

Denton Calvary Academy Summer Reading Program, Grade 11

Dear Calvary Students and Parents,

At Denton Calvary Academy, summer reading is a valuable extension of our academic program, encouraging students to keep thinking, questioning, and learning even while they are away from school. In preparation for the next school year, all secondary students will read at least one book during the summer break. Our summer reading program exists to meet two key goals.

First, we wish to help students prepare for the challenges of a new academic year. Research has shown a direct correlation between reading and academic success, and as educators we have personally witnessed the value of fostering a student's reading skills. The ability to read with fluency and good comprehension is essential in all areas of study and reading during the summer months helps students to maintain this ability.

Second, we wish to encourage students to read for enjoyment. In order to meet this goal, we have included a substantial list of literary masterpieces, ranging from the Renaissance to the 20th century, that encompass a wide variety of topics, themes, and genres for students who like to read but are not sure what to choose. We hope that the broad array of available choices will lead students to discover new genres, authors, and topics that suit their individual interests, and that these discoveries will lay the foundation for a lifelong love of reading.

Please review the instructions for students on the next page and contact us if you have any questions. Thank you for partnering with us to make this program successful.

Have a wonderful summer!

Cheryl Crouch, English Department Head

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Instructions for Students

- Choose a book from the attached list.
- **Choose a book that you have not read before.**
- One of the goals of this program is enjoyment, so **choose a book that interests you.** Read the description on the back of the book (or the product description on amazon.com) before deciding to read it. You can also ask your parents and teachers for recommendations.
- If you do not see a book on the list that interests you, your parent may approve a substitution on a comparable difficulty level. Your parent's reason and rationale for the substitution must be written out, signed, and stapled to your summer reading worksheet. Your English teacher will contact your parent to confirm that he or she approved the substitution.
- We encourage you to discuss your reading with your parents. What interesting issues are raised by the book you chose? What messages are conveyed? Are these issues and messages relevant to your life? Take this opportunity to discuss these issues with your family.
- Complete the attached summer reading worksheet and sign to confirm that you have read your book in its entirety.
- Ask your parent to sign your worksheet to confirm that you have read the book in its entirety.
- Complete the typed assignment and attach it to your signed worksheet.
- Bring your work to class on the first day of the next school year.

Name: _____

Summer Reading Worksheet for Grade 11

1. **Title** of the book: _____

2. **Author** of the book: _____

3. Sign below to confirm that you have completely read this book for the first time this summer.

Student's signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent's signature: _____ Date: _____

4. Staple this sheet to your typed answers and bring it to your English class on the first day of school in August.

On a separate sheet of paper, type the following:

1. Describe at least two of the main **characters**. Include their names, their personalities, and their appearances.
2. Give the **setting** of the book. Include the time and place in which the action occurs.
3. Describe the **main conflict** of the book.
4. Describe how the main conflict is **resolved**.
5. Describe one of the main **themes** of the book.
6. Write a **review** of the book. Give specific reasons why you would or would not recommend this book to others.

Summer Reading List for Grade 11

**Books marked with an asterisk (*) contain mature subject matter. If you wish to read one of these selections, please ask for your parents' approval.

- **All Quiet on the Western Front**
Erich Maria Remarque (ISBN: 0449213943)
Considered one of the greatest war stories ever written, Remarque's 1929 masterpiece tells the story of young Paul Baumer, who enlists in the German Army in World War I and takes place with his comrades in the trenches.
- **East of Eden**
John Steinbeck (ISBN: 0140186395)
This sprawling and often brutal novel, set in the rich farmlands of California's Salinas Valley, follows the intertwined destinies of two families--the Trasks and the Hamiltons--whose generations helplessly reenact the fall of Adam and Eve and the poisonous rivalry of Cain and Abel.
- **The Great Gatsby**
F. Scott Fitzgerald (ISBN: 0743273567)
Nick Carraway, fascinated with the enormous wealth of his mysterious neighbor, Jay Gatsby, finds himself swept up in the lavish lifestyle of Long Island society during the Jazz Age.
- **The Joy Luck Club***
Amy Tan (ISBN: 0143038095)
In 1949, four Chinese women begin meeting in San Francisco for fun. Nearly 40 years later, their daughters continue to meet as the Joy Luck Club.
- **Profiles in Courage**
John F. Kennedy (ISBN: 1435120876)
During 1954-1955, John F. Kennedy, then a U.S. Senator, chose eight of his historical colleagues to profile for their acts of astounding integrity in the face of overwhelming opposition. These heroes include John Quincy Adams, Daniel Webster, Thomas Hart Benton, and Robert A. Taft.
- **The Things They Carried**
Tim O'Brien (ASIN: B001I1UW7Q)
Based on the author's own experiences in the Vietnam War, this book describes thirteen soldiers and the things they carried with them through the jungle.
- **Slaughterhouse-Five***
Kurt Vonnegut (0385333846)
Billy Pilgrim becomes unstuck in time after he is abducted by aliens from the planet Tralfamadore. In a plot-scrambling display of virtuosity, we follow Pilgrim simultaneously through all phases of his life, concentrating on his (and Vonnegut's) shattering experience as an American prisoner of war who witnesses the firebombing of Dresden.
- **Through the Gates of Splendor**
Elizabeth Elliot (ISBN: 9780842371520)
In 1956, five young men, including Elliot's husband, traveled into the jungles of Ecuador to establish communication with the fierce Waorani Tribe. In a nearby village, their wives waited to hear from them. The news they received---all five missionaries had been murdered---changed lives forever.