

**Olentangy Local School District
Literature Selection Review**

Teacher: Erin
Centa

School: OHS

Book Title:
The
Nightingale

Genre:
Novel

Author:
Kristin
Hannah

Pages: 438

Publisher: St.
Martin's
Press

Copyright:
2015

In a brief rationale, please provide the following information relative to the book you would like added to the school's book collection for classroom use. You may attach additional pages as needed.

Book Summary and summary citation: (suggested resources include book flap summaries, review summaries from publisher, book vendors, etc.)

In the quiet village of Carriveau, Vianne Mauriac says goodbye to her husband, Antoine, as he heads for the Front. She doesn't believe that the Nazis will invade France...but invade they do, in droves of marching soldiers, in caravans of trucks and tanks in planes that fill the skies and drop bombs upon the innocent. When a German captain requisitions Vianne's home, she and her daughter must live with the enemy or lose everything. Without food or money or hope, as danger escalates all around them, she is forced to make one impossible choice after another to keep her family alive.

Vianne's sister, Isabelle, is a rebellious eighteen-year old, searching for purpose with all the reckless passion of youth. While thousands of Parisians march into the unknown terrors of war, she meets Gaeten, a partisan who believes the French can fight the Nazis from within France, and she falls in love as only the young can...completely. But when he betrays her, Isabelle joins the Resistance and never looks back, risking her life time and again to save others.

With courage, grace, and powerful insight, bestselling author Kristin Hannah captures the epic panorama of World War II and illuminates an intimate part of history seldom seen: the women's war. *The Nightingale* tells the stories of two sisters, separated by years and experience, each embarking on her own dangerous path toward survival, love and freedom in German-occupied, war-torn France—a heartbreakingly beautiful novel that celebrates the resilience of the human spirit and the durability of women. It is a novel for everyone, a novel for a lifetime.

-from book flap summary

Provide an instructional rationale for the use of this title, including specific reference to the OLSD curriculum map(s): (Curriculum maps may be referenced by grade/course and indicator number or curriculum maps with indicators highlighted may be attached to this form)

Reading this text accomplishes many of the standards listed in the Common Core Standards for 11-12th grade students in Ohio. The main standard notes that “By the end of grade 12, read and comprehend literature at the high ends 11-CCR text complexity band independently and proficiently”. The enduring understanding for this standard says, “Students who are college and career ready read and interpret texts with confidence and independence” RL. 12.10

Other CCR standards that will be met include:

Analyze how two or more texts address similar themes or topics in order to build knowledge or to compare the approaches authors take. RL.11-12.9

Interpret words or phrases as they are used in a text, including determining technical, connotative, and figurative meanings, and analyze how specific word choices shape meaning or tone. RL.11-12.4

Analyze how and why individuals, events, and ideas develop and interact over the course of a text. RL.11-12.3

Determine central ideas or themes of a text and analyze their development; summarize the key supporting details and ideas. RL.11-12.2

Read closely to determine what the text says explicitly and to make logical inferences from it; cite specific textual evidence when writing or speaking to support conclusions drawn from the text. RL.11-12.1

Overall, reading this text will help students understand how certain people stand up for what they believe in, a theme that will help them work on an action research assignment about their own beliefs.

Include two professional reviews of this title: (a suggested list of resources for identifying professional reviews is shown below. Reviews may be “cut and pasted” (with citation) into the form or printed reviews may be attached to the form)

Review #1

“In this epic novel, set in France in World War II, two sisters who live in a small village find themselves estranged when they disagree about the imminent threat of occupation. Separated by principles and temperament, each must find her own way forward as she faces moral questions and life-or-death choices. Haunting, action-packed, and compelling.”
-Christina Baker Kline

Review #2

Library Journal 01/01/2015

Character growth and development is a strength of this World War II-set novel, although the middle plods during some sections. Sisters Vianne and Isabelle Mauriac are driven apart by unhealed childhood wounds and clashing personalities. When Isabelle is kicked out of boarding school for the umpteenth time for "rebellious" behavior, her embittered veteran father, in the midst of drowning his own battle scars in bourbon, sends the adolescent to her elder sister's house. Meanwhile, Vianne attempts to find salvation from her past by marrying her teenage sweetheart and relocating to the French countryside where she delights in her garden and her school-age daughter. As Hitler's forces invade, both sisters face challenging choices that will show where their loyalties lie. VERDICT Hannah (Summer Island; Firefly Lane) has long been a staple of women's fiction. Readers who enjoy stories with ethical dilemmas and character-driven narratives will enjoy this novel full of emotion and heart. [See Prepub Alert, 8/11/14.]—Julia M. Reffner, Midlothian, VA

What alternate text(s) could also fulfill the instructional requirements?

<u>Title:</u> Unbroken	<u>Author:</u> Laura Hillenbrand
<u>Title:</u> The Kite Runner	<u>Author:</u> Khaled Hosseini
<u>Title:</u> A Long Way Gone	<u>Author:</u> Ishmael Beah
<u>Title:</u>	<u>Author:</u>
<u>Title:</u>	<u>Author:</u>

Document any potentially controversial content:

Keeping in mind the age, academic level, and maturity of the intended reader, what is the suggested classroom use: (check all that apply)

Gifted/Accelerated Regular At Risk

GRADE LEVEL(S): 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

Reading level of this title (if applicable):

Date Submitted to Department Chair: 01/05/2016