

11th Grade Regular and Honors Summer Reading List 2019-2020

All 11th grade English students at Berean Christian School are expected to complete a summer reading assignment, as reading over the summer will help each student improve vocabulary, comprehension, and writing skills that will be beneficial to academic achievement. Students will be expected to turn in the written work listed below as a hard copy **AND** upload the assignment(s) to turnitin.com, so all work should be saved on a portable flash drive until then. Due dates for all assignments are given in the sections listed below.

Please note: Students enrolled in English III Regular must complete I and II below. Students enrolled in English III Honors must complete I, II, and III below.

I. Summer Reading Required Book

Read the book listed and complete the writing assignment explained below; this writing assignment will be due **Tuesday, August 20th** for a quiz grade. **An objective test on the same book will be given in class on Friday, August 9th.**

The Autobiography of an Ex-Colored Man – James Weldon Johnson

II. Writing Assignment

Directions:

Answer questions 1-4 listed below in **one paragraph each**, using cited quote evidence and your own understanding of the book. These paragraphs should be typed in MLA format, as shown in the example below, and be separated with the bolded titles that precede them as they are listed here.

Paragraphs should be organized as follows:

- Topic sentence/Thesis (One sentence that broadly summarizes your answer to the question)
- Example (Cited paraphrases or quotes from the book to back up your answer)
- Explanation (Sentences tying your example to your thesis/explaining what the example shows)
- Example 2
- Explanation 2
- Summary (A closing statement tying your ideas together)

Questions:

Ties to the American Dream

1. “The American Dream” can be defined as the belief that if a person works hard enough, they will be rewarded; how does this novel display that belief?

Representing the Everyday World

2. This novel is a part of the Realist movement in American literature. The goal of that movement was to portray people and situations as realistically as possible, often focusing on low or middle class people who used everyday speech. How are these characteristics shown in this novel?

Plot Secondary to Character

3. Realists also tended to make characters and their development more important than plot; how is that characteristic displayed in this novel?

Ties to Naturalism

4. Naturalism is a movement related to Realism, but it additionally showed characters being controlled by an outside force (like their environment, past, or others) in an indifferent world. Given this, does this novel seem to be Naturalist? Why or why not?

Example:

Student 1

Sample Student

Mrs. Gatlin

English III

10 August 2019

Analyzing *The Autobiography of an Ex-Colored Man*

Ties to the American Dream

Write your paragraph here. Paragraphs should be 6 sentences minimum. Remember to cite all quotes you take from the book! This assignment does not ask you to research – everything but the quote evidence you choose to use from the book should come from just you! However, you will still need a Work Cited page because you should be quoting and citing the book. In addition, keep the paper formal – no 1st or 2nd person, slang, etc. and make sure your MLA formatting is correct. You are welcome to come to Writing Lab before this assignment is due to ask for assistance. Once you begin school, you will also be issued a Language Arts Binder (LAB), which will have writing guideline examples to assist with your editing.

Representing the Everyday World

Your second paragraph would appear under the second heading, like so. Your paragraph will obviously be longer than the one included here; this is just an example of formatting. Remember that your headings should appear bolded, in Title Case, and aligned to the left.

III. HONORS - Vocabulary Assignment

Honors students are also required to complete the following vocabulary assignment based on their book. This assignment is due on **Friday, August 9th** and will count as a daily grade.

Directions: As you read your book, note any words you do not know and look them up. At the end of the book, choose 15 of these that you feel are essential to know in order to understand the book and create a "vocab list" with the words, quoting a sentence the word was in and bolding the word, then adding an in-text citation for the quote and giving the vocab word's definition; please see the example below. This assignment should be typed in MLA format. (If there are not 15 words you did not know, just choose the 15 words you feel are most essential for others to know to best understand the novel.)

Example:

1. "The Germans in basements were **pitiable**, surely, but at least they had a chance" (Zusak 97).
Pitiable - deserving or exciting pity; lamentable

Parents and students, please note:

- As a Christian, a person may wonder, "Should Christians study the classics of literature?" Christians should be aware that man's writings reflect his inner thoughts. This can be seen throughout a study of literature and the authors' lives. If we look at secular literature (classics) through discerning eyes, our own faith and testimony can be strengthened. The selections chosen for the reading list are either classic in nature or carry strong literary merit. Berean Christian School cannot be responsible for all content in every selection.
- Please be advised: copied, summarized, or paraphrased information from an internet source, or any other source, is unacceptable. **THIS IS PLAGIARISM!** Be sure to correctly document sources that are used and use your own thoughts based on what you have learned to complete ANY writing assignment. Common knowledge and your own thoughts do NOT need to be documented.