

# 11<sup>th</sup> GRADE ENGLISH 2010 SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENTS

## St. Joseph High School

In English III, students will explore and study the literary and social, historical, and cultural background of the United States through American literature. In preparation for this course, students entering the 11<sup>th</sup> grade at St. Joseph High School are required to read **two** novels from the list below and complete the assignments:

*The Things They Carried* By Tim O'Brien --**ISBN-10:** 0618706410

*The Scarlet Letter* by Nathaniel Hawthorne--**ISBN-10:** 1451566646

*A Farewell to Arms* by Ernest Hemingway--**ISBN-10:** 0684801469

*The Joy Luck Club* by Amy Tan--**ISBN-10:** 0143038095

*I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings* by Maya Angelou-- **ISBN-10:**  
0345514408

For your convenience, the required book titles are linked directly to amazon.com from the St. Joseph High School Affiliate Store. Try the [St. Joseph High School Amazon.Com Affiliate Store](#). Some of the books are also available for checkout at the Florence Williams & Athalie Peterson libraries (or obtain permission from Mrs. Skalkos to check out any available copies from the school library). Also check Mrs. Henderson at METRON IN FREDERIKSTED. YOU ARE EXPECTED TO READ THE UNABRIDGED VERSIONS OF THE BOOKS.

Select one of the projects below to demonstrate in a creative manner your understanding of ONE of the novels you read. This assignment will count as up to 5% of your first marking period grade. All projects are due by Friday, August 13. Your project should focus on literary elements such as: Theme, Characterization, Setting, Symbolism, Conflicts, and Mood—these are terms you should know.

### Summer Reading Project on the first novel:

**Choose one** of these projects from below and present to English class.

- Comic Strip-drawn by hand or computer drawn, which is at least 12 frames long and highlights important scenes. Short dialogue balloons are fine—but be sure to include an explanation of the scene at the bottom of each frame.
- Timeline-of at least 12 major events from the entire book in chronological order. Summarize each event and explain why each was important.
- Scrapbook-for two characters (protagonist and antagonist). Include mementos of the character such as pictures, ticket stubs, notes from friends, awards, souvenirs, dried flowers etc. All should be labeled and explained. (This project should be no less than 20 pages long.)

### **Summer Reading Project for Second Novel:**

- Complete a journal assignment in which you analyze the theme, characters, or setting for the play. In other words, what do you think about what is happening in the story, why the characters act as they do, and your reaction to events and characters in the novel. If anything or anyone reminds you of something or someone in your own life, say so.
- Be sure to include any experiences you have, people you know or have known, or any observances you have made that in some way helps you to understand why the characters behave as they do in the book.
- The assignment should include one hand-written page for each chapter/section.
- Include at least two quotes from each scene to help you illustrate or substantiate what you are saying.
- (This assignment should be should be neatly HANDWRITTEN and must be submitted in a folder.)

### **A SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT: COLLEGE ADMISSION ESSAY**

By the close of this year, you should already be thinking of what college you want to attend. To begin your preparation, you will practice responding to some essay prompts from well-known colleges. Choose one of the prompts listed and write a draft of your response. This will be due the second week of class in a file folder. (The following prompts were taken from the College Board website.)

- What work of art, music, science, mathematics, or literature has influenced your thinking, and in what way?
- Discuss how a particular work of music, literature, or art has inspired your life.
- Tell us how a particular book, play, film, piece of music, dance performance, scientific theory or experiment or work of art has influenced you. If you choose a novel, film or play, assume we know the plot.
- Consider the books you have read in the last year or two either for school or for leisure. Please discuss the way in which one of them changed your understanding of the world, other people, or yourself.
- Tell us about a situation where you have not been successful and what you have learned from the experience.