

Royal West Academy

Grade 11

2018 Summer Reading List & Instructions

Selections:

All the Light We Cannot See by Anthony Doerr

Middlesex by Jeffrey Eugenides

A Tree Grows in Brooklyn by Betty Smith

East of Eden by John Steinbeck

A Constellation of Vital Phenomena by Anthony Marra

The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry by Rachel Joyce

Alias Grace by Margaret Atwood

The Sisters Brothers by Patrick deWitt

Indian Horse by Richard Wagamese

The Remains of the Day by Kazuo Ishiguro

You may read as many books from the list as you wish, but you **must read two (2)**. You are expected to read the books carefully and take original notes; the notes will not be collected, but will help you prepare for your summer reading assessment which will take place over the course of September. You may use whatever format you're comfortable with for notes (ex: handwritten, typed, highlight passages, use Post-it notes, etc.).

Grade 11 summer reading assessment:

1. You will write a literary essay based on one of the books you read (C3 evaluation). Taking notes is highly encouraged as good notes will help you complete your essay.
2. For the second book, you will complete a close reading/quote analysis assignment (C2 evaluation). Please be advised that your test will be during the first school cycle.

Knowing the types of assessment, you should make a decision as to which book you want to write an essay on and which book you want to do the quote analysis on *before* school begins. As such, you should also take the necessary steps to prepare for the tasks ahead of time (i.e. perhaps start thinking of thesis statement ideas for the book you're basing your essay on).

Further Instructions:

You must read your books carefully and thoughtfully, considering the essential elements that you have been exploring in your English classes as well as your personal response to the book and how it speaks to you. Consider the following when taking notes:

Theme – the big ideas in the book about life, human behaviour, society and how they are explored and revealed, their impact on the reader, their relevance to our world.

Characters – the principal characteristics of the main and secondary characters, why they do what they do, how they change, what they learn, what is interesting about them, their psychological make-up, what they teach us about human behaviour, human nature

Setting – how author conveys setting, how setting enhances the various elements of the novel, how it evokes atmosphere, how it reveals theme

Narration – the distinctive features of how the book is written – point of view, tone, reliability of narrator, and how that contributes to overall impact of book

Style - the writing style, imagery, description, humour, language, dialogue, how style enhances themes, character, impact of book

It is always a good idea to highlight (or use Post-its if the book does not belong to you) passages that stand out to you.