

Student-Selected Reading



The best way to be a citizen of the world, a student of life, is to read. Books can connect continents, produce peace, expose evil and strengthen souls. Throughout your academic lives, you will read and read and read. Most of this reading, however, is selected by some adult who claims to have your best interest at heart, but can't possibly climb inside your head to get a glimpse of what interests you. So, here's your chance to exercise your right to read something that trips your trigger, floats your boat...you know, books that *you* choose!

You'll select the books. They may be fiction, non-fiction, a biography, an autobiography ...whatever you decide. They should be about 200 pages or more and, of course, be about something that interests you (it's a good bet that if you're intrigued by the summary on the jacket cover you'll be drawn in by the book itself). You will set your own reading schedule. I can help you with this if you think it will help you keep pace. We'll have small checkpoints along the way for you reflect upon and analyze what you are reading, and even some opportunities to share with others. When you have completed a book, you'll have a chance to "show what you know" (see below). At the end of the term, when everyone has finished their reading, you will share your experience with the class through a presentation. This sharing will help you get a firm handle on your books so that you can tell others about them. It will also serve the purpose of exposing others to books they may not have encountered.

For each book you are required to...

√	Create a Main Events plot chart (see main events sheet)	20 pts
√	Write two (2) journal responses (each 1 full page)	20 pts
√	Pull 10 vocabulary words from the text (see vocab sheet)	40 pts
√	Take notes on your book (notes bookmarks to be provided)	for yourself
√	Write a reading review for posting (forms to be provided)	<u>20 pts</u>
	TOTAL	100 pts
√	<i>Plus</i> , you'll creatively exhibit your book experience (separate handout)	60 pts

****NOTE: When you give your creative exhibition, you will submit all of the above!***

The schedule on the following page will help you plan your independent reading ---->

Independent Reading Schedule

Student _____

Titles _____

This program assumes reading 1 book of about 200 pages or so over a 20-week term. That means approximately 10 pages per week, or a couple of pages per week day. To plan your reading, simply divide the number of pages by the number of weeks in which you'd like to complete it.

<u>Checkpoint Weeks</u>	<u>Scheduled to Read through page ...</u>	<u>Have read through page ...</u>	<u>Initials</u>
Week 2	_____	_____	_____
Week 4	_____	_____	_____
Week 6	_____	_____	_____
Week 8	_____	_____	_____
Week 10	_____	_____	_____
Week 12	_____	_____	_____
Week 14	_____	_____	_____
Week 16	_____	_____	_____
Week 18	_____	_____	_____
Week 20	_____	_____	_____

****NOTE:** While this is a contract with yourself, I will collect it to measure your progress against your own goals for progress reports at the middle & end of the term.