

St. Benedict's Preparatory School
Freshman Boys
Summer Reading assignment 2026-27

Instructions:

Your summer reading assignment is in **three** parts. 1. A vocabulary assignment done online, 2. a book to read along with a handwritten paper handed in during First Term, and 3. a PDF to read with a series of questions to answer by writing your responses at the bottom of this document that you then submit to Google Classroom. This is a Pass/Fail assignment. To pass, everything must be completed as instructed and submitted on time. Everything is **due by Wednesday, August 26th**. There are no do-overs or resubmissions, and late work will not be accepted for any reason. Any copying and pasting from other sources or use of AI is cheating and will result in a zero for the assignment and an Honor Code violation.

SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENT PART 1: Vocabulary

Step 1: Here is the link to a video that will explain how to set up your account on Vocabulary.com if you do not already have one:

[Getting Started as a Student \(Video\)](#)

Step 2: Once you have set up your account, here is the link to join the summer reading vocabulary class that has the actual assignment:

[Link to Vocabulary assignment](#)

SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENT PART 2: General knowledge

This book is required reading. However, only portions of it need to be read, depending on the first letter of your last name. Feel free, of course, to read the whole book. It is not long.

This book is titled: A Little History of the World, by E.H. Gombrich.

The book is available as an e-book, or in your local library, or as a paperback you can purchase online new or used at Amazon, Barnes and Noble or other booksellers. The ISBN for this book is: 978-0-300-26325-9

Here is the assignment:

If your last name begins with A through F, read chapters 1-10

If your last name begins with G through L, read chapters 11-20

If your last name begins with M through R, read chapters 21-30

If your last name begins with S through Z, read chapters 31-40

For each chapter you read, write at least one paragraph that summarizes the contents of that chapter. A paragraph is indented and is composed of several complete sentences.

This assignment must be handwritten, in black or blue ink on loose-leaf notebook paper and submitted no later than Wednesday, August 26th, during the school day.

Here is the format you must follow for this assignment:

1. Your first and last name legibly written in the upper right-hand corner of each page.
2. For each chapter, write the chapter number and title, followed by your summary on the next lines.
3. Skip a line between each chapter entry to make it easier to read.

SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENT PART 3: St. Benedict's Prep stories

The PDF "FY Stories Downtown Monks All" is a series of brief stories written by Fr. Albert Holtz, a monk of Newark Abbey. You also have the option of picking up a hard copy in the school lobby. At the end of each story, there are reflection questions. Your assignment is to read through all of the stories and answer the questions at the end of every story by typing your responses starting at the end of **this Google doc**.

Please type your full name below and then write your responses by following the format for the first few chapters as started below. Use as much space as you need to answer the questions and write your reflections. Please also leave a space between the reflections for each chapter to make it easier to read. When you have completed your work, please **submit this document** to [Google Classroom](#) (Classroom code: **bjv4y23g**). If you have any specific questions about how to complete these assignments, you can email Mr. Arriaza, Dean of Freshman Boys, at aarriaza@sbp.org or Mr. Marlow, Dean of Freshman Academics, at jmarlow@sbp.org.

Name:

Chapter 1 reflection (start writing on the next line)

Chapter 2 reflection (start writing on the next line)

(Then continue with the remaining chapters by labeling them just like those above.)