

Dear Parents,

The English teachers at Grace Christian School are committed to continuing the reading program for our students. We believe this emphasis is important in preparation for life in general and specifically for success in high school, pre-college testing, and college itself.

Students will be reading classic literature throughout the year. These books were specifically selected to coincide with some of their other disciplines such as history, geography, and vocabulary. We will be giving the students a variety of books to choose from for their summer reading. The summer reading assignment will count as a test grade in the first quarter of the following school year. **All summer reading books must not have been read prior to the summer. Students must be sure they've acquired the original, complete versions of their chosen novels; the English department will not accept abridged or condensed versions.**

In the next week or so, the summer reading lists can be accessed at our website at www.gcswarriors.org; click on the link on the front page.

To receive an A on this assignment, the student must read 3 books chosen from the attached list. To receive a B, read 2 books. One book read will receive a C. See requirements for English 10 and Advanced English on attached lists. **AP English students need to print out the Essay Prompts for their summer reading.**

A parent and the student will need to sign the statement below and return to their English teacher by the end of the first week of school. Please contact me if you have any questions.

In His Service,

Debbie Harper

I have read in full the following book(s) this summer.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Student's Signature

Parent's Signature

Date

**Summer Reading List for Rising 9th Graders
2011-2012**

To earn a “C” read one (1) book; to earn a “B” read two (2) books; to earn an “A” read three (3) books.

Safely Home, Alcorn
Pilgrim’s Progress, Bunyan
The Last of the Mohicans, Cooper
Oliver Twist, Dickens
The Robe, Douglas (counts as 2 books)
The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes, Doyle
The Count of Monte Cristo, Dumas (counts as 2 books)
The Three Musketeers, Dumas (counts as 2 books)
The Man in the Iron Mask, Dumas
A Chance to Die, Elliot
Passion and Purity, Elliot
Rifles for Watie, Keith
Out of the Silent Planet, Lewis
Perelandra, Lewis
That Hideous Strength, Lewis
Christy, Marshall
Gone With the Wind, Mitchell (counts as 2 books)
Metamorphosis, Ovid
A Midsummer Night’s Dream, Shakespeare
Antigone, Sophocles
The Hiding Place, ten Boom
The Lord of the Rings, Tolkien (any 3 in the series)
Around the World in Eighty Days, Verne
20,000 Leagues Under the Sea, Verne
El Dorado, von Orczy

**Summer Reading List for Rising 10th graders
2011-2012**

Required reading: *The Odyssey*, by Homer* (the Fitzgerald translation), and any other 2 books on the list.

- To earn a “C” read *The Odyssey*
- To earn a “B” *The Odyssey* and one additional book
- To earn an “A” *The Odyssey* and 2 additional books.

Emma, Austen

Sense and Sensibility, Austen

George Mueller (He Dared to Trust God for the Needs of Countless Orphans), Bailey

David Copperfield, Dickens

Great Expectations, Dickens

Silas Marner, Eliot

The Iliad, Homer (must be in verse and full-length)

The Hunchback of Notre Dame, Hugo

Mere Christianity, Lewis

The Screwtape Letters, Lewis

Cyrano de Bergerac, Rostand (any full-length translation)

Ivanhoe, Scott

Julius Caesar, Shakespeare

Twelfth Night, Shakespeare

Henry V, Shakespeare

Pygmalion, Shaw

Jim Elliot, White

The Picture of Dorian Gray, Wilde

The Importance of Being Earnest, Wilde

Tortured for His Faith, Popov

*Students will need to acquire their own copy of *The Odyssey* and have it for their first quarter of English class.

Summer Reading List for Rising 11th and 12th Graders
American Literature: Regular
2011-2012

To earn a “C” read one (1) of the following books; to earn a “B” read two (2) books; to earn an “A” read three (3) books.

Darwin’s Black Box, Behe
My Antonia, Cather
Pilgrim at Tinker Creek, Dillard
Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglas, Douglas
Through Gates of Splendor, Elliott
The Great Gatsby, Fitzgerald
The Autobiography of Benjamin Franklin, Franklin
Mythology, Hamilton
The Old Man and the Sea, Hemingway
Daisy Miller, James
The Reason for God, Keller
A Separate Peace, Knowles
Into Thin Air, Krakaur
Walking on Water, L’Engle
John Adams, McCullough
Billy Budd, Melville
Moby Dick, Melville (counts as 2 books)
Through Painted Deserts, Miller
Searching for God Knows What, Miller
Cry the Beloved Country, Paton
Total Truth, Pearcey (counts as 2 books)
Uncle Tom’s Cabin, Stowe
Walden, Thoreau
The Best of Tozer, Tozer
Ben Hur, Wallace (counts as 2 books)
Up from Slavery, Washington
Leaves of Grass, Whitman (counts as 2 books)
Girl Meets God, Winner
Our Town, Wilder
Native Son, Wright

Summer Reading List for Rising 11th and 12th Graders
American Literature: AP
2011-2012

AP students are required to read and write an essay on each (essay options are attached):

- 1. *The Scarlet Letter** (Nathaniel Hawthorne) AND**
- 2. *The Crucible** (Arthur Miller)**

- To earn a “C,” read both required novels (essays graded separately)
- To earn a “B,” read both required novels and read one (1) book from the following list. (essays graded separately)
- To earn an “A,” read both required novels and read two (2) books from the following list. (essays graded separately)

Darwin’s Black Box, Behe
My Antonia, Cather
Pilgrim at Tinker Creek, Dillard
Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglas, Douglas
Peace Like a River, Enger
This Side of Paradise, Fitzgerald
The Autobiography of Ben Franklin, Ben Franklin
Mythology, Hamilton
The Old Man and the Sea, Hemmingway
Daisy Miller, James
The Reason for God, Keller
A Separate Peace, Knowles
Into Thin Air, Krakaur
John Adams, McCullough
Billy Budd, Melville
Moby Dick, Melville (counts as 2 books)
Through Painted Deserts, Miller
Searching For God Knows What, Miller
Knowing God, Packer
Total Truth, Pearcey (counts as 2 books)
Desiring God, Piper
Uncle Tom’s Cabin, Stowe
Walden, Thoreau
The Best of Tozer, Tozer
Ben Hur, Wallace (counts as 2 books)
Up from Slavery, Washington
Leaves of Grass, Whitman (counts as 2 books)
Our Town, Wilder
Girl Meets God, Winner
Native Son, Wright

*Students will need to acquire copies of *The Crucible* and *The Scarlet Letter* for class in the fall.

**AP American Literature
Summer Reading Required Essays 2011-2012**

As stated on the AP summer reading list, you are required to read *The Crucible* (Arthur Miller) and *The Scarlet Letter* (Nathaniel Hawthorne) and write an essay about each. Your essay requirements are as follows:

- **one page minimum**
- **clear thesis statement**
- **directly quoted textual evidence required**
- **grammatical proficiency**
- **due our class after the back-to-school retreat**

You may choose your essay topics from the following list:

***The Crucible* Essay Prompts:**

1. On refusing to sign a confession, John Proctor explains, “Because it is my name! Because I cannot have another in my life! Because I lie and sign myself to lies...How may I live without my name? I have given you my soul; leave me my name!” Examine Miller’s connection of one’s name to one’s honor.
2. Examine the manner in which public hysteria (losing control over reason when deeply afraid) directs the plot of *The Crucible*.
3. Arthur Miller’s play was published in 1952 while the historic McCarthy Trials continued a witch-hunt (pun intended!) for communists in America. Explore how *The Crucible* parallels the atmosphere of hyper-sensitivity and fear of McCarthyism.

***The Scarlet Letter* Essay Prompts:**

1. How does the scarlet letter “A” (hidden and otherwise) characterize the identity of the main figures of the story? What does it symbolize?
2. How do the sounds of characters’ names reflect their characters and themes in the story?
3. Key motifs in the novel are expressed in contradictions: nature vs. society, wildness vs. civilization, light vs. dark, truth vs. secrets. Choose one pair of these contradicting motifs and examine how it is portrayed in the novel.