

CHRISTCHURCH SCHOOL

Humanities Summer Reading Summer 2026

The following are the summer reading assignments for Humanities courses for Summer 2026.

Courses not listed below do not have a required summer reading or writing assignment.
All listed assignments are required and are due on the first day of school unless otherwise noted.

Course	Required Reading
Humanities 9 & 10 Elective: A Cultural History of the Modern World	None
Honors Humanities 9 & 10	Song of the Hummingbird by Graciela Limón
Humanities 11	The Memory Palace: True Short Stories of the Past by Nate DiMeo
Honors Humanities 11	The Memory Palace: True Short Stories of the Past by Nate DiMeo
Honors Humanities 12	Thank You for Being Late by Thomas L. Friedman
Humanities Electives	None
Inquiry & Expression	None

Honors Humanities 9 & 10

Book: Song of the Hummingbird by Graciela Limón

Read Song of the Hummingbird over the summer. After finishing the novel, write a 200–400 word response explaining how Huitzitzilín's beliefs, values, and understanding of the cosmos shape her interpretation of the arrival of the Spanish. Consider what is lost beyond Aztec political power, how the novel challenges conventional ideas about civilization, and who has the authority to define it.

Humanities 11 & Honors Humanities 11

Book: The Memory Palace: True Short Stories of the Past by Nate DiMeo

Read at least 15 stories from the collection (reading the entire book is encouraged). Then write a 200–400 word reflection on one or two stories that surprised you. Discuss why the story stood out, what it suggests about whose histories are remembered or forgotten, why it may have been overlooked, and how Nate DiMeo's storytelling helps readers see American history from a different perspective.

Honors Humanities 12

Book: Thank You for Being Late by Thomas L. Friedman

Additional written instructions will be provided by the Humanities Department before the beginning of the school year.