



Students,

You will be reading **one (1) required book** this summer and completing **one** book report.

Students entering 8th grade REQUIRED reading:

The Count of Monte Cristo - Alexandre Dumas

Students entering 9th grade REQUIRED reading:

Gulliver's Travels - Jonathan Swift

Students entering 10th Grade REQUIRED reading:

The Hobbit - J. R. R. Tolkien

Students entering 11th Grade REQUIRED reading:

The Screwtape Letters - C. S. Lewis

Students entering 12th Grade REQUIRED reading:

The Alchemist - Paul Coelho

The instructions for the book report follow.

Book Report Directions

Below are the directions for the book report that must be completed for the required book that you read. You will be completing **ONE** report this summer, though it is not lengthy.

The report should be three to four pages, double-spaced and TYPED. This **MUST** have an MLA heading, be in **TIMES NEW ROMAN**, and font size 12. **NO EXCEPTIONS.**

1. Introduce your book. Begin with an interesting opening statement. This should be a “hook” that would entice someone who has not read the book to want to read it. Your introduction should also include the author’s name, the title and type of your book, the number of pages and a short, general description of what your book is about.
2. Give some biographical information on the author. Talk about what influenced the writer to write their book. You could also talk about where they lived at the time and what their profession may have been. You must include how their life influenced/influences their writing. Make a connection. This must be in your own words and you must cite your sources both **IN** the paper and on a works cited page.
3. Describe the main characters and the plot. This should include the exposition of the novel. Set the scene for the novel in your own words.
4. Choose at least 2 characters and analyze their behavior. You should use **MULTIPLE** character traits to describe your characters. Talk about both their intrinsic and external motivators for their behavior.
5. Give your interpretation of the author’s theme. Be sure to both **CLEARLY STATE** the theme that you have chosen and interpret the theme. You should also reflect and apply it to your life. You should then talk about how the theme grows throughout the novel. You must have a minimum of 5 quotes (spread fairly evenly through the novel) to support your opinion.
6. Be the Critic. What was done well? What might have been improved? What part of the book did you like/dislike the most? Would you recommend this book to others? Why/ why not?
7. Write a conclusion. This should wrap up aspects from the entire paper.

Be sure to be both clear and concise in this paper! You should have strong transitions and the paper should flow. You need to read your paper out loud to a parent before turning it in, if you bring in a note signed saying that you completed this part of the assignment as a part of your revision process, you will receive extra credit. These will go in as test grades at the **BEGINNING** of the year! Start off strong!