

Name _____

Date _____

Holy Spirit School Summer Reading List Incoming 8th Grade

Please choose one of the two following fictional novels and then complete the attached summer reading assignment in complete sentences. You may type this or use additional paper if needed. Remember, this work is to be done individually. Enjoy reading!

Fictional Novels

Animal Farm..... George Orwell
The Call of the Wild..... Jack London
I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings.....Maya Angelou
The Pearl..... John Steinbeck

Next, you must either choose one of the following historical fiction, nonfiction or biographies listed below. *Upon your return to school, you will be required to give an oral presentation on the novel you chose. DO NOT complete the attached book report for this portion. The rubric for the oral presentation is attached.*

Non Fiction and Biography

Albom, Mitch. *Tuesdays with Morrie*

- A touching story of the lessons a sports writer learns about life and death from a favorite professor who is facing death.

Bartoletti, Susan Campbell. *Hitler Youth, Growing Up in Hitler's Shadow*

- By the time Hitler became Chancellor of Germany in 1933, 3.5 million children belonged to the Hitler Youth. It would become the largest youth group in history. Susan Campbell Bartoletti explores how Hitler gained the loyalty, trust, and passion of so many of Germany's young people. Her research includes telling interviews with surviving Hitler Youth members.

Giblin, James. *Good Brother, Bad Brother – A story of Edwin and John Wilkes Booth*

- Edwin Booth and his younger brother John Wilkes Booth were, in many ways, two of a kind. They were among America's finest actors, having inherited their father's commanding stage presence along with his penchant for alcohol and impulsive behavior. In other respects, the two brothers were very different. Edwin was more introspective, while John was known for his passionate intensity. They stood at opposite poles politically, as well: Edwin voted for Abraham Lincoln; John was an ardent advocate of the Confederacy.

Caputo. *10,000 Days of Thunder*

- It was the war that lasted ten thousand days. The war that inspired scores of songs. The war that sparked dozens of riots. And in this stirring chronicle, Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Philip Caputo writes about our country's most controversial war -- the Vietnam War -- for young readers.

Historical Fiction

Yolen, Jane. *The Devil's Arithmetic*

- A story of a Jewish girl who is transported to her family's set during the Holocaust.

Park, Linda Sue. *When My Name was Keoko*

- The arrival of World War II to Korea changes the lives of Sun-hee and her older brother, Tae-yul, forever when Tae-yul joins the Japanese army in an attempt to protect their beloved Uncle, who is suspected of helping the Korean resistance, while Sun-hee stays behind guarding the secrets of their family, in a powerful novel that captures an important, yet little-known, part of history.

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Incoming 8th Grade Summer Reading Assignment

1. **TITLE** - (underlined if handwritten/italicized if typed): _____

2. **AUTHOR:** _____ **GENRE:** _____

3. **PLOT**- First think of the problem, then summarize the plot of the story using the following plot elements:

Exposition (background information- introduces the characters who are involved in the major problem)

Rising Action/Conflict (describes the events involving the characters listed above that lead to the problem and the problem in general)

Climax (this is the point where the problem is solved through action, through knowledge etc.; the answer...)

Falling Action/ Resolution (the events that occur after the main problem is solved; how it ends)

4. **CHARACTERIZATION** – Create a chart for one character. Include the internal and external traits in a T-chart as we do in class, or list them in bullets.

5. **SETTING/MOOD**- Describe the setting in two ways. First describe the physical setting (where, when, what time etc.) and then describe the overall feeling or mood of the setting for the book.

Physical setting:

Overall feeling (mood) gathered from the setting:

6. **THEME** Describe one or more of the themes using details from the story to support your decision.

7. **REACTION** – Describe what you enjoyed about the book and what you may not have liked. Explain!

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Oral Presentation Rubric
Historical Fiction, Non Fiction, or Biography

Students will be required to give a 3-4 minute presentation where they must discuss the following aspects:

1. Describe the main character in as much detail as you can
2. Discuss the main conflict/problem the character faces – only discuss background information if it is needed to clarify the problem
3. How is the conflict resolved?
4. Provide a personal reaction (thoughts, feelings, how you can relate, inferences etc.)

You will be graded on your completion of the requirements above as well as the following aspects of public speaking:

1. **Preparation** – knowing your topic/following the requirements
2. **Effective visual aids** – neat, easy to read and see, just the pointers, pictures are welcome (this may be a power point, word doc or poster)
3. **Word choice** – NO FILLERS um, uh, ok, you know, so, well, like / repetitive words
4. **Eye contact** – focus on foreheads, a friend etc. – DO NOT READ OFF YOUR AID
5. **Sounds** – clear and audible voice, no distracting sounds
6. **Posture** – no rocking and rolling and swaying
7. **Proper time** (3 - 4 minutes)