Academy for Classical Education
Summer Assignments for Students Entering: Ninth Grade

The reading assignments below are for students who will be entering 9th grade in Fall 2020.

Students will need to purchase their own copies of the novels in order to complete their annotations. It is a tremendous advantage to be able to take notes in the margins and underline or highlight notable passages. The books are available at local bookstores, as well as through online retailers such as Amazon.com.

All ACE scholars are required to complete summer reading assignments. Assignments must be turned in on August 3, 2020.

Grades Assigned for Summer Reading:

- **One (1) Formative Grade:**
  - Annotations for *Black Ships Before Troy* - 50%
  - Annotations for *A Wizard of Earthsea* - 50%

- **One (1) Summative Grade:**
  - One (1) Multiple Choice Test over BOTH texts; students may use THEIR annotations on this test. Annotations must be hand-written in the student’s book; they may not be printed or on notebook paper.

### SUMMER READING

**Required Material:**
- Assigned Books (2)
- Highlighters/Colored Pens (No Pencils)

**Book 1 (REQUIRED)**

**Assignment:**
- Students are to read and annotate each chapter of the book.
- Chapter 1 Annotations have been completed for you - copy these and use them as a guide to help you annotate the rest of the chapters. [Chapter 1 Annotations]

**Annotation Guidelines:**
- Highlight and define any words you are unfamiliar with (definition or usage/context)
- Highlight any important information regarding plot or major characters
- Highlight and make a note to clarify any confusing information or passages
- Underline names and descriptions of important characters (at least the first time they are mentioned in each chapter, also in relation to important actions)

**Assessments:**
- Annotations for this text will count as a Formative Grade.
- Students will be tested over required reading during the first week of school; this test will count as a Summative Grade. Students will be permitted to use THEIR annotations only on this test.
Book 2 (REQUIRED)

Assignment:
- Students are to read and annotate each chapter of the book.
- Chapter 1 Annotations have been completed for you - copy these and use them as a guide to help you annotate the rest of the chapters. [Chapter 1 Annotations]

Annotation Guidelines:
- Highlight and define any words you are unfamiliar with (definition or usage/context)
- Highlight any important information
- Highlight and make a note to clarify any confusing information
- Underline names and descriptions of important characters (at least the first time they are mentioned in each chapter, also in relation to important actions)

Assessments:
- Annotations for this text will count as a Formative Grade.
- Students will be tested over required reading during the first week of school; this test will count as a Summative Grade. Students will be permitted to use THEIR annotations only on this test.

Annotations will be graded according to the following rubric:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>95-100</td>
<td>Novels are thoroughly and completely annotated, with relevant passages of text marked throughout the book and thoughtful notes written in the headers, footers, and margins.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>85-95</td>
<td>Novels are reasonably well-annotated but not as thoroughly or completely as those at the top level. Passages marked are relevant and notes are written in the headers, footers, and margins, but with less evidence of thoughtfulness and thoroughness as those at the top level.</td>
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<tr>
<td>75-80</td>
<td>Novels are annotated, with passages marked only sporadically. Notes are present in the headers, footers, and margins, but may be overly simplistic and/or not indicative of thoughtfulness about the passage to which they refer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0-65</td>
<td>Novels are only partly annotated, with few passages marked and few notes present in the headers, footers, and margins. The effort put forth suggests haste rather than thoughtfulness.</td>
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</tbody>
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Points will be deducted for work done in pencil; All annotations must be legible.
How to Annotate a Book

1. Use a pen so you can make circles, brackets, and notes. You can use a highlighter to mark passages, lines, or individual words, but you MUST make notes in the margins. Otherwise, you’re merely coloring.

2. Mark passages, lines, or individual words that jump out at you. You might circle them, underline them, use brackets (i.e. [ ]), or identify them in some other way. You should mark passages, lines, or individual words which:
   a. Suggest an important idea or theme.
   b. Contain an interesting figure of speech.
   c. Demonstrate a pattern of word use or sentence structure, striking or recurring imagery, symbolism, words or phrases, motifs, or noteworthy ways of characterizing people, events, ideas, or issues.
   d. Contain foreshadowing, an important plot point, clues about the setting, or passages and dialogue that reveal insight into a particular character.
   e. Are words you don’t know. For those, write a short definition of the word in the margin.

3. Make notes in the headers, footers, and margins.
   a. What should be in these notes?
      i. Your thoughts about the passages, lines, and words you’ve marked.
         1. For example, if you marked a passage because it seems to summarize the theme of the novel, you should indicate this in the header, footer, or margin.
         2. If you marked a line because it uses a recurring symbol, you should indicate this in the header, footer, or margin.
      ii. Comments – agreements or disagreements.
      iii. Personal experiences that the text reminds you of.
      iv. Associations:
         1. What associations does this particular passage, line, or word bring to mind for you?
         2. Does the passage remind you of a song? A novel or short story? A fairy tale? Something from Shakespeare or the Bible? A painting, poem, movie, or play?
         3. Basically, does the text you’ve marked remind you of other creative works you have encountered?
         4. At the ends of chapters or sections, write a bulleted list of key plot events. This forces you to think about what happened, helps you to see the novel as a whole, aids in identifying patterns, and creates a summary of the plot for your review later.