



Sophomore English, Honors and College Prep Summer Reading 2024

One of our goals at The King's Christian School is to help students realize the benefits of reading. We believe you want to be successful in whatever you undertake in life. In order to become a more knowledgeable individual, a better reader, and a stronger writer who can impact the world for Christ, we ask you to take some time each day this summer to practice one of the simplest, most time-proven methods for a lifetime of success - **READ!**

All incoming Sophomores are required to read two books; one is a required text and the other is a choice book selected from a list.

Required Text:

- *Running For My Life* by Lopez Lomong; ISBN-10: 0718081447

Choice Text: Choose ONE of the following:

- *Never Fall Down: A Novel* by Patricia McCormick
- *The Revolution of Evelyn Serrano* by Sonia Manzano
- *Under the Mesquite* by Guadalupe Garcia McCall
- *The Red Badge of Courage* by Stephen Crane
- **The Pearl* by John Steinbeck

Note: While *The Pearl* is a short book, it is more complex. I would only encourage this book to very strong readers.

General Instructions

You will need to read both texts carefully and thoughtfully and complete the Readers' Journal assignment (see attached) for each. The journal is due **ON THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL**. In addition, when school resumes in the fall, you can expect a **TEST** on the required text, and a written project about your choice text. **The journal, test, and project will be the first 3 assignments of the year; failure to complete these will result in a poor grade for the first quarter.**

Additional Information

If at any point you desire clarification about summer reading instructions, please email me at sboszczuk@tkcs.org.



Response Journal for Summer Reading

Assignment: The first of your two summer reading assignments will be used to write a response journal. You will need to write one separate entry for EACH novel.

For each journal entry, include all of the following information.

Use the guideline below for each response entry. Each entry should be typed, in Arial or Times New Roman size 12 font, and single spaced. You will need to have a **DIGITAL COPY** prepared to submit to Google Classroom on the first day of school.

Your Name:

Grade

Title of the Text:

Author:

1. **Summary:** Write a paragraph that summarizes the novel in your own words (Do not use Spark Notes or any other online sources.) Your summary should be at least 5 sentences long but no more than one page, and it should identify the most important events from the plot. **Plagiarism will result in a 0 for the assignment.**
2. **Literary Analysis:** Write a paragraph to answer **each** of the questions below: (You are required to write THREE paragraphs)
 - Write a character description of the main character. Include a basic description, personality details, and tell how he or she grows or changes over the course of the story.
 - Describe the setting of the story. Go beyond just the time and place; instead identify parts of the setting that influenced the story. Consider things like the historical significance, cultural references, seasons, or socio-economic status, etc.
 - Write a paragraph explaining the lesson you believe the author was teaching, or the theme that he / she expressed. Make sure to include evidence from the story to support your theme.
3. **Favorite Quotes:** Find **two separate quotes** from the book that stood out to you. Copy the quote exactly and provide the page number citations. Add one - two sentences explaining why these quotes stood out to you and why they matter to the novel.
4. **Personal Connection:** Respond in 3-4 thoughtful sentences about how this book connects to one of the following things: another text that you read, something that has happened in your life, a historical or current event. What parts of the reading make you think of this connection?

Grading: These 2 journals will be worth 25 points each and will be graded based on your ability to follow directions, the quality and thoughtfulness of your answers, and on the quality of your writing.