



English III Required Summer Reading

10th Grade going into 11th 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 III students are required to read *The Four Voyages (Christopher Columbus, edited and translated by J.M. Cohen)*. 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 Four Voyages (Christopher Columbus, edited and translated by J.M. Cohen)

Imagine standing beside Christopher Columbus when, after a long and risky voyage across the Atlantic, he first arrived at the island San Salvador. Readers can have this and other equally exciting experiences as the "travel" through *The Four Voyages*. This volume combines material from the Columbus's own logbook and letters with contemporary biographies of him and letters from others who participated in his expeditions.

Paper Bag Project for *The Four Voyages* (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 Interesting Narrative and Other Writings (Olaudah Equiano)

In the mid-eighteenth century, the young West African Olaudah Equiano was sold into slavery and shipped to the West Indies. There, his intelligence and curiosity enabled him to benefit from his travels with his master and from the education he received. After gaining his freedom, he traveled to England and joined the abolitionists who helped him publish his autobiography, *The Interesting Narrative of Olaudah Equiano*. This book and his other writings are not only a compelling argument against slavery, but also the "interesting" record of a compassionate and gifted man.

American Colonies: The Settling of North America (Alan Taylor)

The settling of the American colonies was not a simple, straightforward story but an interweaving of many narratives. Pulitzer Prize-winning author Alan Taylor does justice to this multifaceted history by explaining the roles that different peoples played in this process: enslaved Africans, Native American tribes, and European colonizers from England, the Netherlands, Spain, Russia, and France. In addition, Taylor expands his focus to include regions of the continent beyond the Eastern seaboard as well as ecological factors influencing colonial settlement.

Rights of Man (Thomas Paine)

Thomas Paine was one of the most eloquent and widely read political authors of all time. His pamphlet "Common Sense" helped inspire the Declaration of Independence, and first the first installment of his Crisis papers encouraged George Washington's army when it was enduring a difficult winter at Valley Forge. After the American Revolution, Paine traveled to Europe and wrote Rights of Man, his defense of the French Revolution. In it, he argues against monarchy and for a republican form of government. He also sets forth ideas for curing society's ills, including a progressive income tax, popular education, and pensions. This book so infuriated the British government that it was banned. Today's readers, however, will marvel at Paine's prophetic insights.

The Chronicles of the Narvaez Expedition (Alva Nunez Cabeza de Vaca, translated by Fanny Bandelier)

In the early sixteenth century, Spain sent the Narvaez expedition to the southern United States to claim vast territories for the Spanish empire. Cabeza de Vaca, who went on this journey, describes the fascinating but sad fate of this expedition. After being shipwrecked, members of the expedition traveled by foot all the way from Florida to California. Their numbers diminished until, by the end of the 9-year ordeal, only Cabeza de Vaca and three others remained.

The Autobiography and Other Writings (Benjamin Franklin)

Benjamin Franklin is one of America's best-loved Founding Fathers. He was a member of the Second Continental Congress and served on the committee that drafted the Declaration of Independence. Besides helping to establish the nation itself, he created many institutions – for example, a hospital, an academy, and a fire company – that were often the first ones of their type in the New World. In his Autobiography, Franklin reveals the qualities that enable him to achieve success as a publisher, scientist, writer, politician, and diplomat.

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)