

HORIZON CHRISTIAN ACADEMY
2008 SUMMER READING PROGRAM
MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL

The purpose of the HCA Summer Reading Program is to encourage life-long reading for education and enjoyment. Students rising into the 4th through 12th grades are asked to read at least one novel (two for Honors or AP classes) during the summer and write a report to be submitted to their English teacher during the first week of school. This will count as the first English project/assignment of the school year. Of course, students are always encouraged to read more than one novel!

Rising 4th and 5th grade will read one novel but will not write a book report. They must begin the new school year prepared to complete an activity in class related to the novel.

Rising 6th grade will complete the Book Report Form for Rising 6th grade which is attached.

The book report for rising 7th grade to 12th grade should include the following headings/topics and criteria:

- 1) **Author:** Name the author and describe his/her background in a few sentences. 5 points.
- 2) **Plot:** Outline the major events and conflicts in the novel. Identify the introduction, rising action, climax, and denouement. 50 points. (MS: one page in length, HS: one and a half to two pages in length)
- 3) **Theme:** Identify the major theme(s) of the novel. Explain whether you think the theme was effectively conveyed. 5 points.
- 4) **Main character(s):** Describe the protagonist's (main character's) personality. Also, illustrate how he/she is depicted through his/her actions and words. Describe how he/she changes through the novel. 10 points. (MS: half a page, HS: one page)
- 5) **The antagonist(s):** Describe the antagonist's (or villain's) personality. Illustrate how he/she is depicted through his/her actions and words. Explain the antagonist's motivations. What is the outcome for the antagonist? 10 points. (MS: half a page, HS: one page)
- 6) **Supporting character(s):** List the supporting characters and in one sentence or two each, explain their primary purpose in the novel. 5 points.
- 7) **Setting:** Describe the physical location, the mood and the atmosphere of the novel. How does the author create mood? How does the atmosphere reflect the theme of the story? 5 points.
- 8) **Personal Evaluation:** Critically evaluate what you felt were the strengths and weaknesses of the novel. Compare this novel to others that you have read. Who do you think would enjoy or appreciate this novel? 10 points. (MS: half a page, HS: one page)