

9th-12th Summer Reading

Please select a book *that you have not read before* from your class list below to read over the summer. This reading will form a foundation of class discussion and activity during the first week back at school. **You will also need to complete a written report, the instructions for which are found on page 3.**

If you have any questions, you can email your teacher:

9th grade - Ms. Stephanie Jensen
stephanie.jensen@hbcguam.net

11th grade - Ms. Stephanie Jensen
stephanie.jensen@hbcguam.net

10th grade – Mr. Jon Marshall
jon.marshall@hbcguam.net

12th - Ms. Kelly Nupson
kelly.nupson@hbcguam.net



List of 9th Grade Book Options

Mistborn by Brandon Sanderson *(reading level 740)

Kelsier, a rare Mistborn, is seeking the impossible – destroying the Lord Ruler who has reigned for a thousand years. Even with the best crew of allomancers, Kel’s plan seems like a long shot until he meets Vin, an orphan with a past and untapped powers.

A Wrinkle in Time by Madeleine L’Engle (reading level 740)

When Meg and Charles Wallace Murry learn that their father has been captured by the Dark Thing, they time travel to Camazotz, where they must face the leader IT in the ultimate battle between good and evil—a journey that threatens their lives and our universe.

The Odyssey by Homer (830-1260)* *reading level depends on the translation

Fresh from his triumphs in the Trojan War, Odysseus, King of Ithaca, wants nothing more than to return home to his family. Battling man-eating monsters, violent storms, and supernatural sirens and sorceresses, Odysseus will need all his strength and cunning—and a little help from Mount Olympus—to make his way home and seize his kingdom from the schemers who seek to wed his queen and take his throne.

The Phantom Tollbooth by Norton Juster (reading level 1000)

When a mysterious tollbooth appears in Milo’s room, he drives through only because he’s got nothing better to do. But on the other side, things seem different. Milo visits the island of Conclusions, learns about time from a ticking watchdog named Tock, and goes up against the dastardly Discord and Dynne. Will Milo and Tock be able to rescue the twin Princesses, Rhyme and Reason, in time?

The Princess and the Goblin by George MacDonald (reading level 1030)

Princess Irene lives a lonely life in a castle in a wild, desolate, mountainous kingdom, with only her nursemaid, Lottie, for company. Her father, the king, is normally absent, and her mother is dead. Unknown to her, the nearby mines are inhabited by a race of goblins, long banished from the kingdom and now anxious to take revenge on their human neighbors.

**We always encourage students to read books at or above their current reading level to grow their abilities!*

List of 10th Grade Book Options

***Around the World in Eighty Days* by Verne *(reading level 1090)**

Set in the 1800s, an unadventurous, dependable Mr. Fogg surprisingly accepts a bet that he can't circumnavigate the globe in 80 days. Within days, he and his new French assistant are off from London on a race against the clock.

***Silas Marner* by Elliot (reading level 1250)**

New in town, Silas Marner can't find a way to fit in. His pain from past injustices turns him to love the one thing that won't disappoint him – his growing gold stash. But when his money is stolen, Silas finds himself empty again, until a small child wanders into his house.

***The Three Musketeers* by Dumas (reading level 990)**

D'Artagnan travels to Paris, hoping to join the ranks of an elite group of fighters called the Musketeers of the Guard. As he works towards his dream, three of the most well-known musketeers, Athos, Porthos and Aramis, befriend him and introduce him to the many adventures of musketeer life.

***Pilgrim's Progress* by Bunyan (reading level 1040)**

Christian sets out from the City of Destruction, looking for someone who can remove his burden and bring him hope against the coming judgment. As he travels, he faces deceptions, griefs, and dangers that threaten his commitment to finishing the journey.

***Great Expectations* by Dickens (reading level 1150)**

Pip's life is common and boring, except for the parts where he helps an escaped convict and visits an old woman who still wears her wedding dress. But then someone mysteriously gives Pip money so that he can live the life of a gentleman. Will Pip let this new money change him?

***The Joy Luck Club* by Tan (reading level 930)**

Two generations of Chinese women – mothers who immigrated from China and daughters who have known only American – struggle to overcome differences in culture, dreams, and even language. Is there anything that can connect them?

**We always encourage students to read books at or above their current reading level to grow their abilities!*

List of 11th Grade Book Options

***The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald *(reading level 760)**

Nick Carraway, a newcomer to New York City, is fascinated by the mysterious past and opulent lifestyle of his neighbor, Jay Gatsby. As Nick becomes entangled in Gatsby's life, he learns just how much the American Dream can cost.

***Johnny Tremain* by Esther Forbes (reading level 840)**

Fourteen-year old Johnny Tremain, an apprentice silversmith with a bright future, injures his hand in a tragic accident, forcing him to look for other work. In his new job as a horse-boy, riding for the patriotic newspaper, the *Boston Observer*, and as a messenger for the Sons of Liberty, he is soon involved in the pivotal events shaping the American Revolution.

***Uncle Tom's Cabin* by Harriet Beecher Stowe (reading level 1050)**

When a Kentucky farmer is forced to sell two slaves to a plantation owner, it becomes a turning point in the lives of both slaves. For Eliza, it's one of escape—a harrowing flight north with her young son. For Uncle Tom, sent down the Mississippi River, it's a more certain fate, as he struggles to survive against the brutal exploitation of his traders.

***The Call of the Wild* by Jack London (reading level 1120)**

Buck is stolen from his home and sold as a sled dog in Alaska. To survive in this harsh climate, he must break from civilization and follow his latent, primitive instincts.

***Little Women* by Louisa May Alcott (reading level 1300)**

Follow Meg, Jo, Beth, and Amy as they learn the hard lessons of poverty, love, illness, and growing up in New England during the Civil War.

List of 12th Grade Book Options

***The Fellowship of the Ring* by J.R.R. Tolkien *(reading level 860)**

With the help of his friends, Frodo Baggins must risk everything to destroy the ring of power before the Sauron finds it and uses it to destroy all that is good in Middle-earth.

***The Count of Monte Cristo* by Alexandre Dumas (reading level 900-1100 depending on the translation)**

Edmond Dantés has it all: a successful career, a loving family, and the girl of his dreams. But when his supposed friends falsely accuse him of treason, will he be able to escape the accusations? How far will he go to get revenge?

***The Boy in the Striped Pajamas* by John Boyne (reading level 1000)**

Bruno lives in Berlin in 1942 when his father gets a promotion and his family must move to a new house far away. While exploring his new home he sees a tall fence and becomes friends with a boy on the other side. Their newfound friendship soon results in devastating consequences.

***Pride and Prejudice* by Jane Austen (reading level 1100)**

When new rich neighbors move into town, everyone hopes for wedding bells. But can Miss Bennet and Mr. Darcy overcome their pride and dissolve their prejudice in order to acknowledge their love for each other?

***The Screwtape Letters* by C.S. Lewis (reading level 1170)**

A devil named Screwtape teaches his apprentice via letter how to prepare a human soul for eternity in hell.

**We always encourage students to read books at or above their current reading level to grow their abilities!*

Book Report Instructions:

Before reading your chosen summer book, read through the questions on the next page. Choose 2 specific questions to answer in addition to your summary paragraph and general response paragraph.

While reading, keep notes that you can pull from later when writing your answers to each question.

After reading, type out your book evaluation and make sure it adheres to all format requirements specified below.

When you return to school in the fall, you will log onto your English class's page in the online program "Turn-It-In" to submit the final report. Plan to submit your paper during the first week of school.

Paragraph format:

Paragraph 1: $\frac{1}{2}$ page summary of the book

- Talk about the **main people and events** in the book but do NOT include your opinions.

Paragraphs 2-3: **Chosen response questions** (from next page)

- I should know by the topic sentence which question each paragraph is answering.
- Paragraphs that use specific examples will receive better grades than paragraphs that generalize.

Paragraph 4: **General personal opinion** of the book

- Talk about the things you like about this book and the things you dislike about it. Make sure to explain **why** you like or dislike these things.

General Paper Guidelines

- 12 pt. professional font
- Double spaced
- 1" margins
- Book Title .5" from top margin (properly *italicized*)
- Name in top right hand corner

List of Response Questions

(choose two)

Setting:

- *In what ways does the setting help develop the story and characters?*

Character:

- *How does the author develop the reality and individuality of certain characters, especially his main character?*
- *In what ways (specific thoughts, words, actions, etc.) does the author show you the development and change in his main characters?*

Theme

- *What universal truth or life lesson does the author seem to be teaching through the characters and events in the book?*

Conflict:

- *How does the author present reality and its many complications through his use of conflicts in the story?*

Audience appeal:

- *How does the author tell his story so that it **appeals to** (interests, pleases, stirs up) his audience?*

Writing Style:

- *How does the author use his writing style to communicate his values and even emotions (like humor or anger) throughout the story?*
- *In what ways does the author's writing style reflect the values and lifestyle of his time period?*

A note from the English teachers:

Reading CAN be fun, and we want you to enjoy it even as you challenge yourself! We hope you find a book you like among our suggestions. For those who want to tackle more than one book this summer, feel free to browse among the other class lists here for extra reading material 😊