

Summer Reading English IV Regular and Honors

1. Choose one of the following books to read this summer.

Grendel by John Gardner- ISBN ID: 2940014563215

Pride and Prejudice by Jane Austin (public domain)

Neverwhere by Neil Gaiman- ISBN-13:9780062459084

Dracula by Bram Stoker- ISBN: 0-486-41109-5

2. Complete a Summer Reading Alternative Book Report

Chose ONE of the following alternative book reports to complete after reading your chosen book. Each writing assignment must be 500-600 words, roughly 1 ½ to 2 pages typed, double spaced, 12 point Times New Roman font, and 1 inch margins (basic MLA format) with the following header:

Last Name, First Name

English IV Regular and Honors Summer Reading Alternative Book Report

Book Title by Author's Full Name

Point of view column. Write an opinion column like those that appear on the editorial page of a newspaper. Choose a theme or the big, overarching idea of the novel you just read and write the column from the point of view of one of the characters. Choose a position. What is the clear point about the book that character wants to make? Have the character talk about who cares or should care about the topic or theme. Write in the first person as the character making it clear on exactly where he/she stands on the theme you choose to discuss. You should also include supporting facts and/or example from the text to support the character's position and opinion on the topic.

Talk to the author. Write a letter to the author of the book explaining to him or her why you think he or she wrote the book and what he or she was trying to show through the book. Be sure to explain what specifically you liked about the book and what you got out of the book.

New acquaintances. Select TWO characters. Then think about three people, living or dead, that you would like your characters to meet. Write about how you selected these new acquaintances, what they might have in common and what you'd like the character to learn from each of the people you introduced him or her to. For instance, after reading *The True Confession of Charlotte Doyle* you might want Charlotte to meet Sojourner Truth so she can see other women who do important work, Madame Curie who worked in a field not many women ever entered, and so on.

Create a character's room. We learn a lot about people by what they keep in their closets, what they have on their walls, what they select to put in a room. Select a character you know well from the novel and create a living room, bedroom, kitchen, or some other room that would mean a lot to that character. Draw it in detail on a piece of computer paper, add appropriate color to the room, and then write about it, making sure to include a full and detailed explanation of why you designed the room as you did. You may consider a computer-generated design to enhance the detail of your space. **Questions: contact Mr. DiMaggio at dimaggioj@pcsb.org**