



Junior High Summer Reading Assignments 2026

Below you will find the Bible and English summer reading books and assignments listed by grade. The summer reading assignments will be due the first week of school.

Academic Integrity Reminder: English Department Policy on Artificial Intelligence

It is important to remember that the expectation is that the work submitted will be the student's own and that AI should not be used for these assignments. In the section on Artificial Intelligence, the student handbook states, "The use of AI could be subject to the Academic Integrity Policy."

Therefore, we want to be clear that in the English Department, any use of AI related to the writing process is considered unacceptable use of AI. In addition to writing itself, this includes other parts of *the writing process*, such as idea generation and editing. Please be aware that the use of Grammarly could be flagged as AI in AI detection software. The ability to thoughtfully and articulately communicate is a key 21st-century skill, one to which the English Department is especially deeply committed. This policy is consistent with our Graduate Profile desire to see students grow as Resilient Learners, which entails the desire that each student grows in the following: "Thinks critically, logically and Biblically and is furthermore able to communicate those thoughts clearly, articulately and persuasively through both the written and spoken word" (Col. 4:6). Students are equipped and inspired to understand, live and persuasively defend Biblical values in their cultural moment" (1 Pt. 3:15). Therefore, in English classes, any use of AI related to *the writing process* will be treated as plagiarism and subject to the Academic Integrity Policy.

7th Grade

Bible 7

***Encounters with Jesus* by Timothy Keller**

Assignment: Read *Encounters with Jesus*. During the first week of school you will have a **book quiz** consisting of 10 questions, one for each chapter.

If you have questions regarding the assignment contact Mr. Reese at breesee@bcsk12.org. Please note there will most likely be a delayed response due to teachers being off duty in the summer.

English 7

***Treasure Island* by Robert Louis Stevenson** (to aid in classroom discussions, we highly recommend purchasing [this edition](#))

[Summer Assignment](#) (please print and complete)

Bring your completed notes to class with you on the first day of school. During the first week of school, you will discuss the book and complete activities in class related to the text.

If you have questions regarding the assignment contact Miss Shoop (hshoop@bcsk12.org). Please note there will most likely be a delayed response due to teachers being off duty in the summer.

8th Grade

Bible 8

The Magician's Nephew by C.S. Lewis

Assignment: After reading *The Magician's Nephew* and the Genesis account of creation, write **two paragraphs comparing and contrasting the creation accounts**. Please use the following guidelines for each paragraph:

Paragraph on Similarities

1. Open with a topic sentence - mention *The Magician's Nephew*, C.S. Lewis, *The Bible*, and your topic (how the two creation accounts are **similar**).
2. Include two examples that illustrate how the two texts are **similar**.
3. Write a concluding sentence for your paragraph.
4. After the paragraph, write a quote from *Magician's Nephew* that illustrates a **similarity** and briefly explain the quote. Cite the page number of the quote.
5. Also write a quote from Genesis that illustrates a **similarity**, and briefly explain the Biblical quote. Cite the chapter and verse of the passage.

Paragraph on Differences

1. Open with a topic sentence - mention *The Magician's Nephew*, C.S. Lewis, *The Bible*, and your topic (how the two creation accounts are **different**).
2. Include two examples that illustrate how the texts are **different**.
3. Write a concluding sentence for your paragraph.
4. After the paragraph, write a quote from *Magician's Nephew* that illustrates a **difference** and briefly explain it. Cite the page number of the quote.
5. Also write a quote from Genesis that illustrates a **difference** and briefly explain it. Cite the chapter and verse of the passage.

If you have questions regarding the assignment contact Mr. Weide at cweide@bcsk12.org. Please note there will most likely be a delayed response due to teachers being off duty in the summer.

English 8

***The Giver* by Lois Lowry**

Assignment: Read *The Giver* and complete the [journal responses in this link](#) (including annotations as directed on this document). Bring your book and completed journal to class on the first day of school. During the first week, you will discuss the book, take a reading quiz, and have a writing assignment related to the book.

If you have questions regarding the assignment contact Mrs. Aldridge (jaldridge@bcsk12.org). Please note there will most likely be a delayed response due to teachers being off duty in the summer.

Accelerated English 8

***The Outsiders* by S. E. Hinton**

Journal Responses and Critical Thinking

Directions: As you read *The Outsiders*, please respond in paragraph form to the following **writing prompts in the link below**. Use complete sentences, correct grammar, spelling, punctuation, etc.

This assignment will be taken up for a grade on the first day of school: [The Outsiders Journal Responses](#).

If you have questions regarding the assignment contact Miss Shoop (hshoop@bcsk12.org). Please note there will most likely be a delayed response due to teachers being off duty in the summer.