

St. Joseph Central Catholic High School

Summer 2016 Reading List

12th Grade – Regular and Honors

Required Reading: *Life of Pi* by Yann Martel

- All incoming seniors are required to read this book. We will discuss the text, and I will assess your understanding of it at the beginning of the school year.

Selected Reading: All incoming seniors are required to read at least one book from the selected reading list below. You must choose a book you have not read before. Attached is a written assignment you must complete and hand in on the first day of school for the book you choose. No late work will be accepted.

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|
| • <i>Pride and Prejudice</i> | Jane Austen |
| • <i>Jane Eyre</i> | Charlotte Bronte |
| • <i>Catch 22</i> | Joseph Heller |
| • <i>The Taming of the Shrew</i> | William Shakespeare |
| • <i>The Joy Luck Club</i> | Amy Tan |
| • <i>The Color Purple</i> | Alice Walker |
| • <i>Their Eyes Were Watching God</i> | Zora Neale Hurston |
| • <i>Ishmael</i> | Daniel Quinn |
| • <i>The Namesake</i> | Jhumpa Lahiri |
| • <i>The Things They Carried</i> | Tim O'Brien |
| • <i>Cider House Rules</i> | John Irving |
| • <i>Brave New World</i> | Aldous Huxley |
| • <i>Lolita</i> | Vladimir Nabokov |
| • <i>Grapes of Wrath</i> | John Steinbeck |
| • <i>Things Fall Apart</i> | Chinua Achebe |
| • <i>A Tale of Two Cities</i> | Charles Dickens |
| • <i>To the Lighthouse</i> | Virginia Woolf |
| • <i>Native Son</i> | Richard Wright |
| • <i>A Passage to India</i> | E.M. Forster |
| • <i>Leaves of Grass</i> | Walt Whitman |
| • <i>Walden Pond</i> | Henry David Thoreau |
| • <i>Farewell to Arms</i> | Ernest Hemingway |
| • <i>Julius Caesar</i> | William Shakespeare |
| • <i>Macbeth</i> | William Shakespeare |
| • <i>The Help</i> | Kathryn Stockett |
| • <i>Water for Elephants</i> | Sara Gruen |
| • <i>On the Road</i> | Jack Kerouac |
| • <i>Ender's Game</i> | Orson Scott Card |
| • <i>The Red Tent</i> | Anita Diamant |
| • <i>Cutting for Stone</i> | Abraham Verghese |
| • <i>Angela's Ashes</i> | Frank McCourt |
| • <i>Snow Falling on Cedars</i> | David Guterson |
| • <i>Cat on a Hot Tin Roof</i> | Tennessee Williams |
| • <i>Death of a Salesman</i> | Tennessee Williams |
| • <i>The Scarlet Letter</i> | Nathaniel Hawthorne |
| • <i>A Prayer for Owen Meany</i> | John Irving |
| • <i>This Side of Paradise</i> | F. Scott Fitzgerald |
| • <i>The Beautiful and the Damned</i> | F. Scott Fitzgerald |

Summer Selected Reading Assignment

*You MAY NOT use SparkNotes or any other similar internet/book source for the completion of this assignment. This includes copying directly, paraphrasing or just getting ideas from such a source. If this is done, it will result in a zero on the assignment and a meeting with the Honor Committee. This is supposed to be your original work; not the work of a published English professional. These are your ideas and thoughts.

Directions: Complete this assignment for your selected reading book. The assignment is due on the first day of school. If you turn it in late, you will lose 5% off of your total grade for every day it is late. I will not accept the assignment after three days. There is also an option for some extra credit.

Complete each of the following 2 sections. They must be typed, double-spaced, in Times New Romans 12pt. font with 1 inch margins. 11th and 12th graders – use MLA format/heading.

1. **(50%)** As you read the book, complete at least 5 reader's responses. Your responses should not include plot summary. Assume I wrote the book, so you don't need to fill me in on it. Responses should include, but are not limited to, ideas such as: characterization (how characters evolve throughout the book), themes (larger ideas the author is trying to express/how the book relates to life), the author's talent/craft, use of literary techniques (symbolism, irony, foreshadowing, plot twists, figurative language, etc.), and the like. In addition, you may also comment on something specific that you like or dislike about the book. Think of it as a journal that you are keeping as you read. Your responses should be written in sentence form and include a **minimum of 5 sentences each**. Although these must be typed when turned in, feel free to respond in a notebook or on post-its as you read and then later transfer these thoughts to a word processor.
2. **(50%)** Identify what you feel are the **5 most important passages** from the book or **5 passages you like the best**. This could be for a number of reasons: character development, well written prose/dialogue, theme development, symbolism, etc. The passage may be a phrase, sentence, or group of sentences/piece of dialogue. For each of the passages, write out the full passage with appropriate quotation marks and page citation. After the passage, analyze its importance to the book as a whole. Again, do not summarize the plot but give an analysis that explains why this passage is important to understanding the work as a whole. Or, write why you like it. **Each analysis should be a minimum of 5 sentences**. I suggest you keep track of passages as you read which could possibly end up as a final choice. This way, when you finish, you can just glance back at the passages you selected and choose the 5 most important/best.

*Extra Credit Option – Do the same assignment for your required reading book.