, choose three of the works listed for your grade level; note that you may choose one of the science selections listed on the final page as a substitute for one of your grade level books. You must choose a science selection that you have previously not read, however. In addition, high students planning to make the fall trip to Stratford should read *As You Like It* prior to viewing the play there.

As you read, take time to reflect and respond in a series of five journal entries per book. Please don’t wait until after you’ve completed the book to do this “thinking aloud on paper”. Journal while the joy of discovery is pure and the insight fresh. Each entry should be several paragraphs in length and should be reflective rather than a mere summary. Your task is to convince the mildly suspicious reader that you have read the work and have thought critically about its content.

With each selection, a notation indicates a discipline so that you know the audience/teacher for whom you are writing. For example, with a literature selection, you would most likely consider characters, themes, and methods adopted by the author, whereas with a science selection, you might consider problem-solving, innovations, and experiments.

Length: Five thoughtful entries per work with each entry two or more paragraphs.

Format: Type-written with each work’s entries stapled individually. Remember to date each entry. Neither rough drafts nor title pages are necessary. Name, title of work, and discipline should appear in the upper right hand corner of 1st page

Due Date: The second day of class.

Grading: Each journal will be read and graded by the indicated discipline’s teacher. However, grades will be recorded and count toward the 1st quarter literature grade.

20 points—Evidence of critical thought and effort.
10 points—Superficial thought and sub-standard effort
0 points—Failure to hand in assignment by the second day of class

2010 High School Summer Reading List

9th

1. The Screwtape Letters
Experienced devil gives advice on how to tempt. (Lit.)
C.S. Lewis
2. The Hawk and the Dove
Lessons of life and love via a community of medieval monks. (Lit.)
Penelope Wilcock
3. Ivanhoe
A crusader fights yet again for his lady and his kidnapped King. (Lit.)
Walter Scott
4. Lay Siege to Heaven
St. Catherine of Siena: politician and mystic of the 14th century. (Lit.)
Louis de Wohl
5. Joan of Arc
The conquering Maid of Orleans is tried as a heretic. (Lit.)
Mark Twain
6. The Once and Future King
A masterful re-telling of the story of King Arthur's Camelot. (Lit.)
T.H. White
- ** 7. As You Like It
See endnote.
William Shakespeare

10th

1. To Kill a Mockingbird
A Southern child learns of prejudice, justice and honor. (Lit.)
Harper Lee
2. An Autobiography of an Ex-Colored Man
An examination of race, class and the problem of evil in America. (His.)
James Weldon Johnson
3. Helmut for My Pillow
A soldier's autobiographical account of war in the Pacific Theatre. (His.)
Robert Leckie
4. My Life and Hard Times
A collection of short stories/sketches by a first-class humorist. (Lit.)
James Thurber
5. The Grapes of Wrath
A heart-wrenching story of the Dust Bowl's effects. (Lit.)
John Steinbeck
6. Billy Budd
The false accusation of a beloved sailor has tragic consequences. (Lit.)
Herman Melville
- ** 7. As You Like It
See endnote.
William Shakespeare

11th

1. Frankenstein Mary Shelley
Frankenstein and his project: the consequences of creation. (Phil.)
2. The Scarlet Pimpernel Baroness Constance Orczy
Intrigue, disguise and lovers who risk all against the backdrop of the French Revolution. (Lit.)
3. He Leadeth Me Walter Ciszek S.J.
A prisoner for 23 years in Soviet prisons, this American Jesuit witnesses to the faith that sustained him. (Mrs. Mitros)
4. David Copperfield Charles Dickens
The heart-tugging tale of an orphan's struggle to become a man. (Lit.)
5. All Quiet on the Western Front Erich Maria Remarque
WWI through the eyes of a disillusioned German soldier. (His.)
6. Edmund Campion Evelyn Waugh
A finely written biography of the scholar priest whose vocation leads to martyrdom in Elizabethan England. (Lit.)
- ** 7. As You Like It William Shakespeare
See endnote.

12th

1. Anna Karenina Leo Tolstoy
A remarkable portrait of selfish and selfless love. (Lit.)
2. Man's Search for Meaning Victor Frankl
A Jewish psychiatrist's life-affirming response to the suffering of the Holocaust. (Rel.)
3. The Diary of a Country Priest Georges Bernanos
A young French priest's luminous struggle to live out his vocation. (Lit.)
4. The Hunchback of Notre Dame Victor Hugo
An ugly giant and a pure-hearted gypsy confront evil amid the beauty of this incomparable French Cathedral. (Lit.)
5. One of the following two selections is mandatory for seniors:
 - A. The Three Philosophies of Life Peter Kreeft
A commentary to be read in conjunction with these New Testament passages:
Ecclesiastes 1-12
Job 1-8; 36-4
Song of Solomon (a.k.a. Song of Songs) 1-8 (Rel.)
 - B. The Song at the Scaffold Gertrud Von Le Fort
A novella about the Carmelite nuns from the Convent at Compeigne who collectively vow to embrace martyrdom during the Reign of Terror. (Rel.)

** 6. As You Like It
See endnote.

William Shakespeare

**As the high school will attend a production of As You Like It at the Stratford Festival in the fall, all students making the trip should read the play. This comedy is a romp through the Forest of Arden with disguised lovers and wise fools.

Students in all grade levels are free to choose one of the following science-related offerings to fulfill the reading requirement. The stipulation here is that the selection be one that the student has not previously read.

Galileo's Daughter

Dava Sobel

A fascinating examination of Galileo's struggles and times, inspired by 124 surviving letters to his daughter who lived as a cloistered nun. (Sci.)

Longitude: The True Story

Dava Sobel

A biography of John Harrison, the unschooled English clock-maker, who accomplished one of the earliest and greatest triumphs of technology: a clock that could carry "true time" from one port to any other in the world. (Sci.)

The Great Bridge: The Epic Story of the Building of the Brooklyn Bridge

David McCullough (Sci.)

A compelling account of this engineering marvel that defines the American spirit.

The Path between the Seas: The Creation of the Panama Canal (1870-1914)

David McCullough

The dramatic chronicle of both human and natural obstacles overcome in the construction of the canal connecting the Caribbean Sea with the Pacific Ocean.
(Sci.)