

# St. Joseph Regional High School

## Summer Reading Lists and Assignments /Summer 2016

1. You may read up to three books (and submit a project for each) in three different subject areas. The projects will be graded on a scale of 0-3. The grade represents the number of extra-credit points that will be added to your first quarter average at the end of the first quarter in November, 2016. This is a significant and generous award.

2. The titles are arranged, broadly, in ascending order from “easiest” to “most challenging” (*i.e.*, the first title in the list is the least challenging, the last the most). Of course, what you find “challenging” depends on your own tastes and preferences, so you should browse each book before you commit to it.

3. Strategize which subjects you’ll choose projects for. You might decide that English is your favorite subject, so the reading and attached project under the English heading will be more pleasant than others and so you’ll earn extra credit at little “cost” relative to effort. Conversely, you may decide to complete projects for subjects you anticipate you’ll have trouble with, giving you a cushion on your first marking period average.

4. If you’re viewing this list online, the book titles are hyperlinked to their Amazon.com pages (the links are accurate as of 5/26/16). You may choose to purchase the book from there, but you are not required to. These books should be readily available at any bookstore, online vendor, or library. The link may be helpful, though, in terms of giving you a synopsis of the book, which might help you decide which title you’ll choose to read.

5. Summer Reading Projects will be due on Monday, September 12, 2016. Teachers may require projects to be due BEFORE this date, but no project will be accepted AFTER it.

***\*\*\* Incoming Freshmen who were given a Summer Reading Packet at Orientation in May should use the books and projects from that packet. Freshmen who did not receive that packet, or who have registered after the May Orientation, should use the books and projects listed here. \*\*\****

## English

### 8<sup>th</sup> Graders becoming Freshmen

*The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* / Mark Haddon

*Touching Spirit Bear* / Ben Mikaelson

*Fahrenheit 451* / Ray Bradbury

### Freshmen becoming Sophomores

*Herland* / Charlotte Perkins Gilman

Any book of Collected Poems of Langston Hughes or the Harlem Renaissance

*Leaves of Grass* / Walt Whitman

### Sophomores becoming Juniors

*The Golden Notebook* / Doris Lessing

*Brave New World* / Aldous Huxley

*The Tragical History of the Life and Death of Doctor Faustus* / Christopher Marlowe

(NOT Thomas Mann)

### Juniors becoming Seniors

*A Separate Peace* / John Knowles

*Invisible Man* / Ralph Ellison

*One Second After* / William Forstchen

## Social Studies

### 8<sup>th</sup> Graders becoming Freshmen

*Genghis Khan & the Mongol Horde* / Harold Lamb

*Tales of Ancient Egypt* / Roger Lancelyn Green

*Salt: A World History* / Mark Kurlansky

### Freshmen becoming Sophomores

*The Strange Career of Jim Crow* / C Vann Woodward & William S McFeely

*Founding Brothers: The Revolutionary Generation* / Joseph J Ellis

*1776* / David McCullough

### Sophomores becoming Juniors

*The Boys in the Boat* / Daniel James Brown

*The Worst Hard Time: The Untold Story of Those Who Survived the Great American*

*Dust Bowl* / Timothy Egan

*All the Light We Cannot See* / Anthony Doerr

### Juniors becoming Seniors

*Fallen Angels* / Walter Dean Myers

*I Am Malala: The Girl Who Stood Up for Education and Was Shot by the Taliban* /

Malala Yousafzai and Christina Lamb

*John Adams* / David McCullough

## Science

### Biology

*Nobel Prize Women in Science: Their Lives, Struggles, and Momentous Discoveries* /

Sharon Bersch-McGrayne

*Hope for Animals & Their World: How Endangered Species are Being Rescued from the*

*Brink* / Jane Goodall

*Dinosaur in a Haystack: Reflections on Natural History* / Steven J. Gould

### Chemistry

*Surely You're Joking, Mr. Feynman!: Adventures of a Curious Character* / Richard

Feynman

*The Man Who Mistook His Wife for a Hat and Other Clinical Tales* / Oliver Sacks

*The Structure of Scientific Revolutions* / Thomas S. Kuhn

### Physics

*Dark Sun: The Making of the Hydrogen Bomb* / Richard Rhodes

*The Science of Harry Potter: How Magic Really Works* / Roger Highfield

*The Andromeda Strain* / Michael Crichton

### Ecology & Environmental Science

*Gray Mountain* / John Grisham

*An Inconvenient Truth* / Al Gore

## Theology

### 8<sup>th</sup> Graders becoming Freshmen

*Joshua: A Parable for Today* / Joseph Girzone

*Night* / Elie Wiesel

*A Lesson Before Dying* / Ernest Gaines

### Freshmen becoming Sophomores

*The Alchemist* / Paulo Coelho

*The Diary of a Young Girl* / Anne Frank

*Passport* / Christopher Blunt

### Sophomores becoming Juniors

*The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens* / Sean Covey

*New Seeds of Contemplation* / Thomas Merton

*Moloka'i* / Alan Brennert

### Juniors becoming Seniors

*The Reason for God: Belief in an Age of Skepticism* / Timothy Keller

*The Long Loneliness: The Autobiography of the Legendary Catholic Social Activist* /

Dorothy Day

*My Life with the Saints* / Fr. James Martin

## The Projects

1. Create a unit of study for your book. The unit should include each of the following items: a set of 10+ discussion questions with answers, a unit test, a worksheet, and a study/review game.
2. Research the author's life to find out what may have influenced him/her to write about the topics in the ways in which he/she did. Write a report describing your findings. Make sure to include a bibliography of sources you used for this report.
3. Design and build a PowerPoint (or Google Slides, Prezi, or other platform) about your book; include a summary (don't give the ending away!), introductions to main characters, and other information and graphics/images to "sell" your book, convincing others to read it.

Projects 1-3 from: [www.pps.k12.or.us](http://www.pps.k12.or.us)

4. Create a Film Poster for Your Book. Imagine that your book has been made into a movie. How would you create a poster that shows something significant about the plot, tone, and/or theme of the story while simultaneously attracting a big audience? What famous actors would best play the rolls? Who would direct it? On the back of your poster, include a fictional review from a movie critic like Roger Ebert. You must also attach 5 one-paragraph explanations (one paragraph per character for each of five characters) explaining why you chose the actor you did to portray the character in the book.
5. Design a CD Cover and Burn a Playlist for Your Book. If your book's characters and themes reminded you of songs you love, go ahead and use that inspiration for your project. Design a cool looking CD cover that relates to your book, and in the CD booklet, include the reasons you chose each song (i.e. how they related to the story's characters, plot points, theme, or tone). This project works especially well for books about road trips, but can certainly be used for any kind of story. Choose this project if music is your life.
6. Build a Facebook Page or Twitter Account for a Character. It's easy to set up a fictional Facebook or Twitter account for a character from your book. Fill up your profile with the kinds of things that your chosen character would be into. If you've got a friend who read the same summer reading book, you could really wow your teacher and each set up an account for a different character. Then you could comment back and forth on each other's pages. Pick this project if you're into social media sites.

Projects 4-5 from:

<http://www.brighthubeducation.com/summer-learning-activities-ideas/78137-nine-creative-summer-reading-project-ideas/>