

High School Supplemental Reading Requirement (updated for 2025-2026)

The NorthPointe Christian High School English department requires extracurricular reading ("Supplemental Reading") to accomplish the following four objectives:

- To encourage the enjoyment of reading
- To improve students' reading comprehension—and writing—skills
- To afford students the opportunity to develop and exercise their ability to discern what is true and Godly in what they read
- To prepare students for the expectations of the colleges they will attend.

Because the reading habits of young people have changed over the years, the goals of our Supplemental Reading requirement have also evolved. As a result, we now place more emphasis on the pleasure of reading.

- Students may begin their Supplemental Reading on the first day of summer vacation and may read ahead of the deadlines.
- Students must choose books that they have not already read.
- Students may (but are NOT required to) select any books from the reading list. For any books not on the pre-approved list, the student must seek pre-approval from his/her English teacher and a parent in order for the student to receive credit.
- The completion of each segment of the Supplemental Reading will account for a percentage of a student's quarterly grade.

Summary of Procedures

- Books are selected by the student but must be preapproved by the student's English teacher if it is not on the list.
- Students will get a parent's approval and signature on the form **prior** to reading any book.
- After reading a book, students must complete the response form.
- Parents must sign the form once the student completes the book and report.
- Students may attend a live performance of a professional play in place of one book. This must be pre-approved by the student's English teacher. The essay response should focus on questions that pertain to a performance. Ticket stub or program must be submitted with report.
- Students will turn in the forms to their teacher by the deadline.
- All work must be the student's original work and not plagiarized or AI generated.

*Please note that the student and parent signatures indicate that the student has read the work in its entirety. (Books must be read and not listened to unless expressly permitted by the Student Union or the student's English teacher.)

** Students not reading the novel or turning in work that is not original (is plagiarized) will receive no credit for this assignment.

*** Students may **not** use books read in another class.

***Students may **not** read more than two books in a series.

Grades:	9th – 11th Grades	12th
<u>Grade</u>		
Number of books required in the 1 st quarter:	1	1
Deadline: The Friday before the end of the 1st quarter		
Worth 5% of 1st quarter grade		
Number of books required during the 2 nd quarter:	1	1
Deadline: The Friday before the end of the 2nd quarter		
Worth 5% of 2nd quarter grade		
Number of books required during the 3 rd quarter:	1	1
Deadline: The Friday before the end of the 3rd quarter		
Worth 5% of 3rd quarter grade		
Number of books required during the 4 th quarter:	1	0
Deadline: The last week of regular class before exams		
Worth 5% of 4th quarter grade		
Totals	4	3

In the following list, we have tried to suggest books of intellectual and educational merit, books that are part of the Western literary canon or esteemed by academics and scholars as essential reading for the college-bound student. Because many of the books on the list do not represent a Christian worldview and may contain language, sexual content, or philosophy contrary to the beliefs and values of your family, it is very important that you help your child select books that reflect those values. Please **pre-approve** the novels that your child reads and then **confirm** that your child has completed the reading by providing the appropriate signatures on the forms.

The Supplemental Reading List

NOTE: 9th and 10th graders may read books from the 11th and 12th grade list, but 11th and 12th grade students may *not* read books from the 9th and 10th grade list.

9th / 10th Grade List

Author

Title

Adams, Douglas	<i>The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy</i>
Austen, Jane	<i>Lady Susan</i>
Bronte, Emily	<i>Wuthering Heights</i>
Buck, Pearl	<i>The Good Earth</i>
Bunyan, John	<i>Pilgrim's Progress</i>
Card, Orson	<i>Ender's Game</i>
Carter, Asa Earl	<i>The Education of Little Tree</i>
Conrad, Joseph	<i>Lord Jim</i>
Defoe, Daniel	<i>Robinson Crusoe</i>
Dumas, Alexander	<i>The Three Musketeers</i>
Eliot, George	<i>Silas Marner</i>
Eliot, George	<i>Middlemarch</i>
Eliot, George	<i>The Mill on the Floss</i>
Greenberg, Joanne	<i>I Never Promised You a Rose Garden</i>
Hosseini, Khaled	<i>The Kite Runner</i>
Hosseini, Khaled	<i>A Thousand Splendid Suns</i>
Kipling, Rudyard	<i>Kim</i>
Lewis, C.S.	<i>The Screwtape Letters</i>
Melville, Herman	<i>Billy Budd</i>
Nordoff and Hall	<i>Mutiny on the Bounty</i>
Orczy, Baroness	<i>The Scarlet Pimpernel</i>
Orwell, George	<i>Animal Farm</i>
Potok, Chaim	<i>The Chosen</i>
Rand, Ayn	<i>Anthem</i>
Rawlings, Marjorie	<i>The Yearling</i>
Richter, Conrad	<i>The Light in the Forest</i>
Richter, Conrad	<i>The Fields</i>
Richter, Conrad	<i>The Trees</i>
Shulman, Irving	<i>West Side Story</i>
Shute, Nevil	<i>On the Beach</i>
Sinclair, Upton	<i>The Jungle</i>
Steinbeck, John	<i>The Red Pony</i>
Steinbeck, John	<i>Of Mice and Men</i>
Stevenson, R.L.	<i>Treasure Island</i>

Stevenson, R.L.	<i>The Black Arrow</i>
Swift, Jonathan	<i>Gulliver's Travels</i>
Tan, Amy	<i>The Joy Luck Club</i>
Tolkien, J.R.R.	<i>The Lord of the Rings Trilogy: Fellowship of the Ring, The Two Towers, and Return of the King</i> (choose one of the three)
Twain, Mark	<i>The Prince and The Pauper</i>
Twain, Mark	<i>A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court</i>
Tyler, Anne	<i>The Accidental Tourist</i>
Verne, Jules	<i>Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea</i>
Verne, Jules	<i>Around the World in 80 Days</i>
Wells, H.G.	<i>The Island of Dr. Moreau</i>
Wells, H.G.	<i>War of the Worlds</i>

11th / 12th Grade List

<u>Author</u>	<u>Title</u>
Achebe, Chinua	<i>Things Fall Apart</i>
Angelou, Maya	<i>I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings</i>
Austen, Jane	<i>Pride and Prejudice</i>
Austen, Jane	<i>Sense and Sensibility</i>
Austen, Jane	<i>Emma</i>
Austen, Jane	<i>Persuasion</i>
Bernanos, Georges	<i>Diary of a Country Priest</i>
Bronte, Charlotte	<i>Jane Eyre</i>
Butler, Samuel	<i>The Way of All Flesh</i>
Buechner, Frederick	<i>Godric</i>
Buechner, Frederick	<i>Brendan</i>
Buechner, Frederick	<i>The Son of Laughter</i>
Campbell, Will	<i>Brother to a Dragonfly</i>
Cather, Willa	<i>Death Comes for the Archbishop</i>
Cather, Willa	<i>My Antonia</i>
Cather, Willa	<i>O Pioneers!</i>
Cervantes, Miguel	<i>Don Quixote</i>
Chekhov, Anton	<i>The Cherry Orchard</i>
Chevalier, Tracy	<i>Girl with a Pearl Earring</i>
Conrad, Joseph	<i>Heart of Darkness</i>
Cooper, James Fenimore	<i>Deer Slayer</i>
Cooper, James Fenimore	<i>Last of the Mohicans</i>
Dickens, Charles	<i>David Copperfield</i>
Dickens, Charles	<i>Great Expectations</i>
Dickens, Charles	<i>A Tale of Two Cities</i>

Dickens, Charles	<i>Pickwick Papers</i>
Dillard, Annie	<i>American Childhood</i>
Dillard, Annie	<i>Pilgrim at Tinker Creek</i>
DuMaurier, Daphne	<i>Rebecca</i>
Dostoyevsky, Fyodor	<i>Crime and Punishment</i>
Dostoyevsky, Fyodor	<i>The Idiot</i>
Dostoyevsky, Fyodor	<i>The Brothers Karamazov</i>
Dumas, Alexandre	<i>The Count of Monte Cristo</i>
Eliot, George	<i>Adam Bede</i>
Eliot, George	<i>Romola</i>
Eliot, T.S.	<i>Murder in the Cathedral</i>
Ellison, Ralph	<i>Invisible Man</i>
Endo, Shusaku	<i>Silence</i>
Endo, Shusaku	<i>The Samurai</i>
Endo, Shusaku	<i>Volcano</i>
Euripides	<i>Medea</i>
Faulkner, William	<i>Absalom, Absalom!</i>
Faulkner, William	<i>As I Lay Dying</i>
Faulkner, William	<i>Intruder in the Dust</i>
Faulkner, William	<i>Light in August</i>
Faulkner, William	<i>The Sound and the Fury</i>
Fitzgerald, F. Scott	<i>This Side of Paradise</i>
Forester, C.S.	<i>Hornblower and the Hotspur</i>
Forester, C.S.	<i>Hornblower and the Atropos</i>
Forester, C.S.	<i>Captain from Connecticut</i>
Forster, E.M.	<i>A Passage to India</i>
Frazer, James George	<i>The Golden Bough</i>
Frazier, Charles	<i>Cold Mountain</i>
Gardner, John	<i>Grendel</i>
Goldsmith, Oliver	<i>Vicar of Wakefield</i>
Greene, Graham	<i>The Power and the Glory</i>
Hardy, Thomas	<i>Mayor of Casterbridge</i>
Hardy, Thomas	<i>The Return of the Native</i>
Hardy, Thomas	<i>Far from the Maddening Crowd</i>
Hardy, Thomas	<i>Tess of the D'Urbervilles</i>
Hardy, Thomas	<i>Jude the Obscure</i>
Hawthorne, Nathaniel	<i>Blithedale Romance</i>
Hawthorne, Nathaniel	<i>House of Seven Gables</i>
Heller, Joseph	<i>Catch-22</i>
Hemingway, Ernest	<i>For Whom the Bell Tolls</i>

Hemingway, Ernest	<i>The Sun Also Rises</i>
Homer	<i>The Odyssey</i>
Homer	<i>The Iliad</i>
Hugo, Victor	<i>Les Misérables</i>
Hurston, Zorah Neale	<i>Their Eyes Were Watching God</i>
Ibsen, Henrik	<i>A Doll's House</i>
Ibsen, Henrik	<i>An Enemy of the People</i>
Ibsen, Henrik	<i>Hedda Gabler</i>
James, Henry	<i>The Portrait of a Lady</i>
James, Henry	<i>Daisy Miller</i>
James, Henry	<i>The Turn of the Screw</i>
Joyce, James	<i>A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man</i>
Kipling, Rudyard	<i>The Light that Failed</i>
Kipling, Rudyard	<i>Phantom Rickshaw</i>
Kipling, Rudyard	<i>Seven Seas</i>
Landon, Margaret	<i>Anna and the King of Siam</i>
Lewis, C.S.	<i>Till We Have Faces</i>
Lewis, C.S.	<i>Out of the Silent Planet</i>
Lewis, C.S.	<i>Perelandra</i>
Lewis, C.S.	<i>That Hideous Strength</i>
Malamud, Bernard	<i>The Natural</i>
Malamud, Bernard	<i>The Assistant</i>
Malamud, Bernard	<i>The Fixer</i>
Marlowe, Christopher	<i>Doctor Faustus</i>
Melville, Herman	<i>Moby Dick</i>
Miller, Arthur	<i>Death of a Salesman</i>
Miller, Walter	<i>A Canticle for Leibowitz</i>
Milton, John	<i>Samson Agonistes</i>
Mitchel, Margaret	<i>Gone With the Wind</i>
Morrison, Toni	<i>Beloved</i>
Morrison, Toni	<i>Song of Solomon</i>
O'Connor, Flannery	<i>A Good Man is Hard to Find, and other stories</i>
O'Connor, Flannery	<i>Wise Blood</i>
Pasternak, Boris	<i>Doctor Zhivago</i>
Paton, Alan	<i>Cry, the Beloved Country</i>
Plath, Sylvia	<i>The Bell Jar</i>
Salinger, J.D.	<i>The Catcher in the Rye</i>
Scanlan and Clark	<i>America's Best Newspaper Writing</i>
Scott, Sir Walter	<i>Ivanhoe</i>
Solzhenitsyn, Alexander	<i>One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich</i>

Sophocles	<i>Oedipus Rex</i>
Steinbeck, John	<i>Cannery Row</i>
Steinbeck, John	<i>East of Eden</i>
Steinbeck, John	<i>Grapes of Wrath</i>
Thackeray, William	<i>Vanity Fair</i>
Thoreau, Henry David	<i>Walden</i>
Tolkien, J.R.R.	<i>The Silmarillion</i>
Tolstoy, Leo	<i>Anna Karenina</i>
Twain, Mark	<i>Life on the Mississippi</i>
Virgil	<i>The Aeneid</i>
Vonnegut, Kurt	<i>Slaughterhouse-Five</i>
Warren, Robert Penn	<i>All the King's Men</i>
Wharton, Edith	<i>Age of Innocence</i>
Wharton, Edith	<i>Ethan Frome and Summer</i>
Wilde, Oscar	<i>The Picture of Dorian Gray</i>
Wilder, Thornton	<i>Our Town</i>
Williams, Charles	<i>All Hallows Eve</i>
Williams, Charles	<i>Descent Into Hell</i>
Williams, Charles	<i>The Greater Trumps</i>
Williams, Charles	<i>Many Dimensions</i>
Williams, Tennessee	<i>The Glass Menagerie</i>
Wright, Richard	<i>Native Son</i>

9th / 12th Grade List (students in grades 9-12 can read from the following lists):

<u>Author</u>	<u>Title</u>
Shakespeare, William	<i>The Merchant of Venice</i>
Shakespeare, William	<i>Hamlet</i>
Shakespeare, William	<i>Othello</i>
Shakespeare, William	<i>The Tempest</i>
Shakespeare, William	<i>Twelfth Night</i>
Shakespeare, William	<i>A Mid-Summer Night's Dream</i>
Shakespeare, William	<i>Much Ado About Nothing</i>
Shakespeare, William	<i>Antony and Cleopatra</i>
Shakespeare, William	<i>Henry V</i>
Shakespeare, William	<i>As You Like It</i>

(additional Shakespeare plays can be requested for teacher approval)

Suggested reading from the Social Studies Department:

<u>Author</u>	<u>Title</u>
Adams, Henry	<i>The Education Of Henry Adams</i>
Beecher Stowe, Harriet	<i>Uncle Tom's Cabin</i>
Catton, Bruce	<i>A Stillness at Appomattox</i>
Douglass, Frederick	<i>Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass</i>
Griffin, John Howard	<i>Black Like Me</i>
Haley, Alex	<i>Roots</i>
Lewis Allen, Frederick	<i>Only Yesterday</i>
Lewis, Sinclair	<i>Babbitt</i>
MacDonald, George	<i>The Portent</i>
Malcolm X and A. Haley	<i>The Autobiography Of Malcolm X</i>
Michener, James	<i>The Bridges at Toko-ri</i>
O'Brien, Tim	<i>The Things They Carried</i>
Reynolds, Quentin	<i>They Fought for the Sky</i>
Rolvaag, Ole	<i>Giants in the Earth</i>
Steffins, Lincoln	<i>The Shame of the Cities</i>
Tuchmann, Barbara	<i>The Guns of August</i>
Washington, Booker T.	<i>Up From Slavery</i>
Westheimer, David	<i>Von Ryan's Express</i>

Suggested reading from the Art Department:

<u>Author</u>	<u>Title</u>
Picasso, Marina	<i>Picasso my Grandfather</i>
Pollitzer, Anita	<i>A Woman on Paper; Georgia O'Keeffe</i>
Potok, Chaim	<i>My Name is Asher Lev</i>
Rookmaaker, H.R.	<i>Modern Art and the Death of Culture</i>
Stone, Irving	<i>Depths of Glory; a biographical novel of Camille Pissarro</i>
Stone, Irving	<i>The Agony and the Ecstasy; a novel of Michelangelo</i>
Van Loon, Hendrik W.	<i>R.V.R; the life of Rembrandt van Rijn</i>

Suggested reading from the Bible Department:

<u>Author</u>	<u>Title</u>
Bonhoeffer, Dietrich	<i>The Cost of Discipleship</i>
Chesterton, G.K.	<i>Orthodoxy</i>
Colson, Charles	<i>How Should We Now Live</i>
Fee, Gordon	<i>How to Read the Bible for All It's Worth</i>
James, William	<i>The Varieties Of Religious Experience</i>
Keller, Timothy	<i>King's Cross</i>
Keller, Timothy	<i>Prodigal God</i>

Lewis, C.S.	<i>Mere Christianity</i>
Lewis, C.S.	<i>The Great Divorce</i>
Lewis, C.S.	<i>The Pilgrim's Regress</i>
McKnight, Scot	<i>One Life</i>
Michener, James	<i>The Source</i>
Miller, Donald	<i>A Million Miles in a Thousand Years</i>
Ortberg, John	<i>Everybody's Normal Until You Get to Know Them</i>
Ortberg, John	<i>The Me I Want to Be</i>
Packer, J.I.	<i>Knowing God</i>
Piper, John	<i>Don't Waste Your Life</i>
Postman, Neil	<i>Amusing Ourselves to Death</i>
Sire, James	<i>The Universe Next Door</i>
St. Augustine	<i>Confessions</i>
Strobel, Lee	<i>The Case for Christ</i>
Strobel, Lee	<i>The Case for Faith</i>
Willard, Dallas	<i>The Divine Conspiracy</i>
Yancey, Philip	<i>What's So Amazing About Grace</i>
Zacharias, Ravi	<i>Jesus Among the Other gods</i>

Suggested reading from the Math and Science Departments:

<u>Author</u>	<u>Title</u>
Behe, Michael	<i>Darwin's Black Box</i>
Devlin and Lorden	<i>The Math Behind Numb3rs</i>
Stewart, Ian	<i>Flatterland</i>
Strobel, Lee	<i>The Case for a Creator</i>

Supplemental Reading Requirement Confirmation Form

For which quarter is this? QT 1 QT 2 QT 3 QT 4

Student Name: _____ Grade: _____

Book Title: _____

Author: _____

Once the reading and report are completed:

I read this book in its entirety. _____ (initial the line if *yes*)

If you did **not** read the book in its entirety, what percentage did you read _____? skim _____?

Student Signature

Date

Parent Confirmation of Completion

Which question(s) from the response list are you answering for this book? _____

You may not use/answer the same question more than twice during the school year

* Attach this signed form to the front of your reading response, if printed, or scan it and submit it as a digital copy on Schoology (if an online submission is available).

Supplemental Reading Response Essay

Instructions:

In a **one-page essay response**, thoughtfully answer **only one** of the following questions. Your response must be in the form of a coherent essay, not a worksheet of answered questions.

Choose questions that apply best to the novel, non-fiction book, or play about which you are writing. Your response must be typed (12 pt. Times New Roman font, double-spaced or single-spaced) and must contain a **minimum of 20 complete lines**.

You must use at least one direct quote from the book in your response essay and it should be correctly formatted using MLA formatting.

Response Options:

Note: F means you can answer this question only for a fiction book; NF means you can answer this question only for a non-fiction book

- 1) Pick one character from the play or novel. What quality of this character strikes you as a good characteristic to develop within yourself over the coming years? Why? How does the character demonstrate this quality? **F**
- 2) What real-life people or events are you reminded of by characters or events in the story? Explain. **F**
- 3) Compare and contrast the worldview of the book with the biblical worldview. Where does the book depart from a Christian worldview and what effect does that have on the character(s) or storyline? **F, NF**
- 4) What life lesson(s) did you get out of this book that you could apply to your own situation? How will that look? **F**
- 5) What are some choices one of the characters made that impacted or affected the story? Could the character have made different choices, and if so, how would those have changed the story? How did these choices impact or reflect the overall theme of the book? **F**
- 6) If you were to write a sequel to this book (if it does not already have one!), what would it include or resolve? Be specific. **F**
- 7) What choices did the author make to create suspense, develop the plot, or build character(s)? Evaluate the strengths and weaknesses of the author's choices and techniques. **F**
- 8) Write about the author's purpose in writing this book and whether or not he or she is effective in that purpose. Explore his or her specific reasons for writing (informing, persuading, arguing, refuting, exemplifying, etc.). Also, examine how the author makes the reader believe in that purpose and explore any bias the author may have in writing this work. **F, NF**
- 9) How has this book touched you or made you think again about who you are or what you value? How has this book changed your thinking (on the topic, on life, on people, etc.)? Be specific. Will it in any way change the way you live your life? Explain. **NF**

Notes:

- **Do not give a summary of the book/story**
- **This is a personal response, not something to research or copy from any other source**
- **Do not include the question in your essay response; instead, list it on the signatures form**
- **You may not use/answer the same question more than twice during the school year**