



EVANGEL CLASSICAL  
CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

SOLI DEO GLORIA

### 11<sup>th</sup> Grade

**Rising 11<sup>th</sup> graders** should read Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein* (ISBN 9780451527714) and *A Tale of Two Cities* by Charles Dickens (ISBN (9780553211764)). These are perhaps the most important summer reading assignments you have been given to date, as they are titles pulled directly from the literature sequence that we will work through in eleventh grade literature. Be prepared to return to school ready to treat these two titles as the basis for the first two units of study in eleventh grade literature.

For *A Tale of Two Cities*, you should write a five paragraph critical response to the novel to be turned in on **Thursday, August 11**. To compose a critical response essay, read the text carefully, paying special attention to themes, symbols, and other significant literary devices. Consider these observations and form a thesis statement that provides a clear, specific analysis of the story, or of a particular aspect of the story. Compose your essay, providing specific textual examples that support your claims. Be sure that every point you include clearly illustrates or supports your thesis. Also, remember that you aren't writing a summary of the book; critical analysis may not address every detail of the plot, but rather only addresses the details of the book that are relevant to the thesis.

Examples of a critical response essay thesis statement are as follows:

- An analysis of *A Tale of Two Cities* will demonstrate that Sydney Carton is a Christ figure.
- The strongest theme in *A Tale of Two Cities* is that of doubles, as demonstrated in several pairs of characters, the prevalence coupled virtues, and setting of the twin cities.

Your paper should have a Works Cited page that provides a correct MLA bibliographic entry of the novel. At the bottom of the last page of your paper you should have the following signed and dated statement:

"I have read all that was required for this assignment and all written work is my own."

We will write a short research paper on *Frankenstein* after school starts. Much of your first quarter's literature grades will come from this research paper project; therefore, it is essential that your reading of *Frankenstein* be complete before you return to school.

Remember that the grades associated with summer reading can be really helpful in getting your literature grade off to a great start if you take advantage of them. If you have any questions about the summer reading, you can call the school at 216-0149 during our regular summer office hours. Happy Reading!

Your Rhetoric School Literature Teachers

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*Excellent Classical Education Formed Upon a Biblical Worldview*