

Community Reading:

1. All students must read *Silence* by Shusaku Endo (ISBN: 978-1250082275) and be prepared for Harkness discussions on the first day of school. Students should prepare for Harkness discussion utilizing the following methods:
 - Maintain a dialectical journal as you read (see attached information).
 - Be prepared to discuss your reaction to the book, specific questions raised, Biblical stories used as support, writing style, logic employed, ideas, etc.
 - Be prepared to address the key ideas raised by Endo in the book.
 - Prepare three discussion questions for consideration.
 - Students are strongly encouraged to participate in active reading – making notes in the text, highlighting, asking questions in the margins, looking up scriptures, summarizing each chapter, etc.
 - Be prepared to address the literary and theological questions raised in the Discussion Questions and Topics (back of the text).

Students are required to bring the book and dialectical journal to class for the discussions.

2. Additionally, all seniors should read *Radical: Taking Back Your Faith from the American Dream*, by David Platt (978-1601422217). This non-fiction selection is strongly encouraged for all students, but only required for the senior class. This text will be referenced in American Literature and utilized in Senior Thesis. For all others that choose to participate in reading this book, it will provide many connections to the above required text, *Silence*, and it will challenge readers to go deeper in their walk with Christ.

In addition to the above, students should read the appropriate book below and complete the corresponding assignment.

Ancient Literature (Grade 9):

Students must read *The Young Carthaginian* by G. A. Henty (978-1484910658). This text is also available free at www.gutenberg.org. After reading *The Young Carthaginian*, students must Write a five paragraph essay analyzing Malchus as the protagonist (i.e., what type of character is he?). Here is a site that gives the basics of character analysis: <https://www.enotes.com/topics/how-write-character-analysis>

Note: Students need to bring two copies of their essay on the first day of school.

Medieval Literature (Grade 10):

Students must read *Beric the Briton* by G. A. Henty (978-1406812336). This text is also available free at www.gutenberg.org. Following the reading of *Beric the Briton*, students must write a five paragraph essay on the text according to the following expectations. One of the most revealing types of conflict occurs when a character's inner struggles are resolved at great personal price. Often, the character learns a lesson, but too late to help himself or another character. Explain how, in this novel, a character struggles but fails to learn a lesson in time, and thus, serves as an example for the reader. In your five paragraph essay, focus on the conflict within the character. Be sure to include the price paid as part of the resolution and the lesson to be learned.

Note: Students need to bring two copies of their essay on the first day of school.

British Literature (Grade 11):

Students must read *Frankenstein*, written by Mary Shelley (978-1586171384). This text is also available free at www.gutenberg.org. Following the reading of *Frankenstein*, the students must write a five paragraph essay on the following topic: Hamartia refers to the fatal flaw of a character, one that is often their undoing. What was the hamartia of Dr. Victor Frankenstein? Provide specific examples from the text.

Note: Students need to bring two copies of their essay on the first day of school.

American Literature (Grade 12):

Students must read *The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald (978-0743273565). Following the reading of *The Great Gatsby*, students must write a five paragraph essay explaining how the novel does or does not demonstrate the death of the American Dream. Is the main theme of *Gatsby* indeed "the withering American Dream"? What does the novel offer about American identity? (Reference the characteristics of the American Dream within the body of your paper.)

Note: Students need to bring two copies of their essay on the first day of school.