



St. Theodore Guerin Catholic High School Summer Reading List 2011-2012

Summer Reading Rationale: Guerin Catholic High School desires to give students ownership of their reading. Our summer reading program is designed around the ideology that in order for one to become an established reader, each individual must be given the opportunity to select literature that he or she finds enjoyable and stimulating. Reading lengthens attention span, increases vocabulary, and encourages a more disciplined approach to learning. All of these add to a student's academic experience. But reading provides much more. It fosters a greater understanding of the human condition and aids in developing empathy for others.

Instructions: Students are required to select ONE of the following books from the list to read and complete a project from List A OR List B from Summer Reading Project List. The grade for this project will be part of the student's English grade for their first trimester of English. Students are required to select a book not previously read for Summer Reading. Each English teacher will record his/her students' Summer Reading book/projects. Students whom do not complete the project will receive a NC for their Summer Reading Project grade. The project (s) is/are due TO THE STUDENT'S KAIROS TEACHER BY FRIDAY, AUGUST 19.

The Book Thief, Markus Zusak
The Boy Who Dared, Susan Campbell Bartoletti
The Color of Water, James McBride
Come Be My Light –Private Writings of the Saint of Calcutta, Mother Teresa
Ender's Game, Orson Scott Card
Have a Little Faith, Mitch Albom
The Help, Kathryn Stockett
The Immortal Life Henrietta Lacks, Rebecca Skloot
The Kitchen God's Wife, Amy Tan
Outliers, Malcolm Gladwell
Pierced by a Sword, Bud Macfarlane, Jr.
Quiet Strength, Tony Dungy
Reading Lolita in Tehran, Azar Nafisi
Redeeming Love, Francine Rivers
The Screwtape Letters, C. S. Lewis
Set All Afire, Louis de Wohl
St. Francis Xavier, Louis de Wohl
The Stand, Stephen King
The Things They Carried, Tim O'Brien
A Thousand Splendid Suns, Khaled Hosseini
Three Weeks with My Brother, Nicholas Sparks
Training Camp, Jon Gordon
Unwind, Neal Shusterman

Parent Information: The St. Theodore Guerin Catholic High School Summer Reading program strives to present current, relevant and high interest literature to foster reading for pleasure in young adults. This is an extensive list of titles, in a variety of genres, to appeal to a wide audience. Parents may wish to review the novels through a website of the listed author. Some novels contain mature content such as war, relationships, civil rights, death, and acceptance. Parents with questions regarding the novels' content may contact English Department Chairperson, Shelley Horn, at the following address: shorn@guerincatholic.org.

Projects for Summer Reading

Students must select 3 options from List A OR 1 option from List B.

List A

Directions for Logs – (Shorter options – pick 3)

- Write about 200 words or more for every entry (this is minimum effort). In graphic options, be sure to do quality work.
- Write in **blue or black ink or type** your entry.
- Typed logs must be **double-spaced**.
- **6+1 Writing Traits must be used for each entry.**
- Directions for each log must be included on each page.
- Write a Work Cited entry for the novel you have read.

Character Reaction

I really like/dislike _____ (a character in the book) because . . .
Give several reasons supported with specific examples of what the character does or says.

Analyzing Reality

A part that seems truly possible in *your book title* is . . .
Explain why it is realistic or totally believable by providing specific examples. Include the page number(s) of the part you are discussing.

Putting Yourself in a Character's Shoes

If I were _____ (character) at this point, I would . . .
Give specific actions you would take and provide sound reasoning for those actions.

Retelling a Scene

Pick a scene and retell the events from a different character's perspective.
Identify the scene, the character and how the scene is different in your retelling.
Imagine you have entered the mind of that other character. You can write the scene as if you are that character recounting the events. You may want to use dialogue.

Character Comparison

Compare/Contrast one of the characters with someone you really know. Use specific examples about appearance, actions, personality, likes/dislikes, vocabulary, etc. Support your examples with citations from the novel (page number).

Advice Column

Describe one of the problems faced by a character and write advice for him/her. You may choose to be serious or humorous. Use the letter format common to a newspaper advice column where the person with the problem writes for advice and the adviser writes back. Often, the person seeking advice "disguises" his or her name with a descriptive name associated with the problem.

Character Sketch

Write a character sketch describing your favorite character. Tell what the character is like outside (age, gender, hair, etc.) and inside (personality). Pay more attention to the internal qualities of your character than to the external qualities. You may also draw a picture of this character if you wish. The drawing is in addition to the written sketch.

Meaningful Quotations

Quote 2-3 passages that you really connect with. Include the page number found in parentheses. Explain what makes those quotations/passages so meaningful to you.

Fortune Cookies

You are dining at a Chinese restaurant with 5 characters from the novel. On that particular night, the fortune cookies are amazingly appropriate. Tell what each fortune cookie said and why it was especially fitting to the character who received it. Don't forget to include yourself!

Which Character Is Coming to Dinner?

Invite one of the characters from your novel to dinner, explaining why you chose that character above the others. Next, write a note to your mother telling her that you have invited someone to dinner. Describe the person to her; include a few dos and don'ts for her to follow so that your guest will feel at home.

Postcard to a Character

Create a postcard for the novel following the directions below.

- The postcard is written from you to a character in the novel
- The stamp represents the setting
- The address is to a specific character in the novel
- Message includes one really important incident and 5 details
- Some specific indication of your opinion of the book is included
- Tack on a postscript (P.S.)
- The picture side has an attractive drawing with the title of the book and the author's name.

Staging a Novel

Describe the setting of your novel. Design a stage for a scene as if it were being presented as a stage play. Use a top down view (bird's eye) or the view as seen from the audience. List your cast of characters from the novel and pick current actors or actresses to play those roles. Also note if costumes will be needed for each character (describe them).

Illustrator

Make six or more cartoons or drawings that show the major events in the story. Below each, write a brief explanation of each scene.

Illustrator/Designer

Design costumes for the characters. Based on characters' physical descriptions and novel setting, design costumes the characters would wear. Below each design write a three to five sentence explanation as to why this particular costume would be most appropriate for characters in the novel.

Poet

Rearrange a passage from a "FOUND" poem. Find a particularly effective description or bit of action that is really poetry written as prose. Rewrite it. Leave out words or skip a sentence or two, but arrange it to create a poem.

Write an original poem that illustrates the theme(s) in the novel. The poem must be either seven stanzas minimum (4 line stanzas) or twenty-five lines written in a different poetic format. In addition to writing the poem, you must also submit a written explanation of how this poem uses 3 of the 6+1 Writing Traits to convey the theme(s).

Interview

Interview two characters from the novel. Prepare questions you would ask the characters. Answer the questions in the characters' point of view. .

List B

Longer Options (pick 1)

- Write about 700 words or more for your choice
- Write in **blue or black ink or type** your entry.
- Typed logs must be **double-spaced**.
- **6+1 Writing Traits must be used for each entry.**
- Directions for the log must be included on the first page.

Literary Analysis and Positive Review

In an analytical essay (at least 5 paragraphs), explain why this is the best book you've read this year. Include literary information, such as writing techniques (ideas, organization, voice, word choice, sentence fluency, conventions), plot structure, characterization, symbolism, setting, imagery, and so on. Be sure to include specific references to the novel (direct quotations) to support your ideas (citing the page numbers on which the quote is found). Explain your personal interaction with the book or the impact this book has had on you or your life. Finally, describe why you think others should read the book.

Thinking Bigger – Historical /Biblical Context of the Work

After finishing your novel, research the historical/biblical setting of the work. What is the historical/biblical significance of the book? Specifically study the author's background, the setting (time period, place), and the society in which the story occurred. In an analytical essay (at least 6 paragraphs), develop the relevance of these elements to the novel you read. Use your research and specific references (quotes) from the work to draw conclusions about the significance of novel. What was the author's purpose in writing this story? What did you personally gain from reading this book?

Casting Director

Imagine you are the casting director for a film version of the novel. Decide who would be the actors and actresses. Include photos and descriptions of the stars and explain why each is a "perfect" cast for the part. Write a proposal to convince the producer of the film of the selections.

Cartographer

Design a literary map of the author's works and life. Use references, biographical and autobiographical materials (articles, books, interviews) to create an informative and colorful map. Your sources must be documented in a Sources Used paper with entries cited using MLA documentation.

Set Designer

Construct shadow boxes illustrating two climatic scenes in the novel. Submit a written explanation (see above parameters for writing information to include) of how these shadow boxes illustrate your idea of how these scenes were portrayed in the novel.

Multimedia (below are 6 different video/multimedia projects; select one)

Video the major events in the novel. Submit a written cast list and script for the video. Explain in the video why these events were the ones chosen to video. Word count for the written component of this assignment (script and cast list) must be minimum of 700 words.

Create a short film based on the “style” of the novel. In addition to the film, submit an analysis of the film describing the style selected from the novel and explain using examples from the novel to explain how the film parallels the particular sections of the novel in which the style is replicated. The analysis submitted must be a minimum of 700 words.

Create a multimedia campaign promoting the novel to future readers. In addition to the multimedia campaign, a written proposal must be submitted that explains how/why the idea to promote the novel was selected. The proposal must also include why the types of multimedia were selected to promote the novel and a detailed explanation must be included of why this proposal will be a better venue for promoting the novel to its prospective audience. The proposal must be a minimum of 700 words.

Expand on a theme from the novel and create a short documentary film based on that theme. A typed explanation (700 word minimum) must describe which theme was selected as the basis for the documentary. The written component must also cite examples from the novel that parallel the film’s theme. The written component must also explain how this media best shows the theme of the novel and its impact on the character (s) and/or conflict within the novel.

Using iWeb, create web site for the characters or for places in the novel. The iWeb must also include a written component of this: a brief biography of each character is required. A list of the setting of the novel is to be included in the iWeb as well as a “tag” of the conflict (s) within the story.

Using Garageband, write the soundtrack to the novel. All original music must be composed. A written explanation must accompany the soundtrack. Provide rationale for each song selected on the soundtrack that parallels either a theme/conflict/situation in the novel. A title for the soundtrack is also required. An explanation of how the title of the soundtrack is to be included in the written paper. The written explanation must be a minimum of 550 words.