



English II Required Summer Reading



9th Grade going into 10th Grade

Research shows that students who read, score better on verbal tests and write more effectively. Since this is one of our academic goals at ACA, we are requiring all Secondary Students to read two books during the summer. One book has already been selected by your teacher and you are to select an additional book from the list below.

All English II students are required to read *The Lord of the Flies* (William Golding). There will be a quiz on the second day of school. This is the book that we will be analyzing during the first grading period; in order to complete this unit successfully, students must have read this book prior to the start of school. Review characters' names, plot, conflicts, setting, author's purpose, and themes prior to testing. Be sure to take study notes as you read! However, notes will not be used on tests! Students are also required to complete a Paper Bag Project (see below).

You must have a copy of the required book for the first 3 weeks of class.

For the second book, students are required to choose a book from the list below and complete the attached Major Works Data Sheet. The assignment for the second book is due on the first day of school.

Required Book:

***The Lord of the Flies* (William Golding)**

William Golding's exciting and terrifying story has been a favorite of high school and college students since it was published in 1954. A plane crashes on a tropical island in the Pacific, stranding a group of six-twelve-year-old boys from a private school. The boys initially react to their plight by forming a cooperative society that enables everyone to share the bare essentials necessary to survive. However, the boys' society quickly degenerates into a nightmarish power struggle brought on by their darkest fears and impulses.

Paper Bag Project for *The Lord of the Flies* (due second day of school)

Complete a paper bag project that displays your understanding of the novel you read over the summer. The OUTSIDE of your bag must contain:

- Your name and period
- Your book's title and author
- A picture that shows us what the novel is about (you can be creative with this)

The INSIDE of your bag must contain:

- Something that symbolizes the main character (protagonist)
- Something that tells us about the setting
- Something that symbolizes the message
- One page of writing (does not need to be typed, but must be legible) that explains your objects. Write in complete sentences and edit your writing.

2nd Book - Choose one of the following and complete a Data Worksheet to be turned in on the first day of school:

***The Hound of the Baskervilles* (Arthur Conan Doyle)**

A mysterious death in a dark, desolate moor prompts an urgent visit to the famous detective Sherlock Holmes. This fast-paced mystery novel begins as the doctor of the deceased man explains the suspicious circumstances of the death to Holmes and his assistant Watson. An ancient curse surrounds the dead man's family – the Baskervilles. Centuries before, an ancestor had met a violent death at the jaws of a large hellhound. Unlike that grisly death, this time there were no apparent signs of violent struggle surrounding the victim – just a frozen look of horror on his face and the footprints of a gigantic hound.

Holmes sends Watson to wander the marshy grounds of Baskerville estate and pore over the evidence. Will Watson and Holmes find the culprit before the next Baskerville heir meets his own untimely death?

Notes from the Underground (Fyodor Dostoyevsky)

"I'm a sick an... a mean man." The opening lines of this book's title story take you deep into the mind of a man who sees the world as a dark, unforgiving place. The unlikely narrator lives life like a refugee from the outside world. He avoids communication with co-workers and his interactions with old school friends are awkward and loaded with suspicion. Notes from Underground is a record of the narrator's philosophy and thoughts as he lives his underground, self-contradictory, arrogant, self-pitying, and spiteful, the narrator provides a revealing look at the inner psychology.

The Legend of Sleepy Hollow and Other Stories (Washington Irving)

Washington Irving, creator of such well-known characters as Ichabod Crane and Rip Van Winkle, put America on the literary map. With his colorful short stories, Irving invented a literary genre and introduced American customs and attitudes to Old World readers. The title story of this collection tells the tale of a high-strung Connecticut schoolteacher Ichabod Crane. Crane settled in a quiet New York village and starts teaching classes. He soon discovers the town is not as sleepy as it seems. Late at night, a headless horseman – a ghost from the Revolutionary – is said to haunt the dense, dark forests surrounding the village. When Crane disappears without a trace one gloomy night, the astonished villagers do not know whether to blame a jealous rival – or the headless horseman.

Jane Eyre (Charlotte Bronte)

When *Jane Eyre* was published in 1844, the actions of the heroine shocked many critics, but the book was embraced by much of the English public. An orphan who refuses to be bound by her low social class, Jane Eyre defies all who try to mistreat her. She fights back when the siblings in her adoptive family torment her and continue to resist when she is banished to a dismal boarding school called Lowood. The arbitrary rules, tyrannical teachers, and harsh conditions of Lowood sap the spirit of most girls there, but not Jane's. Eventually, she leaves Lowood to become a governess in the home of the mysterious Mr. Rochester. When the two develop an unexpected attraction and Rochester reveals a shocking secret, Jane must find strength to demand mutual sacrifice before the two can unite.

Silas Marner (George Eliot)

George Eliot combines elements of social realism and fairy tale in this story of monetary loss and spiritual gain. The hero of Eliot's story is an extremely nearsighted linen weaver in nineteenth century England. Silas Marner is unjustly accused of a theft that was actually committed by his best friend. Choosing exile over a life amongst his accusers, Marner remains a recluse in a small country cillage for fifteen years. There, he hoards the gold he earns from his trade. When circumstances deprive him of that as well, Marner must end his long reclusiveness. Having lost everything he once held dear, he finds that all of his chances for redemption hinge on a little orphan girl with golden hair.

Visit www.aucilla.org for a complete listing of the summer Reading lists and assignments.

Acquiring the books:

- Books may be borrowed from a public or private library.
- Books may be purchased at bookstores such as Borders and Books-a-Million.
- Books may be purchased online (shipping will take several weeks, so please plan accordingly). Try amazon.com; barnesandnoble.com; ecampus.com.
- Some books may be out of copyright and available FOR FREE in electronic format (e-readers, .pdf, .txt)