

Summer Reading for CP 9 (College Prep English 9)

DUE MONDAY, AUGUST 31

This year's English 9 summer reading will focus on exploring Hoban's Core Values through your choice of literature. Below you will find a short description for each of our Core Values. Themes which apply to the Holy Cross Core value AND to a broad range of literature are italicized in the description.

Holy Cross Core Values:

1. Reliance on Divine Providence: People are called to put their trust in God. God is there for all people, offering his help.
2. Excellence: Individuals do their best all of the time, not just when they feel like it. People should strive for excellence in all that they do.
3. Cultivation of the Heart as Well and the Mind: How individuals treat others is just as important as what they learn at school. The heart must learn and grow in step with the mind.
4. Inclusiveness: Every person is a gift. People learn and grow from spending time with others who have had different experiences, upbringings, skin colors, religions, etc. Individuals include all people as important parts of the fabric of their lives.
5. Discipline: High school is a time for students to transition from being disciplined by others to learning self-discipline. Individuals learn to practice self-control to reach their goals.
6. Option for the Poor: Humans are called to reach out in love and service to those who are struggling. Help the needy and/or suffering whenever possible.
7. Hope: Trust in God provides hope for the future. Always maintain hope.
8. Family: Because people are all children of the same God, they are family. People must treat each other with love and respect, as if they are family.
9. Integrity: People should be honest and not change who they are just to impress other people. Honesty guides decisions, including the choice not to cheat or to deceive.
10. Zeal: People should be positive and enthusiastic in all they do. Approach life and its tasks with energy and excitement.

Assignment:

Choose TWO texts of your choice to read. Each text **must** in some way address, embody, or teach something about a Holy Cross Core Value (see previous page). Consider focusing on the italicized theme which accompanies each value. You may mix and match what types of writing you read. "Text" options include poems, short stories, novels, children's stories/books, fables, myths, parables, news (non-fiction) articles from a newspaper or magazine, biographies, etc. If it is a type of **written** literature, it is acceptable. See POTENTIAL RESOURCES which are included at the end of this assignment.

For each of your two texts, write a paragraph that explores, explains, analyzes, or simply offers a reaction to the Holy Cross Core Value present in the text. Each reading you choose must be about a different core value (so do not choose two texts that you believe explore inclusiveness – instead, read a poem that you think reflects upon including others, and then maybe a parable that you believe addresses option for the poor). You will write two paragraphs total. Each is worth 10 points.

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Each of your paragraphs should be a **minimum** of six sentences. Each paragraph should begin with a topic sentence which expresses the main idea of the paragraph. A good topic sentence will include the title and author of what you read, the Holy Cross Core value you are discussing, and a main idea.

Students who use AI for any portion of this work, including tools that fix/enhance writing like Grammarly, will be turned in to Mr. Harris for an Honor Code violation, be required to re-do the summer reading, and receive only UP TO HALF CREDIT.

Sample Topic Sentence:

Of Mice and Men by John Steinbeck comments upon the core value of inclusiveness through its discussion of characters who feel sadness or loneliness because they are black, female, or handicapped.

Important things to know as you write:

1. Novel/Biography titles are italicized. Article, poem and short story titles go in quotation marks.
2. Avoid writing in the 2nd person (so avoid using the pronouns you and your).
3. Please **type** your paragraphs using 12 pt font, double spaced, 1" margins.
4. Consider incorporating direct words from the reading into your paragraph. Any phrasing you use word-for-word should go into quotation (" ") marks.
5. In the left-hand corner, type an MLA-correct heading. Example =

Your name

Teacher's name

English period ____

Due Date

POTENTIAL RESOURCES FOR FINDING BOOKS, POEMS, ETC. TO READ

Akron Library – GO TO <https://www.akronlibrary.org/account/library-card> for a free library card

Use your Akron library card to access additional resources with Libby = <https://help.libbyapp.com/en-us/6103.htm>

Children's book suggestions which incorporate lessons about values = <https://www.goodnet.org/articles/25-childrens-books-that-teach-kids-meaningful-values>

News articles can be found at various sites including <https://www.beaconjournal.com/news/> and <https://www.nytimes.com/>

Young Adult Novel Resource =

https://www.goodreads.com/list/show/6654.Young_Adult_Books_That_Kids_With_Values_Can

Read Poetry Suggestions = <https://www.familyfriendpoems.com/poems/children/lesson/>