



EVANGEL CLASSICAL
CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

SOLI DEO GLORIA

8th Grade Summer Reading

Greetings, rising 8th graders!

You are required to read two books, *The Old Man and the Sea* by Ernest Hemingway (9780684801223) and another book of your choice from the attached list. *The Old Man and the Sea* will be the basis for the first unit of study in your literature class, and you can expect a test or writing assignment after class discussions within the first two weeks of school. For your second title, you may choose any book from the list provided for your grade level. We desire that you either choose a book from the list that you have never read, or that you read so long ago that you have forgotten. For students who entered ECCS in later grades, we highly recommend that you read titles from the curriculum, such as *The Chronicles of Narnia*, that you might have missed. After reading the work you select from the list, you should write a book report that follows the general format below:

- Paragraph I: Introduce the book, including the title, author, primary characters, historical context if applicable, information about the author if applicable, etc.
- Paragraph II: *Briefly* describe the basic plot (5 – 6 sentences).
- Paragraph III: Describe the major conflict and how it is resolved.
- Paragraph IV: Discuss the theme and/or spiritual truths evident in the story.
- Paragraph V: Describe what you liked about the characters, plot, conflict, and setting; Describe what you didn't like about the characters, plot, conflict, and setting.

Your book report should be a minimum of 500 words and a maximum of 750 words, and should have the following **signed and dated statement** at the bottom of the last page: "I have read all that was required for this assignment, and all written work is my own."

Your paper should be typed in standard MLA format. The higher your grade level, of course, the more we expect you to be able to accomplish in your book report. You should complete the reading and the book report over the summer and come to school ready to turn it in. **All book reports will be due on the second day of school.**

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 questions about the summer reading, you can call the school at 216-0149 during our regular summer office hours. Happy Reading!

Your Logic School Literature Teachers

8th Grade:***The Gateway Chronicles* by Karin Ballstadt**

We strongly encourage all students who have not already done so to read *The Six*, *The Oracle*, *The White Thread*, or *The Enchanted* of *The Gateway Chronicles* by Karin Ballstadt (pen name K.B. Hoyle). Mrs. Ballstadt is on our faculty and will be available throughout the year to discuss the creative writing and publishing process. We know that many of you have already read one or all of them and are anxiously awaiting the sequel. If you have not yet read her books, we recommend that you choose one of them for your second summer reading title. If you have already read them, below are some other great choices for your second title. Remember that if the title is marked with an asterisk (*), you may only choose it if you came to ECCS after it was taught in the curriculum.

Around the World in Eighty Days by Jules Verne
The Call of the Wild by Jack London
White Fang by Jack London
Julie of the Wolves by Jean Craighead George
Kidnapped by Robert Louis Stevenson
The Yearling by Marjorie K. Rawlings
The Jungle Book by Rudyard Kipling
Island of the Blue Dolphins by Scott O'Dell
Redwall by Brian Jacques (or any subsequent title in the series)
Black Ships Before Troy by Rosemary Sutcliffe
Uncle Tom's Cabin by Harriet Beecher Stowe
The Lord of the Flies by William Golding
David Copperfield by Charles Dickens
Oliver Twist by Charles Dickens
The Diary of Anne Frank by Anne Frank
A Wrinkle in Time by Madeline L'Engle (or any subsequent title in the series)
 **The Hobbit* by J.R.R. Tolkien
The Fellowship of the Rings by J.R.R. Tolkien (or any subsequent title in the series)
The Silmarillion by J.R.R. Tolkien (prequel to *The Fellowship of the Rings*)
The Princess and the Goblin by George MacDonald
Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry by Mildred Taylor
Bruchko by Bruce Olsen
The Last of the Mohicans by James Fenimore Cooper
Christy by Catherine Marshall
100 Cupboards series by N.D. Wilson
Leepike Ridge by N.D. Wilson
 Any of the sequel titles in the *Anne of Green Gables* series by Lucy Maud Montgomery (*Anne of Green Gables* is in the sixth grade curriculum, so this title should only be read if you were not here during sixth grade)
 Any of the sequel titles in the *The Giver* series by Lois Lowry (*The Giver* is in the seventh grade curriculum, so this title should only be read if you were not here during seventh grade)
 **Johnny Tremain* by Esther Forbes
 **The Witch of Blackbird Pond* by Elizabeth George Speare
 **Treasure Island* by Robert Louis Stevenson
 **The Bronze Bow* by Elizabeth George Speare
 **The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* or *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* by Mark Twain
 **Great Expectations* by Charles Dickens
 **The Red Badge of Courage* by Stephen Crane
 **The Chronicles of Narnia* (any title from the series. You should only read titles from the series for which you were not at ECCS when it was taught in the curriculum.)

Books marked with an asterisk (*) are books that are taught in the ECCS curriculum at lower grade levels. Only students who came to ECCS after the grade level at which those books were taught in the curriculum may choose those titles. All editions should be unabridged.