

Summer Reading Assignment: Grades 11 & 12
Portersville Christian School
Summer 2026

To travel far, there is no better ship than a book.

-Emily Dickinson

If you are going to get anywhere in life, you have to read a lot of books!

-Roald Dahl

Goal: It's important to be a lifelong reader. Reading helps you grow in many ways, including becoming a better writer. We want to encourage you to keep reading through the summer with books you may not have considered reading before and ones that you just can't put down.

How it works: Select at least **one book from the list on the accompanying page and one book of your choice** that does not have to be on the list to read this summer. (Note: one book either must be on the list or else approved by July 15 by your upcoming English teacher, but the second book may be any book of your own choosing.) When you have finished reading both, please select one book to use to complete the attached reading reflection. Also complete the form below. Submit both to your English teacher during the first week of school.

A Note to Parents: *Use discretion when helping your child select their summer reading. All families have different levels of comfortability when it comes to certain subject matter. Please review your child's book selections and contact your child's teacher with any questions or concerns.*

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Summer Reading Selections

Student Name: _____

Entering Grade: _____

List Selection:

Independent Choice Selection:

Parent acknowledgement: _____

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<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Austen, Jane - <i>Persuasion</i>● Brontë, Charlotte - <i>Jane Eyre</i>● Cather, Willa - <i>My Ántonia</i>● Conrad, Joseph - <i>Heart of Darkness</i>● Dostoevsky, Fyodor - <i>Crime and Punishment</i>● Eliot, George - <i>Silas Marner</i>● Faulkner, William - <i>As I Lay Dying</i>● Hawthorne, Nathaniel - <i>The House of Seven Gables</i>● Hemingway, Ernest - <i>For Whom the Bell Tolls</i>● Steinbeck, John - <i>The Grapes of Wrath</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Asimov, Isaac - <i>I, Robot</i>● Bradbury, Ray - <i>The Martian Chronicles</i>● Camus, Albert - <i>The Plague</i>● Dumas, Alexander - <i>The Three Musketeers</i>● Gaskell, Elizabeth - <i>North and South</i>● Kingston, Maxine Hong - <i>Woman Warrior</i>● Huxley, Aldous - <i>Brave New World</i>● Orwell, George - <i>1984</i>● Remarque, Erich - <i>All Quiet on the Western Front</i>● Solzhenitsyn, Aleksander - <i>One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich</i>
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Directions: Respond to each of the first two questions thoughtfully and with complete sentences. In order to receive full credit, you only need to answer these two questions. Please write a minimum of one paragraph for each response (5-7 sentences). The third question is intended to deepen your thinking about the book. While you are not required to answer in order to receive full credit, doing so will help you to see the value in reading and thinking about what you are reading. Responses should be typed and be printed out by the first day of school. Be sure to include your name, the title of the book, and the author's name on each response.

1. Did you enjoy the book? What worked or what didn't work in your opinion? Would you recommend the book to someone else? Why or why not? Explain your reasoning.
2. Identify and describe two main themes (lessons/messages) found in this book.
3. (Bonus Question) Discuss how this book positively or negatively expresses virtuous ways of living based on a biblical model of good character. Can you make any connections between the Bible and the themes, content, or action of this book? If so, where? Be specific.

The answers you provide are designed to show thoughtful engagement with the book on your part. You will not be graded on correctness, but on how well you show that you have read and thought about the text. Any plagiarism or use of AI technology to complete this assignment will result in a 0.