

PCA Secondary Summer Reading

PCA believes students should read quality novels over the summer to promote learning that endures. In order to foster students' development over the summer, prepare them for the upcoming school year, and to prevent what is often referred to as the "Summer Slide," the English department has developed some summer reading requirements that you will find outlined below.

Goals for Our Program:

1. PCA will develop a culture of well-read students
2. PCA will equip a community of students to think critically, actively read, write professionally, research extensively and defend a position effectively

Expectations for Each Grade:

- Read a novel following the guidelines below
- Write a one-two page reflective essay (**double-spaced**) summarizing what you have read following the parameters below
 - Assignments are due the first day of school (Wednesday, August 21st). The assignments will be submitted in class. Please note, late submissions will be marked down.
 - Early submissions may be emailed to Mrs. Weber jaclynn.weber@plymouthchristian.org
 - Rubric and details of the content of this essay can be found here [PCA Summer Reading Essay Guidelines](#)

Please note: Any student who is enrolled in an AP class for the fall does NOT need to complete this summer project. AP students will be communicated with by his/her respective teachers about the required assignment.

Reading Assignments:

1. **Middle School** will be required to read a fiction or non-fiction book that is 175 pages, and parents are responsible for guiding book selection. We highly recommend books by a Christian author, but do not require it.
2. **Freshman English** will be reading a non-fiction book, as their year starts with the book *Unbroken* by Laura Hillenbrand. The book must exceed 200 pages, and parents are responsible for guiding book selection.
3. **American Literature (10th Grade)** will be reading any novel or short story written by an American author. Books must exceed 200 pages, and parents are responsible for guiding book selection.

****We have a new course being offered this fall called Honors English 10!! This is for Sophomores who are planning to take an AP English course as an upperclassman. The summer assignment will be the same as the American Literature assignment, but students will need to earn a minimum of a C on this essay to remain in the class.**

4. **British Literature (11th Grade)** will be reading a novel or short story by a British author. Books must exceed 250 pages, and parents and guardians may guide book selections.
5. **Senior Language and Composition** students may read any biography or autobiography that exceeds 300 pages, and parents and guardians may guide book selections.
6. **AP Courses** students will read a specific novel and write an essay as a required summer reading assignment. There will be a meeting in June to discuss the guidelines and to hand out the novels and rubric. *Please note that students are required to test into AP classes.*

All essays should be proofread by an adult. Be sure to use correct grammar and punctuation. **Any essays that are plagiarized or that use AI technology will need to be re-written and will only earn (at most) half credit. This includes the use of advanced Grammarly tools which are purchased. Using the free version of Grammarly is**

allowed. Please put any direct quotes from the novel in quotations. If you have questions about the assignments, reach out to your English teacher, and he/she will assist and help out as much as is needed.

Again, if you have questions or concerns regarding the assignment, please reach out to the appropriate English teacher and we will be happy to assist you. Thank you for partnering with us in ensuring all PCA students are prepared for a successful school year in 2024-2025.

Have a wonderful summer!!

In Christ,

PCA English Staff