

Summer Reading List

Tenth Grade

Pre-10th grade students are required to purchase your own copy of *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* by Mark Twain to read and annotate. This will be turned in for a TEST GRADE the first week of school. In addition, you will be given a multiple choice test on this book. It would be to your advantage, while you are annotating, to make summary notes on each chapter and characters.

You must also read one book from the book choices list below and make summary notes on each chapter and characters. These notes will be turned in for a TEST GRADE the first week of school. **Additional books will be assigned during the school year.** Directions for annotating are included at the end of this list.

REQUIRED BOOK

The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn by Mark Twain

A young runaway boards a raft and sets off down the Mississippi, setting in motion a series of memorable adventures. Huck Finn and his loyal companion, the escaped slave Jim, form one of literature's greatest friendships.

BOOK CHOICES

The Autobiography of Miss Jane Pittman by Ernest Gaines

This is a novel in the guise of the tape-recorded recollections of a black woman who has lived 110 years, who has been both a slave and a witness to the black militancy of the 1960's. Miss Jane Pittman has endured, has seen almost everything, and foretold the rest.

1984 by George Orwell

This novel, published in 1949 as a warning about the menaces of totalitarianism, is set in an imaginary future world that is dominated by three perpetually warring totalitarian police states. The book's hero, Winston Smith, is a minor party functionary in one of these states. His longing for truth and decency leads him to secretly rebel against the government.

Fahrenheit 451 by Ray Bradbury

Guy Montag is a fireman. In his world, where television rules and literature is on the brink of extinction, firemen start fires rather than put them out. His job is to destroy the most illegal of commodities, the printed book, along with the houses in which they are hidden.

Watership Down by Richard Adams

Set in England's Downs, a once idyllic rural landscape, this stirring tale of adventure, courage, and survival follows a band of very special creatures on their flight from the intrusion of man and the certain destruction of their home. Led by a stouthearted pair of brothers, they journey forth from their native Sandleford Warren through the harrowing trials posed by predators and adversaries, to a mysterious promised land and a more perfect society.

The Hobbit by J.R.R. Tolkien

If you care for journeys there and back, out of the comfortable Western world, over the edge of the Wild, and home again, and can take an interest in a humble hero (blessed with a little wisdom and a little courage and considerable good luck), here is a record of such a journey and such a traveler. You will learn by the way much about trolls, goblins, dwarves, and elves, and get some glimpses into the history and politics of a neglected but important period, the ancient time between the age of Faerie and the dominion of men.

Jurassic Park by Michael Crichton

An astonishing technique for recovering and cloning dinosaur DNA has been discovered. Now humankind's most thrilling fantasies have come true. Creatures extinct for eons roam Jurassic Park with their awesome presence and profound mystery, and all the world can visit them—for a price. Until something goes wrong. . . .

Great Expectations by Charles Dickens

In this suspenseful story of aspirations and moral redemption, humble, orphaned Pip, a ward of his short-tempered older sister and her husband Joe, is apprenticed to the dirty work of the forge but dares to dream of becoming a gentleman.

HOW TO ANNOTATE

Annotation includes highlighting and writing notes in the margins of the text. Make thorough, thoughtful notes concerning plot, characterization, themes, symbols, figures of speech, and comments or questions you have. Underlined or highlighted sentences without your accompanying comments are not sufficient. Write your annotations in the book and/or on sticky notes. Do not use notebooks.

1. At the top of the page, mark the important plot events. Every page will NOT necessarily be marked.
2. Be sure to figure out any unfamiliar words through context or by using a dictionary. You can write the definitions right in the text for yourself.
3. Highlight and mark for yourself words and phrases that help describe the personality of the characters. Note your ideas about the characters right in the text (personality, motivation, fears, dreams, etc.).
4. Highlight and mark for yourself any conflicts that occur with the main character (protagonist). Note your ideas about these conflicts in the text (who/what is involved, attempts to resolve conflicts, etc.).
5. Highlight and mark for yourself any symbolism and note your ideas in the text as to what abstract concepts these tangible objects may represent.
6. Don't mark too much. If you mark everything, nothing will stand out.
7. Once you are completely finished reading the book and annotating, pick the three most important thematic statements. Write those themes on an inside cover or any blank pages of your book AND find supporting evidence from the text to support your ideas. Write the page numbers for your supporting evidence.

Possible themes:

- a. A just individual has obligations toward society.
- b. A just society has obligations it owes to an individual.
- c. Individual freedom is limited by _____.
- d. An individual can develop methods for judging right from wrong.
- e. _____ kind of government is effective.
- f. Society must contend with the dichotomies presented by freedom and equality.
- g. The experience of sin and redemption.
- h. The accumulation of money and power leads to a loss of _____.