



## Summer Reading for 2015-2016

### 9th Grade

#### Summer Reading

Reading proficiency and comprehension is a major element of what we are trying to accomplish in both the Literature and Humanities classes. We want to encourage our students to be lifelong readers and learners. The literature assigned during the school year has to compete with a rigorous academic and extracurricular schedule. Therefore, summer is the perfect time to enjoy a fine example of literature or history in a friendly, familiar, and family-filled environment.

To advance this goal, we have chosen books which reflect our desire to have students value and appreciate their summer reading experience. We encourage parents or guardians to be actively involved in this reading process.

Use the questions as a template for writing your response. Please write one response paper for each of the books you read. There are three questions for you to answer and you should anticipate writing 1-2 paragraphs for each question. In keeping with the more personal and informal nature of summer reading, your responses must be handwritten. Your responses will be due at the beginning of your second meeting in class. Since the purpose of the response paper is to help you during class discussion of the text, reference the text often in your responses. Use standard MLA formatting for textual references.

**Note:** Do not use Cliff Notes, Sparknotes, movies, or any other substitute/aid materials. SMA's desire is for each student to enjoy these works and appreciate their role in history. Please use the ISBN number to access the appropriate versions.

- 1: What is the main idea or theme of the book? Choose one brief passage that seems to exemplify this idea and provide a few key details.
- 2: What did you learn from this book?
- 3: As you read the book, how did it change a view, idea, or understanding you previously held? Describe how it revealed something new to you (whether it is about the period covered in the book or yourself).

#### 9th Please read:

Regular English Required Reading: *A Tale of Two Cities* (Charles Dickens), *The God Who is There* (Francis Schaeffer)

Honors English Required Reading: *The Abolition of Man* (C. S. Lewis), *C.S. Lewis for the Third Millennium: Six Essays on the Abolition of Man* (Peter Kreeft)

Please choose **ONE** of the following

*City of God* (St. Augustine of Hippo)

*The Travels of Marco Polo* (Marco Polo & Rustichello of Pisa)

*Brunelleschi's Dome: How a Renaissance Genius Reinvented Architecture* (Ross King)

*Of Mice and Men* (John Steinbeck)

*Pride and Prejudice* (Jane Austen)

*The Jungle Book* (Rudyard Kipling)

*Biggest Brother* (Larry Alexander)

*Anna of Byzantium* (Tracy Barrett)