

Summer Reading

for students entering English and History 9H

1. Please read the following books:

Iliad by Homer

Homer's classic epic of the Trojan War and the struggle between Achilles and Hector that saves the Greeks and destroys the Trojans.

From *The Bible* read the Old Testament. It is recommended that you read all of it, but, at a minimum, the following sections are required: The Five Books of Moses (Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy), The Second Book of the Chronicles, The Book of Job, The Books of Psalms, The Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Isaiah, Hosea, and Malachi.

2. Choose **ONE** of the following topics:

- The Role of the Individual in Society as presented in each work
- How each work's view about Human Nature is expressed and demonstrated
- The Decisions or Challenges that affect mankind's growth in each work
- Social Customs or institutions and their affect on the individual

3. Write a FIVE paragraph, thesis-based essay containing:

- Introduction with a thesis (underline your thesis statement)
- Three paragraphs devoted to supporting your thesis with SPECIFIC references from each book
- Conclusion – with thesis restated

The assessment will be based on the overall quality of your work on each task with consideration to the following: all items completed, the thoroughness (thesis, support details, explication and conclusion) of the written response, and the neatness and pride exhibited in the written work. Your essay will be scored using the attached rubric. Please be prepared to hand in this essay on the first day of class. You should also be ready for a test on these works!

There are, of course, several versions of both *The Iliad* and *The Bible*. Any version is fine. Please bring your copy of these books to class on the first day of school.

[PLEASE NOTE: All other freshmen are required to read *To Kill a Mockingbird* and *The Catcher in the Rye*; these are great books to read and Humanities students are urged to read them on their own as well.]

If you have any questions, please email Mr. de Rham at rderham@hvrhs.org or Mr. Vermilyea at pvermilyea@hvrhs.org.

Enjoy your reading!