

11th Grade English (Regular) Summer Reading

Over the Course of summer 2021, each incoming student in Mrs. McIntyre's 11th grade English will read two books and complete two attached assignments. Please feel free to check your local library for copies of this book, or even consider the app "Libby," which connects you to your local library from the comfort of your own home.

The first book, outlined in Part A, is a group read (everyone reads the same book) and the second book, outlined in part B, is one that each student will choose from a list attached below.

Part A:

For part A of the summer reading assignment, every student should read Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's *A Study in Scarlet*. As the first book in the Sherlock Holmes universe, this book led to a franchise that has spanned roughly 200 years.

After reading the book, each student will answer the following questions:

- 1) Why is the book written from the perspective of Watson instead of the perspective of Sherlock?
- 2) Describe both Sherlock and Watson using textual evidence.
- 3) Why do you think Holmes is eager to have Watson as a companion?
- 4) How does Watson's military background qualify him to be Holmes 'partner'?
- 5) What roles do Gregson and Lestrade play at the Lauriston Gardens crime scene?
- 6) Are the political views expressed in the London newspapers regarding the murder pertinent to the plot?
- 7) What similarities and differences does Lucy Ferrier have with the other characters in the story?
- 8) Is Mormonism an important attribute of the characters? Could they belong to any faith?
- 9) How are women represented in the story?
- 10) To what extent are Jefferson Hope's actions justified?
- 11) Despite the first Sherlock story being written in 1887, Sherlock Holmes adaptations have hardly slowed: there have been two new adaptations on Netflix this year, not to mention two series and several movies in the last decades. What accounts for the continued popularity of Sherlock Holmes?

Part B:

For part B, you will select a book from the following list:

Columbine by Dave Cullen
Devil in the White City by Erik Larson
I'll be Gone in the Dark by Michelle McNamara
Gone Girl by Gillian Flynn
The Woman in the Window by AJ Finn
The Girl on the Train by Paula Hawkins
Final Girl by Riley Sager (or any book by this author)

The Turn of the Key by Ruth Ware (or any book by this author)

After reading your book, you will complete a Google slides presentation that you will present to the class after returning to school. Your slide show must contain:

- Background about the book and author
- IF you choose a non-fiction book (the first three) your book background should contain a brief historical overview.
- A list of characters and description of each
- An outline of the plot (what happened, how did it end)
- A review (what, specifically, did you like and dislike; why; would you recommend it?)