

Summer Reading 2022

High School



Introduction

or, “Answering the question, ‘Why must I do this?’”

Summer reading.

Every year, students the world-over are made to undertake their annual pilgrimage to the local library, book faire, or online bookseller. “Why, oh why, must we do this?” they may ask. In short, because they become legitimately and measurably dumber if they don’t read over the summer.

As a school we value and respect our students’ intellect; yet know that they need encouragement to keep up the good fight. Thankfully, our summer reading experts have devised an assignment which will help keep them rightly motivated to do what they doubtless know already – deep-down – is right, good, and beneficial to their intellectual growth.

We know that summer reading may feel like an imposition on your summer, but it’s important and we appreciate your cheerful engagement with our Summer Reading Assignment.



Online Forum

or, “Where do I post my assignments?”

Go to: <https://fan.school/spaces?spaceId=HRTbGGgXnfhYy0lcqH3S>

- **First Time Only:** Click the blue << **Join** >> button and enter code **n12zm6**
- Bookmark or save link for future access
- Registration code is for **Students Only**
- Parents are invited (and are encouraged) to use this link to read, but not post.

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Posts or, "What do I write?"

Post 1 – Takeaways from the opening chapters (15%)

Share FIVE first impressions from the opening chapters of your book. Include a picture of your book cover. Do not summarize. Your takeaways must be personal points of interaction between you and the text. See the "Sample Article" in the forum for a model post. (Posts should each be within a range of 250-500 words.)

Post 2 – Morals and lessons (15%)

Identify and explain FOUR lessons, values, or principles you think the author is trying to demonstrate about people or life in general? Explain how these are being developed throughout the story. Cite specific textual evidence (i.e. quotes) to support your claims. (250-500 words)

Post 3 – Cross-cultural connections (15%)

Pick your favorite scene from the book. Then find THREE songs, paintings, or other expressions of art that fit the mood of that scene. Identify the work/artist and include a picture or video link. Explain why/how each artistic connection point fits the scene. Cite specific textual evidence (i.e. quotes) that show why you choose each song or painting, etc. to fit the mood. (250-500 words)

Post 4 – Podcast Preview (15%)

Find and listen to a single podcast episode (7+ minutes in length) interacting with the book you're reading. Share TWO takeaways from the podcast that has (or could) influence your interpretation or enjoyment of the book. Be sure to comment on the podcast itself, indicating whether you agree (or not) with the podcast's analysis, and why. Include the link so others can read/view the podcast. (250-500 words)

Post 5 – Post-Reading Reflection (15%)

Pretend you are the protagonist of your story and you come up against the same conflict. How would you overcome the conflict? Would you do the same thing the character in the story does, or would you have done something differently? Base this answer on your own experiences and what you have available to you. Obviously, if your story is about a 40-year-old woman, things would change for you! Write about it. Non-fiction readers may adapt this prompt to better fit their book. (250-500 words)

*****Responses – Reply to FIVE to Student Articles (5% each = 25%)**

Select and read other student's articles within our summer reading forum space. For each, compose a one-paragraph "response". Responses should be **thoughtful, reflective, and respectful** while prompting further discussion using content knowledge, critical thinking skills, questioning, and relevant information of the topic. Just posting an "I agree" or "Good ideas" will not be considered adequate. Support statements with examples, experiences, or references. (Response posts should be within a range of 75-150 words.)

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Grading or, "What must I do (or not do) to pass?"

Read your book & complete your posts ON TIME

We encourage you to read and complete post over several weeks. This will prevent burnout and encourage your best work. **Summer Reading posts and responses are due the day BEFORE the first day of school.** Points will be subtracted for late posts. All posts are automatically time/date stamped.

Grading is PASS/FAIL

Each prompt/post/submission will be graded separately as P/F. Remember you are submitting High School level work and must meet that standard to be considered passing.

Grade penalties

Points will be subtracted for incomplete, missing, or substandard posts; for absurd or inconsiderate responses; and for submissions which have not been adequately proofread.

Do your own work

Be advised that our digital plagiarism-checker will be scanning all submissions automatically, so be sure the work you post is your own.



Pre-Approved Booklist or, "What books can I read?"

Laddie: A True Blue Story by Gene Stratton-Porter

The Call of the Wild by Jack London

Around the World in 80 Days by Jules Verne

A Single Shard by Linda Sue Park

Kidnapped by Robert Louis Stevenson

Esperanza Rising by Pam Muñoz Ryan

Little Women by Louisa May Alcott

Little Men by Louisa May Alcott

Jo's Boys by Louisa May Alcott

The Adventure s of Tom Sawyer by Mark Twain (Samuel Clemens)

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The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn by Mark Twain (Samuel Clemens)

The Pilgrim's Progress by John Bunyan

The Story of the Treasure Seekers by E. Nesbit

Swiss Family Robinson by Johann Wyss

Treasure Island by Robert Louis Stevenson

My Side of the Mountain by Jean Craighead George

The Hobbit by J. R. R. Tolkien

The Fellowship of the Ring by J. R. R. Tolkien

The Two Towers by J. R. R. Tolkien

The Return of the King by J. R. R. Tolkien

Where the Red Fern Grows by Wilson Rawls

The Innocence of Father Brown by G. K. Chesterton

Ivanhoe by Sir Walter Scott

David Copperfield by Charles Dickens

The Scarlet Letter by Nathaniel Hawthorne

Through Gates of Splendor by Elisabeth Elliot

Robinson Crusoe by Daniel Defoe

Pride and Prejudice by Jane Austen

Jane Eyre by Charlotte Bronte

Lorna Doone by R. D. Blackmore

The Deerslayer by James Fenimore Cooper

The Last of the Mohicans by James Fenimore Cooper

The Space Trilogy, by C.S. Lewis

The Scarlet Pimpernel, by Baroness Emmuska Orczy

Hinds' Feet on High Places, by Hannah Hurnard

Ben Hur: A Tale of Christ, by Lew Wallace

Don Quixote, by Miguel de Cervantes

The Great Divorce, by C.S. Lewis

The Martian Chronicles, by Ray Bradbury

Fahrenheit 451, by Ray Bradbury

Howard Pyle: Robin Hood

The Nine Tailors (The Lord Peter Wimsey Mysteries Book 11) Dorothy Sayers

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The Dragon and the Raven – In the Days of King Alfred and the Viking Invasion – G.A. Henty

The Cat of Bubastes – A Tale of Ancient Egypt – G.A. Henty

Abortion: A Rational Look at An Emotional Issue – R.C. Sproul

Before You Meet Prince Charming: A Guide to Radiant Purity – Sarah Mally

A Basket of Flowers – Christoph Von Schmid

Boyhood and Beyond – Bob Schultz

Sir Malcolm and the Missing Prince – Sidney Baldwin

Do Hard Things: A Teenage Rebellion Against Low Expectations – Alex & Brett Harris

Kingdom's Dawn Series – Chuck Black

Endurance: Shackleton's Incredible Voyage – Alfred Lansing

Pilgrim at Tinker Creek – Annie Dillard



Contact Info

For assistance, email Mr. Perkins anytime at rperkins@rsca.info.

Summer emails are typically answered within 48 hours.