

Bishop McDevitt High School Summer Reading Assignments



All students enrolled with Bishop McDevitt High School are required to complete a summer reading assignment. Studies show that students who read more perform better in all areas of school. The Bishop McDevitt High School English Department has adopted a summer reading program that supports student choice. We encourage students to explore topics of personal interest.

The assignment:

- Choose a high school appropriate book of your choice based on the guidelines listed below. The book must meet the minimum number of pages in length.
- Complete a Double Entry Reading Response Journal. Please see the chart below and the directions on the following page. Journals are due on the first day of school. Journals may be handwritten or typed. You do not need an entire notebook.

ONE book of choice for each grade	Pages	Number of Double Journal Entries
9	at least 150	9
10	at least 200	10
11 (must be an American author)	at least 250	11
12* (One novel by an international author or two modern dramas)	at least 300	12 (If reading two modern dramas, complete 6 entries for each play)

*Additional assignments for AP English will be communicated to students.

Please avoid reading the following texts, as these are covered in classes offered at Bishop McDevitt.

A Tale of Two Cities
The Hunger Games
Fahrenheit 451
Death of a Salesman
Fences
A Streetcar Named Desire
A Raisin in the Sun
Wonder
The Great Gatsby
The Crucible
The Scarlet Letter
The Red Badge of Courage
The Canterbury Tales
Beowulf
The Inferno
Saint Joan
A Man for All Seasons
Medea
God's Favorite
Inherit the Wind
Long Way Down
Crossover
Inside out and Back Again

How you will be graded:

1. *The quality of the quotes you pick.* Select quotes that you feel are important to the text or really mean something to you. If you select randomly, you may not be able to give as meaningful of a response.
2. *The thoughtfulness of your opinions and explanations.* Your teacher will be looking to see that you really tried to make connections between your quote and the rest of the book and/or yourself. (Do NOT just give a summary of the quote.) Instead, show your teacher how this passage made you think and/or how it connected to you.

Include the Title and Author on the first page of your journal.

Focus Correction Areas:

FCA 1: Each entry contains complete sentences. 2 pts.

FCA 2: Quotes are properly cited and chosen for quality. 3 pts.

FCA 3: Explanations thoroughly answer the prompts and provide context for the quotation. 20 pts.

Double Entry Reading Response Journal Directions

The **left** side of the page should have the following:

A quote that interested you, caught your attention, said something that captured a main idea of the book, or made you think. (Keep in mind this can either be a passage from the book or character dialogue.)

After the quote, you should identify the speaker (either the narrator or the name of a character) and the page number on which you found the quote.

You **MUST** provide parenthetical page citations for your quotes

****Be sure to include the title and author of your book at the top of the page.**

Example journal page

Sample from *Speak* by Laurie Halse Anderson:

QUOTE	OPINION
"I can't believe we have to keep playacting until I graduate." – Narrator (Anderson 70)	Melinda is talking about her family here and how they are always pretending to be something that they're not. I could look at a million families and think they are all happy when, in reality, half of them aren't. And some people have to hide what goes on in their family and no one would ever guess. It makes me think of all the unhappy families out there.
"You don't like anything – you are the most depressed person I've ever met, and excuse me for saying this, but you are no fun to be around and I think you need professional help." – Heather to Melinda (Anderson 105)	I feel bad for Melinda as Heather "dumps" her as a friend. She is having so many problems and now none of her friends are there for her, even the girl she just met. None of her friends know anything, and I feel bad that she has no one to talk to about that.
"You missed the bus again." – Mom (Anderson 96)	If I were Melinda right now, I would go nuts! Yet again, I find that we are two different people with two different goals. I want and need to go to school, am worried about getting in trouble, and try as hard as I can to get to class on time, even if that means running to class. On the other hand, Melinda doesn't care about school, doesn't care about getting in trouble, and gets to class when she gets to class. I never noticed how different we are until this moment.

On the **right** side of the page, you need to do the following:

- Briefly give the context of the quote (i.e., what is happening at this point in the book or to what is the passage referring).

AND

- Answer **ONE** of the following questions for **EACH QUOTE**. Avoid using the same prompt too often.

- What strikes you about this?
- What was your first thought when you read this? And then?
- What does this passage/idea make you think of or remember?
- Do you want to challenge or qualify this author's claim? In what ways do you agree with it? Disagree?
- What else have you read/heard/experienced that connects with this author's ideas?
- Does something confuse you or lead to further questions?
- How do you feel about this?

- Your explanation should be at least 2-3 sentences for each quote.

Answer a variety of questions throughout your journal.



We encourage you to choose a text of personal interest that is age and school appropriate. However, if you are having a difficult time choosing a book, please consider these faculty recommendations.

Aimless Love by Billy Collins (Poetry Collection)
All American Boys by Jason Reynolds and Brendan Kiely
All the Light We Cannot See by Anthony Doerr
Arcadia by Tom Stoppard*
The Art of Racing in the Rain by Garth Stein
Band of Brothers by Stephen E. Ambrose
Betrayal by Harold Pinter*
Between Shades of Gray by Ruta Sepetys
The Book Thief by Markus Zusak
Dear Martin by Nic Stone
Ender's Game by Orson Scott Card
Enrique's Journey by Sonia Nazario
Fences by August Wilson*
Four-Four-Two by Dean Hughes
The Glass Menagerie by Tennessee Williams*
Ghost Boys by Jewell Parker Rhodes
The Good Earth by Pearl S. Buck
His Majesty's Dragon by Naomi Novik
The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy by Douglas Adams
The Hobbit by J.R.R. Tolkien
In the Garden of Beasts by Erik Larson
Killer Angels by Michael Shaara
Kim by Rudyard Kipling
The Kite Runner by Khaled Hosseini
Leaves of Grass by Walt Whitman (Poetry Collection)
Letters to a Young Poet by Rainer Maria Rilke
The Life of Pi by Yann Martel
Lord of the Flies by William Golding
Love in the Time of Cholera by Gabriel García Márquez
A Man Called Ove by Fredrik Backman
The Measure of a Man by Sidney Poitier
Monkey: A Journey to the West by Cheng'en Wu, translated by David Kherdian
The Narrow Road to the Interior by Basho (Poetry Collection)
One Day In The Life of Ivan Denisovich by Alexander Solzhenitsyn
Orbiting Jupiter by Gary D. Schmidt
Perfume: The Story of a Murderer by Patrick Süskind
Proof by David Auburn*
Pride and Prejudice by Jane Austen
Purple Hibiscus by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie
Radium Girls by Kate Moore
Ready Player One by Ernest Cline
The Risen Empire by Scott Westerfeld
Salt to the Sea by Ruta Sepetys
Scythe by Neal Shusterman
Siddhartha by Hermann Hesse
Things Fall Apart by Chinua Achebe
Translations by Brian Friel*
We Were Liars by E. Lockhart
Wit by Margaret Edson*

*modern dramas should only be read by seniors