



LINCOLN

PREPARATORY SCHOOL

2018-19 Summer Reading/Essay Program: Grades 6-12

Parents / Guardians and Students: academic *and secular* success depends upon gaining a mastery of the English language; thus independent reading and writing response enhances this skill.

Assignment: each returning and new student must read the grade-appropriate selection and write an essay responding to the prompts. Essays are worth 50 points and must be written in MLA format and submitted the first full day of school. A Close Reading exam worth 50 points will be given the first full day of school.

Note: New students will have till **Sept 4th** to complete the assignment.

Plagiarism is stealing someone else's work and claiming it as your own by either copy and pasting or not citing the reference article. Be advised: all essays will be submitted to an electronic originality checker; students engaging in plagiarism will receive a zero. Parents, please encourage your child to write their own original essay.

Reading List/Essay Prompts

6th Grade

- *The Secret Garden* by Francis Hodgson Curtis
<http://www.classicly.com/download-the-secret-garden-pdf>

Part I: Compose a 200 word essay that explains the significance of the ways in which the novel's secrets are discovered. Format your essay to MLA. Your essay is due **first day of class**.
<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/13/>

Part II: Be prepared for a critical reading test on the **first day of class**.

7th Grade

- *The Pearl* by John Steinbeck

<http://www.ptbeach.com/cms/lib02/NJ01000839/Centricity/Domain/211/The-Pearl-John-Steinbeck.pdf>

Part I (50 points): Compose a 250 word essay that analyzes how material possessions, or the lack of, can affect an individual. Format your essay to MLA. Your essay is due first day of class.

<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/13/>

Part II (50 points): Be prepared for a critical reading test on the **first day of class**.

8th Grade

- *The Hound of the Baskervilles* by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle http://www.planetpublish.com/wp-content/uploads/2011/11/The_Hound_of_the_Baskervilles_T.pdf

Part I (50 points): Compose a 300 word essay that analyzes how the main character uses deductive reasoning and evidence to solve a murder. Trace the evidence chronologically, and format your essay to MLA. Your essay is due first day of class.

<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/13/>

Part II (50 points): Be prepared for a critical reading test on the **first day of class**.

9th Grade

- *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury

<https://docs.google.com/file/d/1JLxF6bDLag8pOxlpYz9IpRxq1sQJY1YvxrlyeG4uUFmUVhzU-aEqq0ITxGkq/edit>

Part I (50 points): Compose a 350 essay arguing the advantages or dangers of censorship. Use the following questions to guide your response: Has censorship ever affected the American society? Why is censorship dangerous? Are there advantages to censorship? What lesson can be learned from Fahrenheit 45? Format your essay to MLA, including a Works Cited page. Essays are due the **first day of class**. <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/13/>

Part II (50 points): Be prepared for a close reading test on the **first day of class**.

10th Grade

- *Things Fall Apart* by Chinua Achebe

<http://l-adam-mekler.com/things-fall-apart.pdf>

Part I (50 points): Compose a 450 word essay that examines Okonkwo as a classical hero. Identify his tragic flaw and analyze how it led to his downfall.

Essays are due **first day of class**. Format essays to MLA, include a Works Cited page.

<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/13/>

Part II (50 points): Be prepared for a close reading test on the **first day of class**.

11th Grade

- *The Grapes of Wrath* by John Steinbeck

<https://docs.google.com/viewer?a=v&pid=sites&srcid=aW1hZ2luZXByZXAuY29tfGh1bWFuaXRpZXMtMjAxMi0yMDEzfGd4OjUyZjkyMWM2OTYzOWVhNGE>

Part I (50 points): Compose a 550 word essay analyzing the loss of the American Dream in terms of the novel and characters. Use the following questions to guide your response: What is the novel's attitude toward the American Dream? Explain in terms of the characters the mistreatment of migrants, their dehumanization and demoralization through extreme poverty and tragedy.

Essays are due the **first day of class** (no exceptions). Format essays to MLA, include a Works Cited page. <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/13/>

Part II (50 points): Be prepared for a close reading test on the **first day of class**.

12th Grade

- *Frankenstein* by Mary Shelly

<http://www.planetebook.com/ebooks/Frankenstein.pdf>

Part I (50 points): Compose a 750 word essay that analyzes the two points of view (POV) in the novel: 1) Victor Frankenstein's anti-social misanthropic obsession with creating life, and 2) his creation's analytical sympathetic compassion for humanity. Brainstorm: why is Victor's creation hideous, repulsive but intelligent and superhuman? Why does the daemon possess the best attributes? What does Shelly imply by quoting Milton's conceit: "Did I request thee, O Maker, from clay / To mold me man," (PL.X.743-745).

Essays are due the **first day of class**. Format essays to MLA, include a Works Cited page. <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/13/>

Part II (50 points): Be prepared for a close reading test on the **first day of class**.

Cut here

Student acknowledgement of receipt of summer reading list and assignment:

I, _____, have received and accepted the summer reading and essay assignment on this day _____. I agree and understand that both assignments—essay and exam—will be due the first full day of school. I agree and understand that refusal to complete the assignment will result in a failing grade.

Student signature _____