

Notre Dame de Sion High School Summer Reading 2008

Listed below are the books and assignments for all student levels.

Special Book Event 2008

This year the Notre Dame de Sion High School English department is sponsoring a school and community book read of Marcus Zusak's The Book Thief. Community book reading projects occur throughout the United States each year in both urban and rural communities providing the opportunity for citizens to discuss literature and in doing so to create strong bonds of commitment and support within their communities. We feel like this is an excellent opportunity to further pursue the goals of our school's mission by creating conversations about a book that so eloquently expresses the crucial importance of cherishing the human spirit. **All Sion students will be required to read this compelling book**, and we invite and welcome all parents, family members, as well as all Sion faculty and staff to take part in this opportunity. A book drive for charity as well as a day of speakers and small group discussions is also planned for the first weeks of the 2008-2009 school year.

We would like to show support for our locally owned businesses by suggesting that students as well as adult participants purchase their books at one of the following booksellers:

Reading Reptile 328 W. 63rd Kansas City, MO. 816-753-0441

Rainy Day Books 2706 W. 53rd St. Fairway, KS 913-384-3126

Required student reading:

In an attempt to foster and practice close reading skills, students at all levels this year are required to annotate as they are reading The Book Thief. (At some levels annotations are required for other books as well. These are marked with asterisks.*) Properly completing the annotations either in the book or on post it notes will be a part of the summer reading academic evaluation, and will help students to better participate in class discussions, prepare for reading quizzes and respond in a knowledgeable manner to related essay prompts. All students should have copies of the required summer reading books to use in class during the first few weeks of school.

Please read the following annotation guidelines before beginning The Book Thief.

Annotating tips

- Make brief notes at the top of the page or on a sticky note to mark important plot events.

- Circle or underline words that are unfamiliar or unusual. Use a dictionary to find out what they mean if necessary and note a brief definition.
- When new characters are introduced, underline phrases that describe them.
- Highlight words, images, and details that seem to form a pattern throughout the text. *For example, if a large clock appears in the first chapter, and you notice the author using “timely” or “ticking” in the text, and then an incident occurs in which a character breaks a watch or is later for an appointment, you may have uncovered a pattern of imagery which will lead the close reader to discover a thematic idea.* Highlight these related strands and observe the rest of the text closely to see if the author uses other linked words, images, or details.
- Highlight passages you think might be symbolic.
- Mark key ideas and note briefly your reflections about them.
- Highlight passages in which figurative language appears.
- When you get an idea while reading the text, note it in a brief form in the margin. You may never think of this idea again unless you write it down.
- If you have a question about something in the book, write it on the page when it first occurs to you.
- Don’t mark too much. If you mark everything, nothing will stand out.
- Use brackets, checks, stars, bullets, or asterisks to mark very important items or things you want to come back to later.

(Information taken from Laying the Foundation: A Resource and Planning Guide for Pre-AP English, Grade 9).

BookLists:

English I College Prep

Watts and Wood

- The Book Thief * Marcus Zusak
- The Secret Life of Bees Sue Monk Kidd

English I Honors

Watts

- The Book Thief * Marcus Zusak
- The Chosen* Chaim Potok
- The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-time Indian Sherman Alexie

***annotate**

English II College Prep

Frederick and Hodge

- The Book Thief* Marcus Zusak
- A Northern Light Jennifer Donnelly

English II Honors

Wilcox

- The Book Thief * Marcus Zusak
- A Northern Light Jennifer Donnelly
- A Million Nightingales * Susan Straight
- In Cold Blood * Truman Capote

English III College Prep

Wood and Frederick

- The Book Thief * Marcus Zusak
- Rebecca Daphne Du Maurier

English III AP Language

Wood

- The Book Thief * Marcus Zusak
- Emma* Jane Austen
- The Handmaid's Tale* Margaret Atwood
- Jane Eyre* Charlotte Bronte

***annotate**

English IV College Prep

Teacher TBA

- The Book Thief* Marcus Zusak
- West with the Night Beryl Markham
- *Out of Africa* (Watch the Film)

English IV AP Literature and Composition

Wilcox

- How to Read Literature Like a Professor* Thomas Foster
- The Book Thief* Marcus Zusak
- Atonement* Ian McEwan
- Wuthering Heights * Emily Bronte

*annotate

AP students looking for more good reads this summer:

Alice Munro, Runaway

Dave Eggers, What is the What

David Sedaris, Me Talk Pretty One Day