

The ability to read is a fundamental life skill. Reading can also be one of the most rewarding and pleasurable activities in which we engage. With guidance from the Learning Commons and our English/Language Arts departments, MCA has set a goal to encourage students to appreciate and enjoy quality literature and reading. As such, during the summer, students are given one book at each grade level that all are required to read and review. Please see below for your specific assignment. Happy reading!

- I. Welcome to English 8! Throughout the course of the year we will be doing the following: beginning the year with work on how to write a solid paragraph, moving then into J.R.R. Tolkien's *The Hobbit* wherein we focus on the analysis of things such as: characterization, plot, setting and point of view. Following *The Hobbit*, we move into a small short story unit after which we enter into reading the play version of *The Diary of Anne Frank*. Moving well into the second semester by this point in time we begin reading Christopher Paul Curtis' *Bud, Not Buddy*, and we end the year by reading Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night*. We do move through the year at a fairly quick pace, and we are constantly focusing on improving our writing, grammar and vocabulary skills along the way. Should you ever need to contact me, the best place to reach me at during the school year is either by my email at jordon.harrison@mcamustangs.org or through Schoology.
- II. This summer you will be reading a *novel of your choice* with, however, a few requirements as to which type of book you can read. Firstly, you must choose a book of at least 175 pages minimum. This book must be one that you *have not read before* and it must be *age appropriate* (meaning something like *A Diary of a Wimpy Kid* or something at a similar level will not suffice - it should be a book that you can handle reading, yet be one that also challenges your reading level a bit at the same time). If you do not know how to tell what age-level a book may be at, amazon.com has a "Grade Level" section underneath most books' "Product details" section where you can find this information.
 - a. **note: choosing a book that is not age appropriate will result in the loss of 20% of the assignment value.*
- III. As you read, please complete the "One-Pager" assignment that you'll find on the next page.
- IV. This assignment will be collected on the 2nd day of class when you return back to school from summer break.

If you would like to read more than your required summer reading, additional titles/reading lists are available on MCA's website.

Summer Reading Project

“One-Pager”

Directions:

- You will be doing a “One-Pager” for your Summer Reading Project that focuses on six different aspects to your novel (details below).
 - Done either physically or digitally (I’ll hand collect when back + on Schoology).
- The goal of this project is to get you to think about your book on a deeper level.
- You will be analyzing your story through a mixture of both writing and art.
 - Don’t worry if being creative is difficult for you, just give it your best effort! - I can tell when you either try or don’t.
- Lastly, you can choose the book that you’d like to read, but it needs to be 200+ pages and at your reading level (failure to follow these guidelines will result in a loss of points).
 - If you need book recommendations on what to read, or have questions about if your book meets the requirements, message me on Schoology before break.

Project Details (you **must** include all six):

1. Include a sketch *and* a sentence that represents/explains the text’s main *theme*.
2. Include a sketch *and* a sentence that represents/explains the text’s *setting(s)*.
3. Include a sketch *and* two quotes from the book that represents/explains what the main character(s) looks/acts like.
4. Include a statement about one thing that you connected with in the reading.
5. Include a sketch of your favorite scene *and* a sentence that explains the significance of that scene.
6. Imagine that you get to meet your main character(s) in real life. Do they have a different worldview than you do (Muslim, Jew, Atheist, etc.)? If so, write out a Bible verse *and* an explanation for how you could share your Christian faith with them. If they have a similar worldview to you (Christian), however, write out a Bible verse *and* an explanation for how you could strengthen/encourage them on their journey.

Examples:

