

Denton Calvary Academy Summer Reading Program, Grade 12

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 12

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 12

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

- **1984***
George Orwell
This chilling novel is set in an imagined future, where government dominates everyday life and people live in fear of the Thought Police. Longing for freedom, Winston Smith plots his escape from this horrific society.
- **Dracula**
Bram Stoker (ISBN: 0486411095)
The punctured throat, the coffin lid slowly opening, the unholy shriek as the stake pierces the heart—these are just a few of the chilling images Bram Stoker unleashed upon the world with his 1897 masterpiece, *Dracula*.
- **Great Expectations**
Charles Dickens (ISBN: 0141439564)
A terrifying encounter with an escaped convict in a graveyard on the wild Kent marshes; a summons to meet the bitter, decaying Miss Havisham and her beautiful, cold-hearted ward Estella; the sudden generosity of a mysterious benefactor - these form a series of events that change the orphaned Pip's life forever, and he eagerly abandons his humble origins to begin a new life as a gentleman.
- **A Grief Observed**
C.S. Lewis (ISBN: 0060652381)
C.S. Lewis joined the human race when his wife, Joy Gresham, died of cancer. Lewis, the Oxford don whose Christian apologetics make it seem like he has an answer for everything, experienced crushing doubt for the first time after his wife's tragic death.
- **Jane Eyre**
Charlotte Brontë (030745519X)
Charlotte Brontë's most beloved novel describes the passionate love between the courageous orphan Jane Eyre and her brilliant, brooding, and domineering employer, Mr. Rochester.
- **A Passage to India**
E.M. Forster (ISBN: 014144116X)
When Adela and her elderly companion Mrs. Moore arrive in the Indian town of Chandrapore, they quickly feel trapped by its prejudiced British community. Determined to explore the real India, they seek the guidance of the charming Dr. Aziz, but a mysterious incident occurs while they are exploring the Marabar caves with Aziz.
- **The Picture of Dorian Gray**
Oscar Wilde (1593080255)
The dreamlike story of a young man who sells his soul for eternal youth and beauty.