



CHOICE READING BOOKS

ANSWERS TO THE MOST COMMONLY ASKED QUESTIONS...

WHAT MAY I READ

- Books that you LIKE !
- Books approved by Ms. Stockton and your parents.
- Books of your age & reading ability level.
- Minimum 3 choice texts per trimester, one historical, one science-related, and others...
- Books need not be from “recommended” list

HOW WILL YOU KNOW I’VE READ?

- You’ll report pages read daily at reading time.
- You’ll write a monthly letter-essay about a book you’ve finished.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY A LETTER-ESSAY?

In each letter-essay you will:

DISCUSS THEME: After a brief (+/-5 sentences) summary of the text, you’ll identify and support a theme (author’s message) from the book.

REACT: Explain what you find important about the text, how it relates to other texts or to your life, as well as enumerate ideas/questions that you have about why the author chooses certain words, events, or characters.

MORE INFO. GLUED TO INSIDE FRONT COVER OF YOUR LITERARY LOG.

HOW OFTEN DO I HAVE TO GET TO READ?

You should read every school night for at least thirty minutes in addition to the time you get to read in class.

You need to write a letter-essay every month. Look for due dates on the action list!

HOW MUCH DO I NEED TO WRITE?

High quality letter-essays are generally two-four pages. The week your essay is due, follow this plan:

- Plan/outline/draft on Monday
- Read it over & make changes on Tuesday
- Print and read ALOUD on Wednesday
- Edit on Thursday. Print, Glue into Log
- Turn in on Friday!

Can I read non-fiction books?

Yes! The only parameter is that you read at least one science-oriented book and one book about medieval world history (or European Renaissance/Reformation/Exploration).

Yes! You may read on a digital device (e.g. Kindle)

WHAT ARE GRADE-LEVEL EXPECTATIONS?

Complete all responses, prepare and present a project and read the following number of “choice book” pages to attain the following levels. (12 weeks)

2500+pps= SUPERB

2000+pps = Very good

1000+pps = commendable

800+pps = average

600+pps = passing, but needs improvement

- Remember to list the books you’ve read on your “Books Read” list in your language log.
- Page requirements are quite flexible.If reading is like breathing for you, 3000 pages might be a realistic “SUPERB” goal. If reading is like having your teeth pulled, fewer pages might mean qualifyin for a higher level than what’s indicated. Set a realistic reading goal for yourself, write (or record) thoughtful responses, present an dynamic book project, and you’ll be in “Very Good-Superb ” range regardless of “general”expectations. YES! Reading several shorter works is as good as reading a longer work!

Need a boost? Listen to a book on tape! (Read along, if possible) Ask Ms. S. or the local public library for selections!



“Outside of a dog, reading is a man’s best friend. Inside of a dog, it’s too dark to read.”

-Groucho Marx