

Tall Oaks Classical School

2018 Summer Reading for Logic and Rhetoric Students

There are two assigned readings for each grade. In addition to reading the assignments carefully, you will write a response to one or both readings, as indicated in the chart below. Grades 7-9 write one response; grades 10-12 write two. These written responses are due to the instructor indicated in parentheses **ON THE FIRST DAY OF CLASS (unless otherwise noted)**. Written responses should answer the following questions, assigned by grade:

- 7th grade reading for Dr. Reagan: **In what ways do the adventures that characters experience change who they are? Choose three characters from *The Hobbit* to discuss in your essay. Explain what they were like before the adventure began, what they were like as a result of the adventure they had, and what it was that changed them.**
- 8th grade reading for Mr. Rippon: **What insights into the nature of evil may we gain from *The Screwtape Letters*, and how may we apply these insights to our lives as Christians?**
- 9th grade reading for Mr. Rippon: **How does *Ben-Hur: A Tale of the Christ* help us to appreciate the life of Christ more?**
- 10th grade reading for Dr. DiDonato: ***Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass*. What is the interaction between Christianity and slavery as found in this work? To answer this, be sure to describe (a) how slaves were treated, (b) how slave masters justified their treatment of slaves, (c) Douglass's view of Christian slave masters, and (d) his view of the Christian faith. Your essay is due before the first day of school (email essay to ndidonato@reachschools.online).**
- 10th grade reading for Dr. Turley: **For *On the Incarnation*, what are the relationships between the Incarnation and the restoration of creation?**
- 11th grade reading for Dr. Turley: **How does this particular book lead you to contemplate truth, goodness, and beauty?**
- 11th grade reading for Mr. Rippon: **Despite the dehumanizing regime in *1984*, Big Brother cannot entirely suppress what it means to be truly human, created in God's image. What are three ways that humanity still shines through despite Big Brother's attempts to thwart it?**
- 12th grade reading for Mr. Rippon: **How is the topic of resurrection developed in *Crime and Punishment*? Support your essay with three different examples from the novel.**
- 12th grade reading for Dr. Turley: **How is the Christian conception of knowledge more humane than a secular conception? How does Christian knowledge enable human flourishing far more than secular knowledge?**

All written responses must be in MLA format and should be 1½ to 2 pages long, with **five paragraphs** and **three direct quotations** from different parts of the book. If you are not familiar with MLA style, consult the summary and models at <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/>

Grade	First Reading	Second Reading
7	<i>The Hobbit</i> by J. R. R. Tolkien (Turn your paper in to Dr. Reagan.)	Read the entire book of <i>Genesis</i> in the <i>Old Testament</i> of the <i>Bible</i> . Be prepared for class discussions during the first week of school.
8	<i>The Screwtape Letters</i> by C.S. Lewis (Turn your paper in to Mr. Rippon.)	Read the entire book of <i>Job</i> in the <i>Old Testament</i> of the <i>Bible</i> . Be prepared for class discussions, a writing assignment, and a quiz on this reading during the first week of school.
9	<i>Ben-Hur: A Tale of the Christ</i> by Lew Wallace (Turn your paper in to Mr. Rippon)	<i>The Life of St. Antony</i> by Athanasius; Think on this question as you read and be prepared for class discussions and a writing assignment during the first weeks of school: “ <i>The Life of St. Antony</i> historically inspired many Christians to become monks. What in this document do you think attracted Christians to the monastic life?”
10	<i>On the Incarnation</i> by Athanasius (Turn your paper in to Dr. Turley.)	<i>Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass</i> by Frederick Douglass - (Turn your paper in to Dr. DiDonato via email: ndidonato@reachschools.online before the 1st day of school.)
11	<i>Beauty for Truth's Sake</i> by Stratford Caldecott (Turn your paper in to Dr. Turley.)	<i>1984</i> by George Orwell (Turn your paper in to Mr. Rippon.)
12	<i>Orthodoxy</i> by G. K. Chesterton (Turn your paper in to Dr. Turley.)	<i>Crime and Punishment</i> by Fyodor Dostoevsky (Turn your paper in to Mr. Rippon)