

Waldorf High School of Massachusetts Bay
Delaney 11th & 12th Grade English

SUMMER READING LIST
CLASSES OF 2020 and 2021

REQUIRED:

1. This year we will be working with Fathers and Sons by Ivan Turgenev. Please read either the Oxford World Classics edition translated by Richard Freeborn or the Penguin Classics edition translated by Rosemary Edmonds.

DO NOT read a translation by Constance Garnett.

2. A Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich by Solzhenitsyn

3. Choose ONE of the following: (Do not choose something you have read for a prior class.)

Cat's Cradle – Kurt Vonnegut

The Underground Railroad – Colson Whitehead

The Great Gatsby – F. Scott Fitzgerald

West With the Night – Beryl Markham

The Sound and the Fury – William Faulkner

Up From Slavery – Booker T. Washington

I Am Malala - Malala Yousafzai

The Awakening – Kate Chopin

Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man – James Joyce

All the Light We Cannot See – Anthony Doerr

Invisible Man - Ralph Ellison

Any collection of short stories by D.H. Lawrence

4. For numbers 2 and 3 above, please write a short book report that includes a synopsis of the book, your comments about the book, and your analysis of either the plot or the character development of the main character. Be sure to state what you think the theme of the book is. If you choose a collection of short stories or poetry for #3 then analyze several and write about the author's style. These are **due on the first day of class**.

During the course of the first semester we will be discussing Fathers and Sons.

At that time you will each be assigned a section to summarize and present to the class. It is important that you read **the whole book** during the summer so that you are familiar with it when it comes time to discuss it in class and so that you can present your section in the context of the whole. In addition there will be several writing assignments and at least one test.

(Turn Over)

Tips for reading Fathers and Sons

1. Start early in the summer. Do not put this off to the last minute. Both books are long and involved and take time to read and digest.
2. Fathers and Sons does not have a list of characters in the beginning so I suggest you create a list as you go along.
3. Russian novels often have several main characters. Each character has their formal name that consists of first name, patronymic and last (family) name as well as at least one and often several nicknames (diminutives.) The patronymic is a middle name that is derived from the father's first name.

For example: In Fathers and Sons, Arkady Nikolaievich Kirsanov is the son of Nikolai Petrovich Kirsanov and is sometimes called Arkasha.

Some characters are referred to by their nickname more than by their full name.

People are addressed formally with both first name and patronymic (Nikolai Petrovich). Nicknames are generally only used by family and close friends and denote familiarity (unless *ka* has been added to a familiar nickname, such as Alyoshka instead of Alyosha or Katka instead of Katya, Mitka instead of Mitya, this is demeaning and is usually meant as an insult.)

4. **Take notes.** It will help you to remember both the characters and the circumstances surrounding the events. It will also help you in our discussions and in your presentation of a chapter or book (section), especially since these are not the first books we will discuss in class. There are several minor characters that appear at various points in the narratives and notes will help you remember who they are.
5. I hope you enjoy reading this!