

Upper Junior – 8th Grade
2021 Summer Reading Assignment

Dear Parents:

Summer reading is an integral part of your child's education. Therefore, each student is required to read **four** books during the summer.

Each student must read the following books and they will be discussed and evaluated in the language arts class in the fall:

Lee, Harper - *To Kill a Mockingbird*
Weisel, Elie - *Night*

Each student must also choose **two** books from the following list.

Christie, A. - *Ten Little Indians (also titled And Then There Were None)*
Cormier, R. - *I am the Cheese*
Gunther, J. - *Death Be Not Proud*
McNeely, J. & Peck, R. - *Something For Joey*
Paterson, K. - *Jacob Have I Loved*
Saroyan, William – *The Human Comedy*
Smith, B. - *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn*
Zusak, Markus - *The Book Thief*

Students will be tested on the two required books (*Night* and *To Kill a Mockingbird*) shortly after their return to school. It is HIGHLY SUGGESTED that students take notes as they read the required reading books (outline of the basic events in each chapter) on the characters, setting, plot, conflicts, etc. in the novels while reading.

Students must complete one of the writing options on the accompanying Summer Reading Writing Options sheet for the two books they select from the reading list above. You can only select an option once. Please see the Writing Options sheet for more details. The two writing options must be completed and submitted on the first Friday after school begins.

Please discuss and share your child's reading. If your child is experiencing difficulty with the summer reading, please read with him or her. This will give you an opportunity to spend time with your child. If you would like suggestions for additional reading, do not hesitate to ask for help at your library.

Sincerely,
Mr. Jacob Waylen

Upper Junior 6/21

SUMMER READING WRITING OPTIONS

LOWER AND UPPER JUNIOR

For both of the two books you select from the reading list, you must complete one of the following writing options. You must select a separate option for each book – no repeats.

Be sure to read each option carefully and include all of the required information for that writing option. Use complete sentences and paragraph form.

All writing options (#1-3) must be one to two pages in length and must be typed and double spaced.

The following are the writing activity options:

1. Write a diary entry that one of the story's main characters might have kept before, during, or after the book's events. Remember that the character's thoughts and feelings are very important in a diary.
2. Compare and contrast two characters in the story in a five paragraph essay format.
3. Write a feature article (with a headline) that tells the story of the book as it might be found on the front page of a newspaper in the town (or country) where the story takes place.
4. Make an illustrated timeline showing events of the story and a travel brochure advertising the setting of the story.

Enjoy your reading and have a terrific summer!