



Literature I: Grade 9 Summer Reading Assignments

Directions - Please email Ms. Twomey at ktwomey@thewoodwardschool.org with any questions. Summer Reading Assignments will be collected the first week of classes on Friday, September 5, 2025.

Required Reading List: Choose and read **two novels** from the following list and **complete two separate writing assignments** from the list of writing prompts located on the following page:

Alcott, Louisa May	<i>Little Women</i>
Coelho, Paulo	<i>The Alchemist</i>
Ellison, Ralph	<i>Invisible Man</i>
Goldman, William	<i>The Princess Bride</i>
Grodin, Ryan	<i>Wolf by Wolf</i>
Haddon, Mark	<i>The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time</i>
Hemingway, Ernest	<i>The Old Man and the Sea</i>
Kidd, Sue Monk	<i>The Secret Life of Bees</i>
Martel, Yan	<i>Life of Pi</i>
McManus, Karen	<i>One of Us is Lying</i>
Morris, Brittney	<i>Slay</i>
Smith, Betty	<i>A Tree Grows in Brooklyn</i>
Thomas, Angie	<i>The Hate U Give</i>
Zusak, Marcus	<i>The Book Thief</i>

Literature I: Grade 9 *Summer Reading Assignments*

Directions: Read through the following writing prompts before and after you complete your summer reading novels. Choose the prompt that best applies to your novel and write a one-page response answering all parts of the prompt.

You must complete an open response for **each** of the required novels you choose (**2 one-page open response writing assignments are due upon return to school**).

1. Choose one of the novels from the required reading list, select a character who displays one of the following **traits: pride, greed, envy, selfishness** and discuss how one of these traits **leads to his/her downfall**.
2. Choose one of the novels from the required reading list, select a character who **encounters a situation that requires courage and/or stands up for something he or she believes in**. Your response must identify the character, describe how the character reacts to the situation that requires courage, and explain how the character's actions are important to the work as a whole.
3. Choose one of the novels from the required reading list, select a character who is **punished or rejected for being different**. Your response must identify the character, describe how the character is punished or rejected for being different, and explain how the character's experience relates to the work as a whole.
4. Choose one of the novels from the required reading list, select a character whose **pride or selfishness creates conflict** (internal and/or external). Your response must identify the character, describe how the character's pride or selfishness creates conflict, and explain how the character's experience relates to the work as a whole.
5. Choose one of the novels from the required reading list, select a character who **gains wisdom through experience**. Your response must identify the character, describe how the character gains wisdom through experience, and explain how this wisdom relates to the work as a whole.
6. Choose one of the novels from the required reading list, select a character who **confronts a threatening environment or situation**. Your response must identify the character, describe the threatening environment or situation the character confronts, and explain how the character's experience is important to the work as a whole.

Guidelines:

- Your response should be typed in Times New Roman, 12-point Font, Double-spaced.
- Make sure to include the title and the author of the work in your response.
- Your response should be written in **present tense**. Do not use 1st person (I, me, my) in your response.
- Remember to restate the questions from the prompt within your response.
- You must complete two responses, one for each of the novels you choose/chose from the provided list.
- You should choose a different prompt for each novel.
- See **SAMPLE RESPONSE** for proper formatting, organization, and structure.

*Each of your responses should look like the SAMPLE RESPONSE. Insert Header including your Last Name and page number in upper, right-hand corner.