

**THE ALTAMONT SCHOOL
SUMMER READING LIST - GRADE 10**

THE ALTAMONT SCHOOL ENGLISH DEPARTMENT READING POLICY

The Altamont School English Department requires every Altamont student to read **four books** during the summer months. For tenth graders, the four include the *three required* novels. Students should choose one non-required text from the list below. If you wish to read a book not found on the list, please email Ms. Dawson (adawson@altamontschool.org) for permission.

During the school year, every Altamont student is required to complete additional reading outside of class. Assignments will vary from month to month. If you are not assigned specific texts, the list below is a good starting point when looking for titles.

We are interested in you bringing your ideas and your questions to the table in August. What **you** think about what you are reading is of utmost importance. To that end, you should note that **nothing should supplement your reading of these texts this summer**—no internet resources, summaries, AI, etc. Your job is to engage one-on-one with these works. We are not interested in what the internet has to say about Dickens, Austen or Shelley. Using anything other than your own brain and your physical copy of the text for these assignments is a violation of the Honor Code.

Rereading books for English credit is a violation of the Honor Code, excepting the *required titles*. Likewise, students may not use any type of condensed source for summer reading (internet summaries, commentaries on the text, etc.) or during the school year. Using reading aids in place of reading the text is a violation of the Honor Code. Just read the book!

I. Required texts:

Dickens, Charles	<i>A Tale of Two Cities</i>
Austen, Jane	<i>Pride and Prejudice</i>
Shelley, Mary	<i>Frankenstein</i>

II. One additional novel is required from the list below* or pending approval from Ms. Dawson.

III. Summer Reading Work

A Tale of Two Cities

The opening lines of *A Tale of Two Cities* are some of the most iconic literary lines in history. Likewise, the last few lines of the novel are just as famous. How do you think the first and last paragraphs of this story relate to each other? Is it a fitting ending to a story that begins the way it does? Write a paragraph analyzing the relationship between the first lines and the last. Avoid using first person (no “I” statements).

(OVER)

Pride and Prejudice

Mr. and Mrs. Bennet (Elizabeth's parents) have somewhat conflicting views on marriage in *Pride and Prejudice*—especially when it comes to what they want for their daughters. Write a paragraph explaining how each parent expresses their own ideas about marriage. Please use at least one quote from the text to support your explanations. Avoid using first person.

Frankenstein

Assignment: Quotation Analysis – Two Perspectives on Creation in *Frankenstein*

Both Victor Frankenstein and the Creature describe the moment of the Creature's creation from their own perspectives, offering contrasting emotional and psychological responses. Your task is to choose **one quotation from Victor's point of view** and **one quotation from the Creature's point of view**, each describing the Creature's creation, and analyze them closely to explore how their perspectives differ.

Specific Prompt:

How do Victor and the Creature each describe the moment of the Creature's creation, and what do these descriptions reveal about each character's path forward in the novel?

Instructions:

1. Select **one quote** from Victor's narration and **one quote** from the Creature's narration that each focus on the moment of creation.
2. For **each quote**, write a focused analysis (1 paragraph **each**) that examines:
 - o Word choice and tone
 - o What the quote reveals about the speaker's perspective
 - o How the quote contributes to Shelley's exploration of the role of the creator
3. In a **brief concluding paragraph**, compare the two perspectives. Consider:
 - o What major differences or tensions exist between Victor's and the Creature's experiences?
 - o What does this contrast suggest about larger themes in the novel (e.g., responsibility, alienation, ambition)?

Choice Novel

Summer Reading Response Questions

For your choice novel, please choose one of the questions below and respond in a paragraph. Since these are opinion-based questions about your experience reading the work, "I" statements are fine to use. (one question per one work)

1. What stands out to you as the single most important image/scene in the work? Why?
2. Did reading this work change the way you think about anything in the world around you, big or small?
3. If you could change one thing or one character in the work, what/who would it be and what kind of change would you make?
4. If you could have a conversation with any character in the work, who would it be, and what would you want to tell and/or ask that person?
5. If you could completely change the setting or context of the work, how would you go about changing it, and why?

FICTION

Achebe, C.
Adichie, C.
Agee, J.
Akutagawa, R.
Various translations
Atwood, Margaret
Austen, Jane
Balzac, H.
Various translations
Banville, John
Barnes, Julian
Bronte, C.
Bronte, E.
Buck, Pearl
Calvino, I.
Camus, A
Carver, Raymond
Capote, T.
Cather, W.
Catton, Eleanor
Chandler, Raymond
Chevalier, Tracy
Chopin, Kate
Conrad, Joseph
Coetzee, J. M.
Collins, W.
Conroy, P.
Crane, S.
Desai, A.
Desai, K.
Dickens, C.
Dostoyevsky, F.
Dreiser, Theodore
Dumas, A.
Eliot, G.
Endo, S.
Faulkner, W.
Fielding, H.
Fitzgerald, F. S.
Flanagan, Richard
Flaubert, G.
Foer, J. S.
Forster, E.M.
Fuentes, C.
Gaines, E.
Garcia Marquez, G.
Gardner, John

Things Fall Apart
Americanah
A Death in the Family
Rashomon and Other Stories
Arabian Nights
The Handmaid's Tale
Emma, Sense and Sensibility
Old Goriot
Bhagavad Gita
The Sea
The Sense of an Ending
Jane Eyre
Wuthering Heights
The Good Earth
The Baron in the Trees
The Stranger
Where I'm Calling From (stories)
The Grass Harp
My Antonia
The Luminaries
The Big Sleep
Girl with a Pearl Earring
The Awakening
Lord Jim
Waiting for the Barbarians
The Moonstone
The Water Is Wide; The Great Santini
The Red Badge of Courage
Clear Light of Day, Fasting Feasting
The Inheritance of Loss
Hard Times; David Copperfield
Crime and Punishment
Sister Carrie
The Three Musketeers
The Mill on the Floss
Silence
Go Down, Moses
Tom Jones
This Side of Paradise
The Narrow Road to the Deep North
Madame Bovary
Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close
A Passage to India; A Room with a View
The Old Gringo
A Lesson before Dying
One Hundred Years of Solitude
Grendel

Gibbons, K.
Goethe, W
Gogol, N
Goldsmith, O.
Gordimer, N.
Greene, G.
Hammett, Dashiell
Hardy, Thomas
Hemingway, E.
Hugo, V.
Hurston, Zora Neale
Huxley, A.
Ibsen, H.
Ishiguro, Kazuo
James, Henry
Jin, Ha
Kafka, F.
Kawabata, Y.
Kim, Richard
Lahiri, J.
Li, Yiyun
Lermontov, M.
Lewis, C.S.
Llewellyn, R.
Lu Xun
Luo Guanzhong
Malamud, Bernard
Malory, T.
Mahfuz, N.
Mantel, Hilary
Matsuo, Basho
McCarthy, C.
McCullers, C.
McEwen, Ian
Mishima, Y.
Morrison, T.
Murasaki, Shikibu
Murakami, H
Naipaul, V. S.
Narayan, R.K.
Nguyen, V.T.
O'Brien, Tim
O'Connor, F.
Orwell, George
Patchett, A.
Paton, A.
Percy, Walker
Plath, S.
Porter, K.A.

Charms for the Easy Life
The Sorrows of Werther
Dead Souls
 The Vicar of Wakefield
 Burger's Daughter
The Quiet American
 The Maltese Falcon
 Jude the Obscure
 A Farewell to Arms
Les Misérables
 Their Eyes Were Watching God
Brave New World
Hedda Gabler; A Doll's House
 The Remains of the Day; Never Let Me Go
 The Turn of the Screw; Daisy Miller
The Bridegroom, Waiting
The Trial
 Snow Country, The Master of Go
 Lost Names
The Namesake; Interpreter of Maladies
A Thousand Years of Good Prayers
 A Hero of Our Time
 The Screwtape Letters
 How Green Was My Valley
Collected Stories of Lu Xun
Three Kingdoms (Moss Roberts trans.)
 The Natural
Le Morte d'Arthur
The Palace Walk, The Thief and the Dogs
 Wolf Hall, Bring Up the Bodies
 The Narrow Road to the Deep North
 All the Pretty Horses, The Road
 The Heart Is a Lonely Hunter
 Atonement
The Sound of Waves; Spring Snow
The Bluest Eye
 The Tale of Genji
The Elephant Vanishes (stories)
 A Bend in the River
 A Tiger for Malgudi
The Sympathizer
The Things They Carried
Wise Blood
 1984
 Bel Canto
Cry, the Beloved Country
 The Moviegoer
The Bell Jar
Ship of Fools; Collected Stories

Potok, C.
Premchand
Salinger, J.D.
Scott, W.
Shakespeare, W.
Shaw, G.B.
Shelley, Mary
Singer, Isaac B.
Solzhenitsyn, A.
Soseki, Natsume
Soyinka, W.
Swift, J.
Tagore, R.
Tanizaki, J.
Thackeray, W.M.
Toibin, Colm
Tolstoy, L.
Toole, J. K.
Towles, A.
Turgenev, I.
Twain, M.
Voltaire
Vonnegut, Kurt
Walker, Alice
Wallace, D.
Welty, E.
West, Nathanael
Wilde, O.
Wilder, T.
Wolfe, T.
Wright, Richard
Wrinkle, Margaret
Wu Cheng'en
Yan Mo
Yehoshua, A. B.
Yu Hua

NON-FICTION

Agree, J.
Aristotle
Beah, I.
Bernstein, Carl
Boethius
Cahill, T.
Campbell, J.
Cash, W.J.
Ceram
Confucius

The Chosen
Stories
Catcher in the Rye
Ivanhoe
Macbeth; Othello
Pygmalion
Frankenstein
The Collected Stories
One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich
Kokoro, Kusamakura
Death and the King's Horseman
Gulliver's Travels
Selected Short Stories/ Selected Poems (Penguin)
Seven Japanese Tales
Vanity Fair
Brooklyn
The Death of Ivan Ilych, Anna Karenina
A Confederacy of Dunces
A Gentleman in Moscow
Fathers and Sons
Connecticut Yankee In King Arthur's Court
Candide
Slaughterhouse-Five
The Color Purple
Big Fish: Watermelon King
The Optimist's Daughter; 13 Stories
Miss Lonelyhearts
The Picture of Dorian Gray
The Bridge of San Luis Rey
Look Homeward, Angel
Native Son; Uncle Tom's Children
Wash
Monkey; Journey to the West
Red Sorghum
A Woman in Jerusalem
To Live

Let Us Now Praise Famous Men
Poetics, Ethics
A Long Way Gone
All the President's Men
The Consolation of Philosophy
How the Irish Saved Civilization
The Hero with a Thousand Faces
The Mind of the South
Gods, Graves and Scholars
Analects

Darwin
Didion, Joan
Eby, Margaret
Franklin, Benjamin
Hawking, Stephen
Hobbes, Thomas
Hurstun, Z.
Laozi
McWhorter, D
Nafisi, Azar
Plato
Sei Shonagon
Walker, A.
Welty, E.
Winchester, S.

The Origin of the Species
The White Album
South Toward Home
Autobiography
A Brief History of Time
Leviathan
Dust Tracks on a Road (B)
Dao De Jing
Carry Me Home
The Republic of Imagination
The Republic
The Pillow Book
In Search of Our Mothers' Gardens
One Writer's Beginnings
The Professor and the Madman