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Highschool Summer Reading Assignment

Each student in 9th-12th grade will have a grade-level appropriate, assigned reader and corresponding assignments. The books are available at Barnes and Noble (online or in store) and at amazon.com. Please check your local, public library for availability, if you prefer a sign out option. For your convenience, all of the book information is available on the school's website: www.ncacademy.org.

Assignments: 9th-12th Grade

Word Log:

All students are responsible to keep a log of unfamiliar vocabulary words that they encounter in their reading. Students will search for the unfamiliar words using Google's dictionary feature and record the definitions for these terms. The goal is for students to familiarize themselves with these terms in order to enhance their understanding of the text. A minimum of 15-20 entries for the entire novel is expected.

Choose one of the following:

Creative Project:

Students can choose to create a piece of visual, graphic, modeling, decorative, literary, or performance art that reflects a key theme(s) or symbol(s) from their summer reading novel. The artwork should clearly showcase the particular theme(s) or symbol(s) that appears in the novel and should include a 150-200 word paragraph explaining the theme/symbol and how it is represented in the artwork. The paragraph should utilize MLA standard formatting: 12 pt. font, Times New Roman, double-spaced, 1 inch margins.

12th grade: The project should include a 1.5-2 page description

Theme Essay:

Alternatively, students can choose to write a 2 page theme essay addressing a major theme in the novel. The paper will highlight the particular theme, demonstrating how this theme is revealed in the novel and connecting the theme to real-world experiences or issues. This will include a three-point thesis statement which will provide structure for the essay response. The paper should utilize MLA standard formatting: 12 pt. font, Times New Roman, double-spaced, 1 inch margins.

12th grade: The theme essay should be 3-4 pages.

Grading—All:

This summer reading assignment will be counted as your first grade, in Languages Arts/English, for the 2026–2027 school year. Students will submit their assignments on the first day of school and will participate in discussion of key themes and content as part of their introduction to their class's literature unit.

PLEASE DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE TO COMPLETE THIS ASSIGNMENT; START EARLY AND PACE YOURSELF!

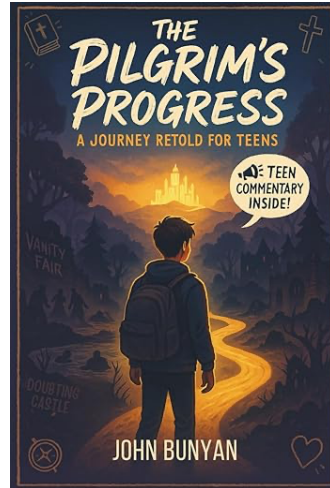
9th Grade:

The Pilgrim's Progress

By: John Bunyan

ISBN-13: 978-1988439501

The Pilgrim's Progress: A Journey Retold for Teens is a bold and fresh reimagining of John Bunyan's legendary allegory—crafted especially for the next generation. With modernized language, real-life teen commentary, and built-in devotional tools, this edition turns Bunyan's epic story of Christian's spiritual journey into an unforgettable adventure for today's youth.



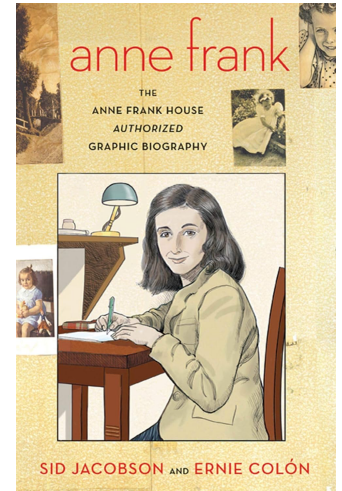
11th Grade:

Anne Frank: The Anne Frank House Authorized Graphic Biography

By: Sid Jacobson and Ernie Colón

ISBN-13: 978-0809026852

Drawing on the unique historical sites, archives, expertise, and unquestioned authority of the Anne Frank House in Amsterdam, *New York Times* bestselling authors Sid Jacobson and Ernie Colón have created the first authorized and exhaustive graphic biography of Anne Frank.



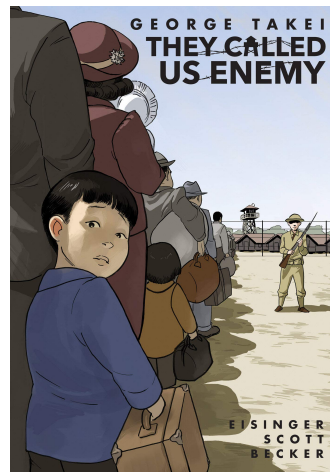
10th Grade:

They Called Us Enemy

By: George Takei

ISBN-13 : 978-1603094504

A stunning graphic memoir recounting actor/author George Takei's childhood imprisoned within Japanese internment camps during World War II. Experience the forces that shaped an American icon -- and America itself -- in this gripping tale of courage, country, loyalty, and love.



12th Grade:

The Five People You Meet in Heaven

By: Mitch Albom

ISBN-13: 978-1401308582

On his 83rd birthday, Eddie dies in a tragic amusement park ride accident in an attempt to save a little girl's life. He awakens in the afterlife, where his earthly life is explained to him by both loved ones and distant strangers. As the story builds to its stunning conclusion, Eddie desperately seeks redemption in the still-unknown last act of his life: Was it a heroic success or a devastating failure?

