

9th GRADE SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENTS 2017-18

ST. VINCENT-ST. MARY HIGH SCHOOL

If you registered for Honors Global Studies:

You will have **two** assignments to complete for summer reading. Respond to each question in a 1-2 page essay that is typed, double spaced, and in 12 point font. Printed copies of both essays are due on Tuesday, August 22, 2017.

1. *Between Shades of Gray* by Ruta Sepetys

- Read the novel **and** complete the assignment that is outlined below.
- Assignment: In *Between Shades of Gray*, readers learn of the diabolical system devised by Stalin's government to deal with dissenters or anyone it perceived as a threat to the regime. In part, the system was designed to use confusion, brutality, and alienation to force confessions to whatever crimes the state might trump up against them. The text indicates that things went easier on those who confessed, but Elena and many of the others continued to refuse.
- Write a persuasive essay in which you argue for or against signing the NKVD's confession papers. Consider the experiences of Lina and her family and friends as well as those who signed, and use textual evidence to provide specific examples to support your case.

AND

2. *1984* by George Orwell

- Read the novel **and** complete the assignment that is outlined below.
- Assignment: Compare the propaganda that the government of Oceania used to increase the hate towards Eastasia and Eurasia to propaganda that has been used in throughout the world.
- You must make at least three direct comparisons between the propaganda of Oceania and other instances in history.

If you registered for CP English 1:

You will have **two** assignments to complete for summer reading:

1. **ONE Book of your choice from the following list.** We will be having small group discussions as your assessment on your book of choice, so come to school prepared with discussion topics, questions, and other talking points that you can share with your classmates. These book selections range in length and difficulty level, so please preview them before choosing a book that you know you will enjoy.
 - *Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief* by Rick Riordan (or any in the series if you've already read the first)
 - *Eragon* by Christopher Paolini
 - *The Hobbit* by J.R.R. Tolkien
 - *Divergent* by Veronica Roth (or any in the series if you've already read the first one)
 - *Ender's Game* by Orson Scott Card
 - *The Princess Bride* by William Goldman
 - *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone* by J.K. Rowling (or any in the series if you've already read the first)

AND

2. *I Am Malala* by Malala Yousafzai and Christina Lamb

- Read the novel **and** complete the assignment that is outlined below.
- Note: You are to read the complete novel, NOT the "Young Reader's" edition of this book

Assignment:

- As you read *I Am Malala*, choose passages that "speak to you." Select passages that catch your attention; however, the passages must be selected from different parts of the novel, including the beginning, middle, and end. **Number the passages 1-15.**

(OVER)



- Accurately type each passage from the text.
- Respond to each passage in your own words.
- **FIVE** of the passages should each contain one of the literary elements that you have studied so far in school. Do not use the same element more than once, and definitely use those elements with which you are familiar. Please put an asterisk by these entries (*). A list of these literary elements is on www.stvm.com under “Summer Assignments.”
- The other responses are personal responses. For example, a passage might remind you of a time in your past life, or it might elicit thoughts regarding your goals and future plans. It might even cause you to reflect on social issues involving mankind in general or on current political or international debates and controversies.
- Please follow a similar and consistent format to the sample below.
- **Your responses must be in complete sentences. Responses should also include thorough detail and reflection**
- This is an individual assignment. Please **do not** “work together” with other students. This is considered cheating.
- Submit **typed** responses by Tuesday of the first week of school (August 22, 2017)
- **Please make sure that your responses indicate a thorough reading of the novel. Enjoy!**

Example Reader Responses to *Jane Eyre*

<u>Textual Reference</u>	<u>Reader Responses</u>
1. * <i>“Joan is not here: tell mamma she is run out into the rain – bad animal.”</i> p. 13 metaphor	I find the treatment of Jane by her relatives abhorrent and disgusting, demonstrated by the favor shown to her cousins over her, and the treatment she receives from her aunt as well as her cousins, being called an animal and talked to with a complete absence in regard to her dignity.
2. <i>“Unjust! Unjust!”</i> said my reason, forced by the agonizing stimulus into precious though transitory power... How all my brain was in tumult, and all my heart in insurrection!” p. 21	This feeling that Jane is feeling struck me because I have felt this desperation between emotion and logic, mind and heart, though on a much lesser scale. I believe this is the first of many universal themes that are timeless and recognized by Brontë and presented throughout the novel.
3. Jane cries and feels rejected after hearing a song which was sung by the only member of the Reed house, Bessie, who seems to care for and love Jane. p. 28-29	It is necessary to be reminded of humanity during times of conflict, as we are when Jane is troubled by the song about the orphan. It reminds us of the troubled history Jane has.
4. <i>“How can she bear it so quietly – so firmly?”</i> I asked of myself. <i>“Were I in her place, it seems to me I should wish the earth to open up and swallow me up.”</i> P.63	I had forgotten, with how maturely she handled the journey to Lowood, how young and childish she is. Hearing how she is feeling distressed by the way her classmate is being punished is a reminder to me how young and innocent Jane is, despite over-developed emotional growth.
5. <i>“It is weak and silly to say you cannot bear what it is your fate to be required to bear.”</i> p.69	This idea is one of many overarching themes that I feel will have later applications as life develops for Jane. She will most likely, based on her history, be forced to face other challenges in which this idea about bearing pain will come to the forefront.