

**☀☀ Summer Required Reading List 6th – 12th Grade ☀☀**

2015-16 nh

In the interest of maintaining high-level reading and intellectual stimulation over the summer months, Heritage School requires that all upper level students accomplish the following reading requirements. You should **start** your summer required reading **no later than JULY** [in time to finish but still late enough remember something for the test we'll give you during the first few days of school]. In addition to the testing, students will participate in class discussions and composition based on the summer reading. **You should purchase your novels (unabridged version only) through amazon.com, Barnes & Noble, or Half-Price bookstores** or check out from the library. For "free choice" books, please choose high quality **books but avoid choosing books that other levels will cover during the year.**

6th grade: **Adam of the Road** by Elizabeth Janet Gray
PLUS: Choose a book of your own! [You will write a book report on it the first week.]
 Need help? Browse the Heritage library!

7th grade: **Treasure Island** by Robert Louis Stevenson **PLUS: Choose a book of your own!**

8th grade: **The Story of My Life** by Helen Keller [The letters in this volume are **not** required reading.]
The Adventures of Tom Sawyer by Mark Twain

9th grade: **The Robe** by Lloyd C. Douglas

10th grade: **Ben-Hur** by Lew Wallace
Silas Marner by George Eliot

11th grade: **To Kill a Mockingbird** by Harper Lee
The Old Man and the Sea by Ernest Hemingway + **1 Selected novel/play***

* You selected the novel/play prior to leaving school for the summer and obtained approval from NHierholzer. Your fall research paper will be based on this novel;

★DO NOT read any outside commentaries/summaries prior to returning to school.

DO highlight and **annotate** or **keep a reading journal with notes/questions/observations about themes, characters.** **Do not use a Kindle type book for this; you will turn in your novel/play and/or your reading journal to Mrs. Hierholzer.**

12th grade: **For English: 1984** by George Orwell (**Highlight, tab, or keep reading journal**) AND
Lord of the Flies by William Golding (**Highlight, tab, or keep reading journal**)
For Rhetoric/Apol. The Screwtape Letters by C.S. Lewis

A word about Spark Notes and Internet summaries...

"Study notes" are available at most bookstores and on the internet. The intent of the producers of such notes is to provide notes for the student so that he/she can glean maximum benefit from the novel. Such booklets typically provide character lists, plot summaries by chapters, and analysis of the chapters and the overall novel/play. On the surface, these booklets might sound like helpful tools. They are usually produced by graduate students or professors and can be quite good. However, the usual practice for most students is to utilize the notes **INSTEAD** of reading the novel or play or to rely too heavily on the notes for interpretation of literature which Heritage School teaches the student to do on his/her own. **We ask parents to encourage the students to avoid using these notes and to rely on the great brains that God gave them!**

The position of Heritage School is:

➤ **The use of such study notes is strongly discouraged.** Since our goal is to provide the student with the tools for learning, we teach students "how to read a book." We strive not only to assist the student in achieving maximum comprehension of plot and important details but also to teach students how to **observe, think, and analyze a text on his/her own.** Use of novel guides/commentaries encourages a tendency toward dependence on the single interpretation of others rather than developing the ability to derive conclusions on his/her own. In addition, the student will shortchange himself/herself and miss the pleasure of reading excellent literature. Finally, research shows that reading high quality writing is the most effective tool for improving writing and writing style. Clearly, use of a plot summary cannot achieve the goal of experiencing good writing firsthand. **The use of internet commentaries/study notes is not allowed on OPEN BOOK tests.**

8th GRADE STUDENTS will be required to submit most major written work typed. Please access this link, choose a program, and plan to **learn to type at least 30 words a minute by fall.** <http://typing-software-review.toptenreviews.com/>