



NORTHEAST  
CHRISTIAN ACADEMY  
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TRUTH · KNOWLEDGE · EXCELLENCE

June 17, 2010

Re: SUMMER READING LIST FOR ENGLISH STUDENTS ENTERING SIXTH - EIGHTH GRADE

Dear Parents and Students:

Summer is upon us; a time for renewal, rest, relaxation and READING!

Though we too hope for rest and relaxation, we will also be working throughout the summer to continue to refine our department. Our goal as middle school teachers is to ensure that our students are provided continuity in our approach to all aspects of Language Arts, while preparing them for the more grueling requirements of high school.

You will find below the summer reading requirement and the corresponding assignment for each upcoming middle school grade level. We hope to model for our middle school students a more scholarly approach to reading of both the Bible and great literature. This assignment has been structured to introduce the practice of annotation, which will be a requirement in high school. Students will highlight and make notes in their novels as they read. This more active approach will naturally facilitate a deeper understanding of the text.

The **annotated novels will be due** on the first day of school. The novel and scripture readings are designed to be completed over a series of weeks so that students may fully comprehend them prior to the first week of the new school year. While the assignments do require work, they are meant to be enjoyed as they enlighten and enrich the reader. The students will be expected to complete a written assignment or test at the end of the first week to demonstrate this enlightenment and deeper understanding.

Please feel free to contact us with any questions you may have throughout the summer, via our school email addresses listed below. We look forward to getting to know many of you, and renewing old relationships.

With warm regards and blessings in Christ,

Joan Campbell and Margaret White  
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English Department

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## NCA MIDDLE SCHOOL SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENTS

Entering 6<sup>th</sup> Grade     *The Golden Goblet* by Eloise Jarvis McGraw  
                                  *The Book of Genesis, chapters 39-47*

Entering 7<sup>th</sup> Grade     *Old Yeller* by Fred Gipson  
                                  *Book of Proverbs\_15-30*

Entering 8<sup>th</sup> Grade     *Call of the Wild* by Jack London  
                                  *The Book of James*

### GUIDELINES FOR ANNOTATING THE TEXT:

1. Students are **to read thoroughly** the text of the assigned novel for their grade level.
2. The following items should be **highlighted** (IN SPECIFIED COLOR) **with notes** written in the margin to identify each:

- **Yellow - Major characters and plot points**—main people and things that are happening
- **Green - Setting**—(place *and* time) any passages which describe the *main* setting, as well as different setting(s) within each chapter
- **Blue - Vocabulary words**—new words encountered and defined while reading, with definitions noted in margin
- **Orange - Literary elements**—such as alliteration, simile, metaphor, onomatopoeia, etc.

### 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade only should choose additional colors for:

- **Imagery** -any passages of rich or interesting description of setting or character
- **Main Idea (Theme)** - quotes that give evidence of the *main idea* in the text
- **Diction**- any passages of artful, informative, or descriptive word choice that speaks to the themes in the piece
- **Additional** - things the student just likes within the book

3. Students may also choose to make **additional notes** as they read which will help them in analyzing the text once they arrive back to school.

4. Students will be allowed to take an AR test on this book which will count to their first qtr goals.

### GUIDELINES FOR SCRIPTURE READING

1. Students are not required to annotate the scripture in their Bibles, but are expected to be very familiar with the book of the Bible assigned to their grade level.

2. Students should read through the scripture thoroughly, and to consider which, if any, portions relate to their novel reading.