



BISHOP NOLL INSTITUTE

Learning Today, Leading Tomorrow

Established 1921

Dear Parents and Guardians:

This summer, we are requiring students to participate in our summer reading program by reading the book assigned to the appropriate grade level list. The purpose of Bishop Noll's summer reading program is to improve students' ability to read and comprehend complex texts independently and proficiently.

All incoming and returning students must complete the book before the first day of school and participate in assessment activities and other assignments based on the reading when the school year begins. Students who planned to transfer to another school but return to Bishop Noll are not exempt from summer reading. No extra time will be given to these students; if they choose not to complete the reading prior to the beginning of the school year, they run the risk of failing the assignment.

On Monday, August 20, all students will take an assessment on the book. This year, there will be **no additional summer homework**. Instead, students will choose a project to complete during the first few days of school. Although there is no summer homework, students will still be tested on their analysis of the book and are encouraged to make note of important literary elements and analyze their importance. See the attached reading journal sample at the end of this letter to use as an example.

Books may be borrowed from the public library or purchased at Amazon.com, Half Price Books (www.hpb.com), or at local bookstores. Digital books are encouraged and may be purchased through the iBooks store or Kindle.

Please encourage your child to read not only their assigned book during summer vacation, but other works of nonfiction and novels as well. Research shows that students who keep their minds active during the summer often perform better when the school year begins. Please encourage your child to thoughtfully complete their summer reading, which will help them transition into the 2018-2019 school year with confidence.

Please let us know if you have any questions regarding summer reading.

Many thanks,

The Bishop Noll English Department



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Summer Reading Book Assignments

Freshmen

Monster by Walter Dean Myers

(Be able to identify and analyze the following: *characterization, conflict, theme, tone, flashback, imagery, plot, setting, suspense, symbolism, point of view, dramatic form, staging, drama, diction*)

Sophomores

The Martian Chronicles by Ray Bradbury (Publisher: Simon & Schuster; **Reprint edition April 17, 2012; ISBN-10:** 1451678193 **ISBN-13:** 978-1451678192)

(Be able to identify and analyze the following: *writer's style, tone, setting, foreshadowing, sensory details, figurative language, 3rd person omniscient narration, allusions, theme of the American Dream, theme of isolation, theme of freedom, man v. nature*)

Juniors

A Good Man Is Hard to Find and Other Stories by Flannery O'Connor (**ISBN-10:** 0156364654 or **ISBN-13:** 978-0156364652)

(Be able to identify and analyze the following: *point of view, plot, characters/characterization, conflict, Southern gothic elements, grotesque elements and "freaks", allusions, mood, foreshadowing, irony, humor, imagery, foil, symbolism, allegory, themes of good vs. evil, Christianity/Christian Realism, family, religion and morality, grace vs. material satisfaction, violence and redemption, racism, alienation*)

Seniors

The Kite Runner by Khaled Hosseini

(Be able to identify and analyze the following: *writer's style, first person narrator, characters/characterization, protagonist, antagonist, foil, antihero, flat/static vs. round/dynamic characters, tone, plot, setting, historical/religious context of the story, conflict, climax, foreshadowing, flashbacks, irony, symbolism, motif, figurative language, imagery, hyperbole, allusions, themes of redemption, friendship, prejudice (social class, gender, religion)*)

SAMPLE: Reading Journal (NOT REQUIRED)

In the left hand column, the student can write:

-- **Direct quotes:** (Quotes longer than a sentence may contain the first few words of the quote, an ellipsis, and then the last few words of the quote.) Direct quotes will be followed by chapter number and, if applicable, page number (some electronic versions of the text may not have page numbers). The goal is that the student should be able to quickly find the quote in the original text if asked.

-- **Paraphrased sections:** Large sections of the text which need to be discussed. Identify where, chapter number and page number, the summary is occurring. The goal is that the student should be able to quickly find the section in the original text if asked.

In the right hand column, the student can write the analysis of selected quotes or paraphrases. A good analysis should answer the question, "Why is this quotation important to the book as a whole?".

Remember, this is NOT a "Reader Response" journal. A few examples of responses could examine plot, character analysis, conflict, symbolism.

- Figurative language
- Imagery
- Diction
- Allusion
- Symbolism
- Irony
- Satire
- Point of View
- Tone



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