

Summer Reading 2017-18 (Grades 9-11)

Students entering into grades 9-11 will be reading two novels this summer and completing a project due on the first day of school. The first novel is John Bunyan's *The Pilgrim's Progress* (Check Local Library OR ISBN: 0486426750). Everyone is required to read part one of this novel. The second novel may be chosen out of the list below by each student.

- *Gulliver's Travels* by Jonathan Swift (Check Local Library Or ISBN: 0486292738)
- *The Scarlet Letter* by Nathaniel Hawthorne (Check Local Library OR ISBN: 0486280489)
- *This Side of Paradise* by F. Scott Fitzgerald (Check Local Library OR ISBN: 0486289990)
- *Heart of Darkness* by Joseph Conrad (Check Local Library Or ISBN: 0486264645)

Each of the novels on the list have been attached to a specific scene within Bunyan's *The Pilgrim's Progress* for the project. Bunyan's tale is an allegory meant to depict the average Christian's journey through life. Though the main character often struggles, he always finds a Biblical solution to his problems. On the other hand, the classic novels on the list portray characters who also encounter difficulties, but they do not necessarily turn to God for help. The project's goal is for each student to explore the nature and consequence of choices in life.

Novel	Associated Scene
<i>Gulliver's Travels</i>	Worldly Wise Man and the Village of Morality
<i>The Scarlet Letter</i>	Formalist, Hypocrisy, and the Hill called Difficulty
<i>This Side of Paradise</i>	Vanity Fair
<i>Heart of Darkness</i>	The Valley of the Shadow of Death

Projects:

- Write a paper concerned with the nature of the choice that the characters from each book are given. This paper will be written in two sections. The first section will cover the following questions: What is the choice? How do they each respond to it? What are the consequences of their choice? What might have changed if they had chosen differently? The second section will be a personal response to the choice raised in the novels and will cover the following questions: Have you ever been confronted with the choice the characters have to make or do you know anyone that has? What type of difficulties do you believe may come from encountering this choice? What would your response be to yourself or others who need to make this choice? This paper should follow the requirements below:

- Length: three pages
 - Section one: two pages
 - Section two: one page
- Typed
- Double Spaced

- Make a short film (at least 5 minutes) in which the response made by the characters from each book are compared. The film should also contain the student's response to the characters' choice. This could take place as an interview or as its own story, but it is in no way limited by that format. It is possible for two or more students to work together on this project, however, the addition of each student will add one minute and thirty seconds to the production. This must be e-mailed to kashibley@ggca.org before the first day of school.

- Draw a comic book or make a collage painting in which the choices made by the characters are presented to the audience. This could mean that the choices of the characters are directly compared through art, or the choice itself could be the central piece. Either way, the choice must be addressed. The formatting is up to the student. It can be drawn in notebook, on a posterboard, or it can be done on the computer. The main thing is that the ideas that the student is trying to express are fully portrayed. This project will be graded not on the student's ability to draw or paint, but on the content of the work.

If you have any questions about summer reading, please feel free to contact me at:
kashibley@ggca.org.

Sincerely,

Mr. Shibley

High School literature teacher