

BRADENTON CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

2023 SUMMER READING PROGRAM

ENGLISH FACULTY: Dr. Leah Kliewer (department chair),
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TENTH GRADE AMERICAN LITERATURE

COLLEGE PREPARATORY AND HONORS

All students should read

Tuesdays with Morrie -- by Mitch Albom (ISBN#076790592X).

- The companion writing assignment is enclosed. All written assignments will be submitted to Turnitin during the first week of school. Please make sure that all work submitted is your original work.
- The due date for the assignment is **Thursday, August 10, 2023.**

Honors students should also read a second book from the Honors List

- The due date for the in-class assignment is **Friday, August 11, 2023.**

Tuesdays with Morrie Writing Assignment

Synopsis: Maybe a grandparent, a teacher, or a colleague influenced you. Someone older, patient and wise may have understood you when you were young and searching, helped you see the world as a more profound place, gave you sound advice to help you make your way through it. For Mitch Albom, that person was Morrie Schwartz, his college professor from nearly twenty years ago.

Maybe, as Mitch, you lost track of this mentor as you made your way, and the insights faded, and the world seemed colder. Imagine you could see that person again, ask the bigger questions that still haunt you, receive wisdom for your busy life today the way you once did when you were younger?

Mitch Albom had that second chance. He rediscovered Morrie in the last months of the older man's life. Knowing he was dying, Morrie visited with Mitch in his study every Tuesday, just as they used to back in college. Their rekindled relationship turned into one final "class" of lessons in how to live.

Please proofread, edit, and revise the writing assignment carefully!

Tuesdays with Morrie – Assignment for All 10th Graders

Directions: Answer all of the following questions in complete sentences. Type out the question and the answer. You do not have to type the chapter title.

“The Curriculum”

1. How is life like a classroom?
2. Describe a moment in your own life where you learned something outside of the “classroom.”

“The Syllabus”

3. What is wrong with Morrie? Look up information about his disease and describe it.

“The Student”

4. Describe Mitch Albom’s life.
5. How was Mitch reunited with Morrie?

“The Audiovisual”

6. Choose one of Morrie’s aphorisms. Explain how you can apply the aphorism to your own life.

“The Orientation”

7. According to Mitch Albom, what was most important to him at that time?
8. Up to this point in the novel, how is Morrie a “good” teacher?
9. Write about a “good” teacher you have had. Explain what made him/her exceptional.

“The Classroom”

10. According to Morrie, what should we be teaching in the classroom called “life”? Do you agree with him? Explain why or why not.
11. Reflect on Morrie’s comment, “Dying...is only one thing to be sad over, Mitch. Living unhappily is something else.”

12. "Life is a series of pulls back and forth. You want to do one thing, but you are bound to do something else. Something hurts you, yet you know it should not. You take certain things for granted, even when you know you should never take anything for granted." What do you think of this statement?

"Taking Attendance"

13. "So many people walk around with a meaningless life. They seem half-asleep, even when they are busy doing things they think are important. This is because they are chasing the wrong things...devote yourself to creating something that gives you purpose and meaning." How can you apply this recommendation to yourself? How can such a statement "change the world"?

"The First Tuesday"

14. Choose a quote from this chapter and explain how it was helpful to you.

"The Second Tuesday"

15. In what ways do you agree or disagree with Morrie's perspective on self-pity?

"The Third Tuesday"

16. What do you regret? How would you change it?

"The Fourth Tuesday"

17. "Learn how to die, and you learn how to live." What does this statement mean?

"The Fifth Tuesday"

18. According to Morrie, why is family important? Do you agree?

"The Sixth Tuesday"

19. Choose a quote from this chapter and explain how it was helpful to you.

"The Professor," "The Seventh Tuesday," The Eighth Tuesday," "The Ninth Tuesday," The Tenth Tuesday"

20. Pick one concept from these chapters and reflect on it.

"The Eleventh Tuesday"

21. What does Morrie mean by "People are only mean when they're threatened...and that's what our culture does"? Explain how you find this statement to be true.

"The Twelfth Tuesday"

22. What is Morrie's concept of forgiveness? How can you apply his concept to yourself?

"The Thirteenth Tuesday"

23. From the impression left on you after completing the book, what are those things that make life worthwhile?

24. After reading about the life of Morrie Schwartz, describe who he was.

10th Grade Honors Summer Reading List

- In addition to *Tuesdays with Morrie* by Mitch Albom, choose **one book** from the following list.
- Please bring the book with you during the first week of school in order to complete the **in-class assignment**. You may have either a digital or paper copy of the book.
- Some of these books have been made into movies, but the assignment will be more in-depth than what a movie portrays of the book. You will be required to look for textual evidence in the book to complete the assignment.
- Please use parental guidance in choosing a book.
 - www.pluggedin.com -- site for Christian Book Reviews
 - www.compassbookratings.com – site that reviews books based on content
 - www.commonsemmedia.org – site that reviews books based on content
 - www.arbookfind.com -- site for determining reading level of a book
 - www.goodreads.com -- site for more book reviews and reading tracking
 - Parent Approval Signature of Book Choice

	Date first Published	Title / Author
1.	1847	<i>Jane Eyre</i> by Charlotte Bronte
2.	1966	<i>In Cold Blood</i> by Truman Capote
3.	1971	<i>The Hiding Place</i> by Corrie Ten Boom with John & Elizabeth Sherrill
4.	1983	<i>Cold Sassy Tree</i> by Olive Ann Burns
5.	1997	<i>The Atonement Child</i> by Francine Rivers
6.	2005	<i>The Book Thief</i> by Markus Zusak
7.	2006	<i>When Crickets Cry</i> by Charles Martin
8.	2007	<i>The Shack</i> by William Paul Young
9.	2007	<i>A Long Way Gone</i> by Ishmael Beah
10.	2014	<i>The Invention of Wings</i> by Sue Monk Kidd
11.	2015	<i>Go Set a Watchman</i> by Harper Lee
12.	2015	<i>The Girl with Seven Names</i> by Hyeonseo Lee
13.	2016	<i>Shaken: Discovering Your True Identity in the Midst of Life's Storms</i> by Tim Tebow
14.	2018	<i>The IF in Life: How to Get Off Life's Sidelines and Become Your Best Self</i> by Rashad Jennings

	Date	Title/Author	Book Description from Goodreads
1.	1847	Jane Eyre by Charlotte Bronte	Orphaned as a child, Jane has felt an outcast her whole young life. Her courage is tested once again when she arrives at Thornfield Hall, where she has been hired by the brooding, proud Edward Rochester to care for his ward Adèle. Jane finds herself drawn to his troubled yet kind spirit. She falls in love. Hard. But there is a terrifying secret inside the gloomy, forbidding Thornfield Hall. Is Rochester hiding from Jane? Will Jane be left heartbroken and exiled once again?
2.	1966	In Cold Blood by Truman Capote	On November 15, 1959, in the small town of Holcomb, Kansas, four members of the Clutter family were savagely murdered by blasts from a shotgun held a few inches from their faces. There was no apparent motive for the crime, and there were almost no clues. As Truman Capote reconstructs the murder and the investigation that led to the capture, trial, and execution of the killers, he generates both mesmerizing suspense and astonishing empathy. <i>In Cold Blood</i> is a work that transcends its moment, yielding poignant insights into the nature of American violence.
3.	1971	The Hiding Place: The Triumphant True Story of Corrie Ten Boom by Corrie Ten Boom with John & Elizabeth Sherrill	At one time Corrie ten Boom would have laughed at the idea that there would ever be a story to tell. For the first fifty years of her life nothing at all out of the ordinary had ever happened to her. She was an old-maid watchmaker living contentedly with her spinster sister and their elderly father in the tiny Dutch house over their shop. Their uneventful days, as regulated as their own watches, revolved around their abiding love for one another. However, with the Nazi invasion and occupation of Holland, a story did ensue. Corrie ten Boom and her family became leaders in the Dutch Underground, hiding Jewish people in their home in a specially built room and aiding their escape from the Nazis. For their help, all but Corrie found death in a concentration camp. <i>The Hiding Place</i> is their story.
4.	1983	Cold Sassy Tree by Olive Ann Burns	The one thing you can depend on in Cold Sassy, Georgia, is that word gets around--fast. On July 5, 1906, scandal breaks in the small town of Cold Sassy, Georgia, when the proprietor of the general store, E. Rucker Blakeslee, elopes with Miss Love Simpson. He is barely three weeks a widower, and she is only half his age and a Yankee to boot. As their marriage inspires a whirlwind of local gossip, fourteen-year-old Will Tweedy suddenly finds himself eyewitness to a family scandal, and that's where his adventures begin. <i>Cold Sassy Tree</i> is the undeniably entertaining and extraordinarily moving account of small-town Southern life in a bygone era. Brimming with characters who are wise and loony, unimpeachably pious and deliciously irreverent, Olive Ann Burns's classic bestseller is a timeless, funny, and resplendent treasure.
5.	1997	The Atonement Child by Francine Rivers	A beautiful repackaged edition of Francine Rivers's classic novel that breaks through the many taboos surrounding abortion. In one terrifying moment, Dynah Carey's perfect life is shattered by rape, her future irrevocably altered by an unwanted pregnancy, and her doting family torn apart. Her seemingly rock-solid faith is pushed to the limits as she faces the most momentous choice of her life—to embrace or to end the untimely life within her.
6.	2005	The Book Thief by Markus Zusak	Trying to make sense of the horrors of World War II, Death relates the story of Liesel--a young German girl whose book-stealing and story-telling talents help sustain her family and the Jewish man they are hiding, as well as their neighbors.
7.	2006	When Crickets Cry by Charles Martin	It begins on the shaded town square in a sleepy Southern town. A spirited seven-year-old has a brisk business at her lemonade stand. But the little girl's pretty yellow dress can't quite hide the ugly scar on her chest. Her latest customer, a bearded stranger, drains his cup and heads to his car, his mind on a boat he's restoring at a nearby lake. The stranger understands more about the scar than he wants to admit. And the beat-up bread truck careening around the corner with its radio blaring is about to change the trajectory of both their lives. Before it's over, they'll both know there are painful reasons why crickets cry . . . and that miracles lurk around unexpected corners.
8.	2007	The Shack by William Paul Young	Mackenzie Allen Philips' youngest daughter, Missy, has been abducted during a family vacation, and evidence that she may have been brutally murdered is found in an abandoned shack deep in the Oregon wilderness. Four years later in the midst of his " <i>Great Sadness</i> ," Mack receives a suspicious note, apparently from God, inviting him back to that shack for a weekend. Against his better judgment he arrives at the shack on a wintry afternoon and walks back into his darkest nightmare. What he finds there will change Mack's world forever. In a world where religion seems to grow increasingly irrelevant <i>The Shack</i> wrestles with the timeless question, "Where is God in a world so filled with unspeakable pain?" The answers Mack gets will astound you and perhaps transform you as much as it did him. You'll want everyone you know to read this book!

9.	2007	<p>A Long Way Gone by Ishmael Beah</p>	<p>The devastating story of war through the eyes of a child soldier. Beah tells how, at the age of twelve, he fled attacking rebels and wandered a land rendered unrecognizable by violence. By thirteen, he'd been picked up by the government army, and became a soldier.</p> <p>My new friends have begun to suspect I haven't told them the full story of my life. "Why did you leave Sierra Leone?" "Because there is a war." "You mean, you saw people running around with guns and shooting each other?" "Yes, all the time." "Cool." I smile a little. "You should tell us about it sometime." "Yes, sometime."</p> <p>This is how wars are fought now: by children, hopped-up on drugs and wielding AK-47s. Children have become soldiers of choice. In the more than fifty conflicts going on worldwide, it is estimated that there are some 300,000 child soldiers. Ishmael Beah used to be one of them. What is war like through the eyes of a child soldier? How does one become a killer? How does one stop? Child soldiers have been profiled by journalists, and novelists have struggled to imagine their lives. But until now, there has not been a first-person account from someone who came through this hell and survived.</p> <p>In <i>A Long Way Gone</i>, Beah, now twenty-five years old, tells a riveting story: how at the age of twelve, he fled attacking rebels and wandered a land rendered unrecognizable by violence. By thirteen, he'd been picked up by the government army, and Beah, at heart a gentle boy, found that he was capable of truly terrible acts. This is a rare and mesmerizing account, told with real literary force and heartbreaking honesty.</p>
10.	2014	<p>The Invention of Wings by Sue Monk Kidd</p>	<p>Writing at the height of her narrative and imaginative gifts, Sue Monk Kidd presents a masterpiece of hope, daring, the quest for freedom, and the desire to have a voice in the world—and it is now the newest Oprah's Book Club 2.0 selection.</p> <p>Hetty "Handful" Grimke, an urban slave in early nineteenth century Charleston, yearns for life beyond the suffocating walls that enclose her within the wealthy Grimke household. The Grimke's daughter, Sarah, has known from an early age she is meant to do something large in the world, but she is hemmed in by the limits imposed on women.</p> <p>Kidd's sweeping novel is set in motion on Sarah's eleventh birthday, when she is given ownership of ten year old Handful, who is to be her handmaid. We follow their remarkable journeys over the next thirty five years, as both strive for a life of their own, dramatically shaping each other's destinies and forming a complex relationship marked by guilt, defiance, estrangement and the uneasy ways of love.</p> <p>As the stories build to a riveting climax, Handful will endure loss and sorrow, finding courage and a sense of self in the process. Sarah will experience crushed hopes, betrayal, unrequited love, and ostracism before leaving Charleston to find her place alongside her fearless younger sister, Angelina, as one of the early pioneers in the abolition and women's rights movements.</p> <p>Inspired by the historical figure of Sarah Grimke, Kidd goes beyond the record to flesh out the rich interior lives of all of her characters, both real and invented, including Handful's cunning mother, Charlotte, who courts danger in her search for something better.</p> <p>This exquisitely written novel is a triumph of storytelling that looks with unswerving eyes at a devastating wound in American history, through women whose struggles for liberation, empowerment, and expression will leave no reader unmoved.</p>

11.	2015	Go Set a Watchman by Harper Lee	<p>From Harper Lee comes a landmark new novel set two decades after her beloved Pulitzer Prize-winning masterpiece, <i>To Kill a Mockingbird</i>. Maycomb, Alabama. Twenty-six-year-old Jean Louise Finch--"Scout"--returns home from New York City to visit her aging father, Atticus. Set against the backdrop of the civil rights tensions and political turmoil that were transforming the South, Jean Louise's homecoming turns bittersweet when she learns disturbing truths about her close-knit family, the town and the people dearest to her. Memories from her childhood flood back, and her values and assumptions are thrown into doubt. Featuring many of the iconic characters from <i>To Kill a Mockingbird</i>, <i>Go Set a Watchman</i> perfectly captures a young woman, and a world, in a painful yet necessary transition out of the illusions of the past--a journey that can be guided only by one's conscience. Written in the mid-1950s, <i>Go Set a Watchman</i> imparts a fuller, richer understanding and appreciation of Harper Lee. Here is an unforgettable novel of wisdom, humanity, passion, humor and effortless precision--a profoundly affecting work of art that is both wonderfully evocative of another era and relevant to our own times. It not only confirms the enduring brilliance of <i>To Kill a Mockingbird</i>, but also serves as its essential companion, adding depth, context and new meaning to an American classic.</p>
12.	2015	The Girl with Seven Names by Hyeonseo Lee	<p>An extraordinary insight into life under one of the world's most ruthless and secretive dictatorships – and the story of one woman's terrifying struggle to avoid capture/repatriation and guide her family to freedom.</p> <p>As a child growing up in North Korea, Hyeonseo Lee was one of millions trapped by a secretive and brutal totalitarian regime. Her home on the border with China gave her some exposure to the world beyond the confines of the Hermit Kingdom and, as the famine of the 1990s struck, she began to wonder, question and to realise that she had been brainwashed her entire life. Given the repression, poverty and starvation she witnessed surely her country could not be, as she had been told "the best on the planet"? Aged seventeen, she decided to escape North Korea. She could not have imagined that it would be twelve years before she was reunited with her family. She could not return, since rumours of her escape were spreading, and she and her family could incur the punishments of the government authorities – involving imprisonment, torture, and possible public execution. Hyeonseo instead remained in China and rapidly learned Chinese in an effort to adapt and survive. Twelve years and two lifetimes later, she would return to the North Korean border in a daring mission to spirit her mother and brother to South Korea, on one of the most arduous, costly and dangerous journeys imaginable. This is the unique story not only of Hyeonseo's escape from the darkness into the light, but also of her coming of age, education and the resolve she found to rebuild her life – not once, but twice – first in China, then in South Korea. Strong, brave and eloquent, this memoir is a triumph of her remarkable spirit.</p>
13.	2016	Shaken: Discovering Your True Identity in the Midst of Life's Storms by Tim Tebow	<p>First, he was a beloved college football champion, Heisman trophy winner, media sensation, and best-selling author drafted in the first round of the 2010 Draft. Then he had a miracle playoff run with the Denver Broncos before being traded to the New York Jets. After one season he was cut by New York. Next he was signed by the New England Patriots then let go after training camp—a scenario that repeated itself the following summer with the Philadelphia Eagles. Tim Tebow has achieved big victories and plunged the depths of failure, all while never letting go of his faith, even in the face of doubt and disappointment. In <i>Shaken</i> he explains why neither the highs nor the lows of his life can define him—and he reveals how you, too, can find confidence in your identity and know who you are. In revealing passages, Tebow pulls back the curtain on his life, sharing the vulnerable moments of his career that have shaken him to his core—while also teaching the biblical principles that will enable you to keep the faith, no matter what comes your way.</p>
14.	2018	The IF in Life: How to Get Off Life's Sidelines and Become Your Best Self by Rashad Jennings	<p>In his debut book, <i>The IF in Life: How to Get Off Life's Sidelines and Become Your Best Self</i>, former NFL running back and <i>Dancing with the Stars</i> champion Rashad Jennings shares his inspiring story and experiences that will encourage readers to follow their dreams.</p> <p>As a kid, Rashad was overweight, had poor vision, asthma, and a 0.6 GPA yet he still hoped to one day play in the NFL. The odds were stacked against him, but through hard work and determination, Rashad became a record-setting running back who has played with the Jacksonville Jaguars, the Oakland Raiders, and the New York Giants.</p> <p>In <i>The IF in Life</i>, Rashad writes about the decisions that shaped his life. From overcoming injuries and setbacks to reaching goals and everything in between, Rashad's transparency about his journey will encourage readers to hold on to faith in the midst of uncertainty and win big in life. Perfect for anyone looking for an inspiring story, this book also features photos from Rashad's childhood, college years, and professional career. Bonus poster also included.</p>