



ST. JOSEPH'S ACADEMY

2024 Summer Reading

SCIENCE FICTION AND FANTASY: THE ORIGIN STORIES

Teachers: Ms. Daniella Moshi

ASSIGNMENT #1:

Read & Annotate [Sir Gawain and The Green Knight](#) (Abridged Version)

Is your honor worth dying for?

“The knights of the Round Table are celebrating Yuletide [Christmas and New Year] when their festivities are interrupted by the mystifying Green Knight riding on his green horse. The Green Knight challenges [King Arthur’s legendary men](#) to a wager. He who takes a blow at the Green Knight must be prepared to accept a return attack one year and one day later. It is the gallant [Sir Gawain](#) who takes this challenge on. He raises his ax and strikes off the head of the Green Knight.

Yet, the intruder is undefeated—

Still alive, he picks up his head, and promises he will see Sir Gawain in a year and a day...

Directions:

This summer, your assignment is to read and annotate [this abridged \(short\) version of Sir Gawain and The Green Knight](#). This is a challenging text, full of complex language and sentence structure, so read it slowly. ***Don’t get too hung up on what every line means, but try your best to piece together whatever you can.***

As you read, stop to ponder and annotate what you think is happening, your reactions to what you’re reading, and any questions that arise. Once you’ve read and annotated the text completely, move onto “Assignment #2.”

(continued)

ASSIGNMENT #2: MAKING INFERENCES CHART (15 pts.)

Directions: After reading and annotating, create a two-column chart on a Google doc. that looks like this: On the left side, find at least 5 examples from the text that demonstrate Sir Gawain following “The Knight’s Code of Chivalry.” On the right side, analyze the textual evidence to explain how you see honor, courage, loyalty, a reverence for God, courtesy, and chastity reflected in the quote/scene from the text. Once finished, you’ll submit this chart into Canvas at the start of the new school year!

<i>Examples of Sir Gawain demonstrating honor, courage, loyalty, reverence for God, courtesy, and chastity (The Knight’s Code of Chivalry)</i>	<i>Explanation of how the direct textual evidence demonstrates one or more traits of The Knight’s Code of Chivalry.</i>
1. Place a direct quote from the text here.	Your explanation and analysis goes here!
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	

ASSIGNMENT #3: READING JUST FOR FUN! (NOT REQUIRED - JUST ENCOURAGED)

To help yourself become more familiar with the science fiction and fantasy genre, I highly encourage you to read at least **one science fiction or fantasy book** over the summer! Not only are these books usually very engaging, imaginative, and fun to read, but you’ll also find yourself getting used to some literary elements you may not have been exposed to before in romance novels, historical fiction, memoirs, mysteries and thrillers, etc.

If you are not sure where to start, I’ve curated a list of popular and well-loved fantasy and science fiction novels you can **optionally** choose from:

1. *The Martian* by Andy Weir
2. *Dune* by Frank Herbert
3. *The Book That Wouldn’t Burn* by Mark Lawrence
4. *The Will of The Many* by James Islington
5. *The Assassin’s Blade* by Sarah J. Maas
6. *Once Upon a Broken Heart* by Stephanie Garber
7. *Kingdom of Wicked* by Kerri Maniscalco
8. *Six of Crows* by Leigh Bardugo
9. *Powerless* by Lauren Roberts
10. *Divine Rivals* by Rebecca Ross
11. *Ready Player One* by Ernest Cline

**Some books discuss mature/adult content or may have graphic scenes. I urge you to discuss your book choice with your parent(s)/guardian(s) and read reviews of each book to ensure it is a proper fit.*