

English Summer 2018 Work

Summer Reading and Writing for Incoming Grade 11-12 Honors Students

Dear Grades 11-12 Honors students and families,

The Modern English School Secondary English Department wishes you all a relaxing and fun summer break. In an effort to provide you with a summer reading assignment that is both interesting and enjoyable, we have included a list of book titles that appeal to a wide range of interests.

You are to read **two** of the books on the Summer 2017 Reading Lists this summer. As students in an Honors course, much will be expected from you including, but not limited to, integrity, dedication, and diligence. With that in mind, please choose at least one novel of considerable length to read and analyze. If you are unable to find the titles on the list, you must email Mrs. Hawthorne and request permission to read alternative titles. The alternative titles have to be approved by Mrs. Hawthorne via email (ahawthorne@mescairo.com).

These fantastic books are available for you to purchase at the following bookstores: Diwan, Alef, Omega in Heliopolis, or Omega in Heliopolis Sporting Club bookstores. If necessary, contact Essam Saad at 01222119233 for more information about availability at The Omega Bookstores. They are also available for you to purchase as an eBook.

For the book you read this summer, you are to process it in a written Dialectical Journal that will be useful to you when you return in September. The Dialectical Journal Template with examples is attached here. You will turn in your Dialectical Journal on the very first day you return to school for your first homework grade. Your Dialectical Journal may be handwritten or typed. If you choose to type it, you **MUST** print it and turn in the hard copy on the first day of school. A digital file will not be accepted. Late work will not be accepted.

In addition to the written Dialectical Journal that you will be turning in for a grade, we will be using your texts to complete activities and assessments throughout the first two and a half weeks of school. We will complete an in-class essay, create projects, present orally and engage in many other activities. Therefore, it is imperative that you read your book closely and carefully. Make sure that your Dialectical Journals are as thorough and as detailed as possible so that they will assist you in these endeavors.

Have a great summer, and enjoy this opportunity to read wonderful books! We look forward to discussing your books with you in September.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Hawthorne

Head of the English Department for the American Section

****Summary of important information:**

- 1) Read two books closely.
- 2) Process each book in a written way.
- 3) You will be turning in your written processing tools the very first day you return to school in September for your first homework grade.
- 4) The first two and a half weeks of school will be devoted to working with these books in a variety of ways for a variety of grades.

Summer 2018 Grades 11-12 Honors Reading List

Some of the synopses below are provided courtesy of Amazon.com and Barnes & Noble.com

Science Fiction/Fantasy

Anderson, M. T. Feed. M. T. Anderson creates a futuristic setting in which technology has taken over; people's brains are outfitted with "feeds" that continually interact with each person according to whatever sensory data is available. At the center of the novel is a teenage romance between Titus and Violet, but as Violet's feed slowly malfunctions, so does their relationship. In a style reminiscent of *A Clockwork Orange*, Anderson immerses the reader in his imaginatively raw lingo of the future while reminding us that human beings still need love and acceptance, no matter what the time period.

2002 Finalist National Book Award for Young People's Literature, 2003 Winner Boston Globe-Horn Book Award for Fiction, 2003 Golden Duck Awards Hal Clement Award for Young Adults

Bradley, Marion Zimmer. Mists of Avalon. In this bold retelling of the King Arthur legend, Bradley reimagines Arthur's life through the eyes of the female characters. Behind the scenes, the important women in the Arthurian saga struggle to inflict their own vision on the mythical king. This engrossing story highlights loyalty and betrayal with the backdrop of the struggle between a pagan and Christian world. 1984 Locus Award for Best Fantasy Novel

Ishiguro, Kazuo. Never Let Me Go. Set in England in the near future, the story details the lives of students at Hailsham, a private school that constantly reminds the students of how special they are. As the children mature, it becomes increasingly clear that their futures will not follow the path of the average human being. At times heartbreaking and terrifying, *Never Let Me Go* explores cutting-edge scientific theory against the backdrop of adolescent angst about identity and relationships with the opposite sex. 2005 Arthur C. Clarke Award, 2005 Time Magazine Best Novel, Short-listed for the Booker Award (UK)

Adventure

Barry, Max. Jennifer Government. In the futuristic world of Jennifer Government where globalization and marketing rule the day, John Nike is plotting the "greatest business coup in history." It is Jennifer Government's job to stop him. Corporate greed and consumerism drive this fast-paced thriller. Readers are mesmerized by Barry's convincing dialogue which, at times, contains strong language.

Campbell Award for Science Fiction Finalist

McCarthy, Cormac. The Road. In this stirring tale of hope and survival, a father and son travel across post-apocalyptic America in their search for safety and comfort. Along the way, the duo encounters harrowing barbarism and cruelty, yet they maintain their strong bond of love to keep them moving on their journey. 2007 Pulitzer Prize, 2007 Quill Award, Finalist National Book Critics Circle Award

Classics

Wharton, Edith. Ethan Frome. One of Edith Wharton's few works of fiction that takes place outside of an urban, upper-class setting, *Ethan Frome* draws upon the bleak, barren landscape of rural New England. A poor farmer, Ethan finds himself stuck in a miserable marriage to Zeenie, a sickly, tyrannical woman, until he falls in love with her visiting cousin, the vivacious Mattie Silver. As Mattie is forced to leave his household, Frome steals one last afternoon with her—one that culminates in a ruinous sled ride with unspeakably tragic results. Unhappily married herself, Edith Wharton projected her dark views of love onto people far removed from her social class in *Ethan Frome*. Her sensitivity to natural beauty and human psychology, however, make this slim novel a convincing and compelling portrait of rural life. A powerful tale of passion and loss—and the wretched consequences thereof—*Ethan Frome* is one of American literature's great tragic love stories.

- Kent P. Ljungquist for Barnes & Noble Classics

Johnson, James Weldon. The Autobiography of an Ex-Colored Man. James Weldon Johnson's *The Autobiography of an Ex-Colored Man* takes place in post Reconstruction era America and follows the story of a young biracial male. Johnson poses a complex dilemma: because the "Ex-Colored Man," which is the only name by which the protagonist is referred, represents what, at the time was, a social contradiction of race and culture, he is forced to choose which aspect of his heritage to publicly express. His options are to embrace his black heritage and culture, or to pass as a white man cloaked in middle-class, mediocre obscurity. Johnson's novel explores racial tensions in late nineteenth and early twentieth century culture through this poignant coming of age story.

-Amazon.com

DIALECTICAL JOURNAL

Summer Work 2018

DIRECTIONS: For your chosen Summer Reading Novel, you must complete at least 6 entries like the one shown below. Be sure to include the exact quotation with page number from which it was drawn. Then, analyze the quote by including the following: context, analysis, interpretation, synthesis, and application. First, include each piece in a bulleted list, then write a cohesive paragraph that includes all 5 elements of a strong response.

<p style="text-align: center;">Text excerpt (literature or facts/info for non-fiction)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Response (context, examination, interpretation, synthesis or application)</p>
<p>“Zeus answered, ‘Do you not know Prometheus, that every gift brings a <u>penalty</u>? This is the way the Fates weave <u>destiny</u> – by which gods also must abide. Man does not have fire, true, nor the crafts which fire teaches. On the other hand, he does <u>not know disease, warfare, old age, or that inward pest called worry</u>. He is <u>happy</u>, I say, happy without fire’ “ (58).</p> <p>EXAMPLE OF AN ELLIPSES TO AVOID COPYING A LONG PASSAGE</p> <p>“Prometheus was a young Titan, no great admirer of Zeus. Although he knew the great lord...hated questions...when there was something he wanted to know” (57)</p>	<p>Context: who is speaking, where is this in the text?</p> <p>Examine: examination of specific word choice, sentence structure, punctuation, imagery, figurative language.</p> <p>Interpretation: what does this all mean or imply or suggest?</p> <p>Synthesis: put this all together and draw a conclusion. Reflect on the message of the passage or text as a whole; consider the theme.</p> <p>Application: how can I connect or apply this passage and its meaning to other works or other knowledge?</p> <p>Zeus is responding to Prometheus’ challenge to him to give fire to mankind. (context) Zeus emphasizes the negative impacts of fire with language like, <i>penalty, disease, warfare, worry</i>. On the other hand, he connects being “happy without fire.”(examination) Zeus states that denying fire and the problems it brings from man will keep him ignorant and happy.(interpretation) This passage represents the age-old conflict between innocence /ignorance and experience/knowledge.(synthesis) As Zeus states: “Every gift brings a penalty.” The more knowledge we gain, the more complicated our lives become.(application)</p>

<p>Text excerpt (literature) (facts/info for non-fiction)</p>	<p>Response (context, examination, interpretation, synthesis or application)</p>

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