

## **OUR LADY OF MERCY ACADEMY**

### **SUMMER READING | AY 2020-2021**

In preparation for the 2020-2021 school year, all students are required to read two books during the summer. The materials chosen for each grade level are listed below and consist of a broad selection of classical and contemporary work by diverse authors. Reading materials are selected by the teachers to introduce the themes and the literary techniques on which each course will focus during the year. Because summer reading completion will be assessed in several ways, students are advised to take detailed notes on each work so that they are prepared for any discussions, assignments, and tests at the start of the new school year. This handout also provides suggestions for note-taking. When school begins, please bring the designated copies of the books to class, as well as your notes. **Have a great summer!**

#### **SUMMER 2020 READING SELECTIONS**

##### **Freshman Courses:**

###### **Honors Literature I**

1. *The Pigman* by Paul Zindel
2. *A Long Way Gone* by Ishmael Beah

###### **Literature I**

1. *Of Mice and Men* by John Steinbeck
2. *A Raisin in the Sun* by Lorraine Hansberry

##### **Sophomore Courses:**

###### **Honors Literature II and Literature II**

1. *The Glass Castle* by Jeannette Walls
2. *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee

##### **Junior Courses:**

###### **Honors American Literature and American Literature**

1. *Having Our Say: The Delany Sisters' First 100 Years* by Sarah L. Delany, A. Elizabeth Delany, and Amy Hill Hearth
2. *Speak* by Laurie Halse Anderson

###### **AP English Language & Composition**

1. *In Cold Blood* by Truman Capote
2. *The Things They Carried* by Tim O'Brien

##### **Senior Courses:**

###### **Honors British Literature and British Literature**

1. *The Five People You Meet in Heaven* by Mitch Albom
2. *Lord of the Flies* by William Golding

###### **AP English Literature & Composition**

1. *How to Read Literature Like a Professor: A Lively and Entertaining Guide to Reading Between the Lines, Revised Edition* by Thomas C. Foster
2. *Things Fall Apart* by Chinua Achebe

## SUMMER READING NOTE TAKING GUIDELINES

**Students will be tested on the details of the book. The following guidelines are suggested for note taking:**

- Know the title and author of the book. What is the significance of the title? Explain.
- Research the author and the book's setting in history.
- What is the point of view?
  - first-person point of view (who is / are the narrators?)
  - third-person omniscient point of view (the all-knowing narrator)
  - third-person limited point of view
- What is the setting?
- What is the time period?
  - What is the duration of the story?
  - Where did the action take place?
  - Where else did the action take place?
- Who are the characters?
  - Who are the main characters? The protagonist? Is there an antagonist? If so, who?
  - What does each character look like?
  - What is the personality of each character?
  - Do any of the characters undergo any changes or learn something about themselves and the world?
- Know (in chronological order) the sequence of events, especially by chapter, or act and scene.
- Be able to summarize the problems of each main character and each resolution.
- Be able to recognize any suspense, foreshadowing, or flashback in the story.
- Is there any symbolism in the story? If so, what?
- What are the themes of the story? (There could be more than one main idea or purpose of the story.)
- What is the tone of the story?
- What is the mood of the story?