

# Honors British Literature

## Summer Reading Assignment 2020

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### Welcome to Honors British Literature!

The FCS Honors British Literature class examines texts from a variety of time periods within the British Literature Cannon in an effort to expand students' critical reading and writing skills.

The offered Summer Reading texts have been selected with the Honors British Literature course objectives in mind and will be assessed in a variety of ways within the first two weeks of the school year. There are two parts to the Summer Reading Assignment. Please read each part carefully and take note of all due dates.

The first part of the Summer Reading Assignment involves choosing a "Text A". The options for "Text A" focus on two different types of fiction:

Text A1: The human condition as studied through a work within the science fiction genre.

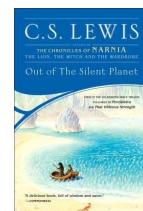
Text A2: The clashing British socio-economic classes as studied through a work of 20th century fiction.

Choose either A1 or A2.

### Part 1: Text A

#### **Step 1: Select a Text A option...**

Text A1:  
*Out of the Silent Planet*  
By C. S. Lewis



Text A2:  
*Rebecca*  
By Daphne Du Maurier



## **Step 2: Significant Quotes Notebook**

The significant quotes notebook is your opportunity to keep track of key moments within the Book Club text you are reading. When completed, the notebook should read like a conversation between yourself and the novel. These notebooks are to be completed digitally.

On the left-hand side of the document, copy quotations (with quotation marks) from the book that you think reveal something important about a character, theme, or symbol. Keep these in the order they occur in the book. Remember to write down page numbers for each quotation.

On the right-hand side of the document, directly opposite the quotation, write what you think the significance of the quote is in light of the character, theme, or symbol. In other words, what does this quote reveal about the character, theme, or symbol?

\*Keep quotations and your comments lined-up on the page to prevent confusion.

\*You should have **at least 25 quotes** from the novel, and they should represent the full course of the novel. Choose wisely.

\*\*A helpful hint...I'm not looking for huge quotations. I want to see that you are reading with a critical mind and are able to pick out some important ideas. I am also looking to see how your ideas might be different from your classmates', so please complete this assignment independently. **DUE DATE: FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL, AUGUST 11th.**

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## **Part 2: Choice Text:**

**Step 1:** Choose one book of 12th grade reading merit. The book you choose can either be fiction or nonfiction. It can be a work of classic literature or a modern publication. If you are unsure about finding a book, click any of the links below to find lists of books to get your search started. You do NOT have to choose from any of these lists, but they do provide suitable options. Use them as reference points when making your selection. Another option

when making your selection is to google “goodreads books similar to \_\_\_\_” and add in the title of a book you have read in the past and enjoyed. Keep in mind that this should be limited to books read in the past three years.

There is a high level of freedom in the selection process, however the following should answer any questions or concerns:

- Do NOT choose a picture book.
  - Do NOT choose a book read in elementary or middle school.
  - Do NOT choose a book of poetry or essays.
  - Do NOT choose a textbook for another class.
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- DO choose a book you think looks interesting.
  - DO choose a book you haven't read before.
  - DO choose a book that is appropriate to share in front of your classmates.

Be prepared during the first week of school to complete a series of writing tasks based on what you read AND be prepared to give a book talk (see step 2). How can you prepare for this? Read a book.

**Due date for completed reading of choice book: Tuesday, August 11th. Bring a physical copy of the book to class.**

Various Lists for Reference: \*\*These book lists are ONLY references. You do NOT have to even look at these lists and NOT all titles within them are recommended for all students. Please use personal discretion when selecting your book.

[Good Reads 12th Grade Reading List](#)

[Books Similar to Shoe Dog: A Memoir by the Creator of Nike](#)

[Books Similar to Bob Goff's Love Does](#)

[My Favorite Books of 2019 by Trevin Wax](#)

[Paste Magazine 30 Best YA Novels of the last decade](#)

**Step 2:** Prepare a **three to four minute** Book Talk to be given during the first week of school. The order of the Book Talks will be randomly compiled; therefore, students should have their talks prepared on the first day of school.

Please do not confuse a Book Talk with a book summary or a book report. Book Talks are brief “teasers” given enthusiastically as a way to entice others to read a particular book. Consider this talk more of a persuasive speech than a report. **Choose a book you can enthusiastically recommend!**

Therefore, your talk should include the title and author of the book, a brief summary of various elements, why you liked it, and why other students might be interested in it. You may also read a short excerpt from the book (maximum two paragraphs). Use note cards to cue yourself during the talk. NO DIGITAL DEVICES allowed up front with you.

**DUE DATE: August 11th.**

**TIPS:**

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Start off with an interesting quotation from the book to capture your audience’s attention.</li><li>2. Be sure to clearly state the title of the book and the author’s name at the beginning of your Book Talk.</li><li>3. Spend the majority of your time discussing the characters and conflict, but include setting, major plot points, and a theme. Do NOT give away the ending!</li></ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>4. Do not just list characters – remember this Book Talk is essentially a <b>persuasive speech</b> and it is not helpful to just read a list of names. What are the characters like?</li><li>5. Have the book with you to use as a visual!</li><li>6. Work on appropriate presentation skills: make eye contact, do not simply read your speech, use body language to communicate your message, speak loudly and clearly, etc.</li></ol> |
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