

Summer Reading 2020-21 (Grade 10)

Instructions: Students entering into grades 10 must fulfill two requirements for summer reading: (1) each student must read two books this summer, one from each of the lists below, and (2) each student must complete one of the projects presented below. Books must be completed by and projects are due on the first day of school.

Concept: One of the greatest human struggles deals with the value of the self. Some, like the egotists, theorize that “I” is of the utmost importance. Others, like the humanists, say that the individual should contribute to the progress of mankind. Yet, through all of their self-serving, there is something about man that adores the concept of sacrifice. Thousands of books, films, and pieces of art have been dedicated to the irrational behavior of one giving his/her life for another. In such instances, it would seem that the great “I” has gone from all-important to unimportant. Where do such tendencies and impulses come from? It has been suggested that such instances arise from an inherent drive for survival; to give another a chance at life at the expense of your own is a sort of inheritance. Life continues. On the other hand, Christians have attributed such actions to God’s eternal pattern: the fall fulfilled in redemption. These books were chosen so that students would be able to actively participate in the conversation that surrounds such ideas, and, by doing so, be engaged in the great controversy that has the power to change their lives into everything or nothing.

For the **first book**, choose one from the following list:

- *Crime and Punishment* by Fyodor Dostoevsky (ISBN: 0486415872)
- *Les Miserables* (appropriate abridgments acceptable) by Victor Hugo (ISBN: 0486822184)
- *Till We Have Faces* by C.S. Lewis (CISBN: 0062565419)

For the **second book**, choose one from the following list:

- *Demian* by Hermann Hesse (ISBN: 0486414132)
- *Leaves of Grass* (any edition) by Walt Whitman (ISBN: 9780486456768)
- *Doctor Faustus* by Christopher Marlowe (ISBN: 9780486282084)

Choose **one project** from the following list:

- Write a paper about how concepts of self are reflected in the books you read. Your paper should be broken into two parts. The **first part** will deal specifically with an analysis of each book that answers the following questions: (1) What is the self (2) How does each author respond to concepts of the self? (3) Does each author’s concept of the self include or exclude the

opposing author's concept? The **second part** of your paper should be a personal response that answers the following questions: (1) Why is understanding the self, personally, important for your life? (2) How has reading books that deal so extensively with concepts of self affected your life? This paper should follow the requirements below:

- Length: three pages
 - Section one: two pages (500 words)
 - Section two: one page (250 words)
- MLA Style
- Typed - Times New Roman, size 12

● Make a short film (at least 5 minutes) about how concepts of self are reflected in the books you read. In addition, you will write a personal response. **The film** will seek to analyse the books by portraying answers, directly or symbolically, to the following questions: (1) What is the self (2) How does each author respond to concepts of the self? (3) Does each author's concept of the self include or exclude the opposing author's concept? This could take place as an interview of the authors or characters 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@ggwo.org before the first day of school. **The paper** should be a personal response that answers the following questions: (1) Why is understanding the self, personally, important for your life? (2) How has reading books that deal so extensively with concepts of self affected your life? This paper should follow the requirements below:

- Length: one page (250 words)
- MLA Style
- Typed - Times New Roman, size 12

● Draw a comic book or make a collage painting in which concepts of self are reflected in the books you read. In addition, you will write a personal response to the books you read. **The art** will seek to analyse the books by portraying answers, directly or symbolically, to the following questions: (1) What is the self (2) How does each author respond to concepts of the self? (3) Does each author's concept of the self include or exclude the opposing author's concept? The formatting is up to the student. It can be drawn in a 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. **The paper** should be a personal response that answers the following questions: (1) Why is understanding the self, personally, important for your life? (2) How has reading books that deal so extensively with concepts of self affected your life? This paper should follow the requirements below:

- Length: one page (250 words)
- MLA Style
- Typed - Times New Roman, size 12

Note on Access: All books from the reading list can be purchased at a relatively low cost from Amazon, Abebooks, and other similar book vendors, however, I also recommend using your local library which offers physical, digital, and audio access to the majority of the list. It is also possible to find a variety of books for free in pdf format online.

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

Sincerely,
Mr. Shibley
High School English Teacher