



Royal West Academy
Grade 8
2016 Summer Reading Instructions

Students are free to read as many books as they wish from the Summer Reading List, but every student must read *And Then There Were None* by Agatha Christie, and two additional books of your choosing from the list provided. No other titles may be substituted.

1. **During the first weeks of classes there will be a Summer Reading Test or similar evaluation activity based on the novels read.**
2. In addition, **notes must be taken** (details are below) while reading the book selections during the summer and these notes will be **collected on the first full day of school.**

The **notes are to be organized** and labeled **under the following headings**:

- a) **Title and Author:** a record of the title (underlined) and author's full name.
 - b) **Main Characters:** record impressions on a maximum of two main characters describing their **physical traits** (include gender, name, and age as well), and **psychological traits** (personality traits, with brief examples from the story to support these traits). Each description is to be approximately **50 words**.
 - c) **Setting:** record the time period, place of events, duration of events, and social conditions if applicable—for example, is there evidence of racism or war?
Approximately **50 Words**.
 - d) **Conflict:** record whether it is an **internal or external conflict**, and more specifically **what are the two opposing forces?** Then **explain the conflict**—how it began (the **complicating incident**) and how it was resolved. Use the appropriate terminology. For example, “in the **rising action.....**”, and “the **climactic moment** is when...” ,and “the resolution is...”
Approximately **100 words**.
 - e) **Theme:** provide a short concise description of the theme with some evidence. Remember that one word like “friendship” is not a theme but a thematic subject. Theme is a statement that can be made out about humankind and or society in general. For example, “Friendships in adversity make difficult times easier to manage.” Approximately **50 words**.
3. **Do not use someone else's notes or copy notes from an outside source including the internet (even partially) as this constitutes plagiarism.**
 4. **Please be mindful of the word count for the notes.**

The aim of summer reading is to provide an enjoyable and varied reading experience, and to ensure exposure to writers who may not have been previously encountered. It is hoped that parents will show interest in their child's reading, but will allow the activity to be the sole responsibility of the student.



Royal West Academy

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Summer 2016 Reading List

Grade 8

Author	Title	Genre	About the book
Anchor Novel (everyone must read this book):			
Christie, Agatha	<i>And Then There Were None</i>	Mystery	Ten people are enticed into coming to an island under different pretexts, each complicit in the death(s) of other human beings.
Choose <u>any two</u> (2) of the following to read:			
Auxier, Jonathan	<i>The Night Gardener</i>	Historical Fiction/ Horror	When orphaned Irish siblings Molly and Kip arrive to work as servants at a creepy, crumbling English manor house, they discover that the house and its inhabitants are not what they seem.
Rushdie, Salman	<i>Haroun and the Sea of Stories</i>	Magic Realism	A young boy helps his father regain the art of storytelling.
Cline, Ernest	<i>Ready Player One</i>	Science Fiction	In the year 2044, reality is an ugly place. The only time teenage Wade Watts really feels alive is when he's jacked into the virtual utopia known as the OASIS.
Arnold, David	<i>Mosquitoland</i>	Coming of Age	An epic road-trip with a few turns Mim Malone never saw coming when she ditches her father and stepmom, and jumps on a bus back to Cleveland to care for her sick mother.
Bradley, Alan *	<i>Sweetness at the Bottom of the Pie.</i>	Mystery	A dark English mystery, featuring precocious young sleuth Flavia de Luce and her eccentric family.

*** Canadian Author**