



CROSSROADS COLLEGE PREPARATORY SCHOOL

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Ninth Grade Summer Reading 2019

Dear students entering 9th grade,

You will study World Literature this coming year. Our course next year will spend a lot of time considering the various aspects of what it means to be a hero. We will look at a wide variety of works from various time periods that all address heroism in some way. So when you read this summer, and answer the following questions, know that it is with the mindset of considering what are the traits associated with a hero.

Summer English to-do list

- Read *The Hobbit*; answer questions, proofread, and print
- Read choice book; answer questions, proofread, and print
- Watch one choice movie
- Learn Latin and Greek bases (see details below)

READING

1) required: *The Hobbit* by J.R.R. Tolkien

2) required: choose one of the following books (choose one you've not already read). Each exemplifies the hero's journey as a protagonist navigates a challenging and changing world.

- *The Secret Life of Bees* by Sue Monk Kidd relates a girl's journey to find herself and her mother and what she finds along the way.
- *All the Light We Cannot See* by Anthony Doerr is about a blind French girl and a German boy whose paths collide in France as they both try to survive the devastation of World War II.
- *Ready Player One* by Ernest Cline is about a gamer in 2045 who goes on a quest to solve an online puzzle that has real-world consequences.
- *Ender's Game* by Orson Scott Card is an action-packed science fiction novel whose hero is chosen for a very special school.

3) required: Watch one of the following movies and take notes on how the main character shows heroic qualities. We will break into groups and discuss these movies further during the first week of school.

The Princess Bride
Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief

Ella Enchanted
Finding Nemo

Writing for *The Hobbit*:

Consider Bilbo as a hero. Remember to actively read (take notes in the margin, use sticky notes, keep a journal, etc.) so you can recall the details, page numbers, and themes of the text. You may type or write your responses.

1. What does Bilbo do that makes him seem heroic? Find *three* examples with quotations and page numbers. Please explain what characteristics of a hero you associate with each example you have given. (Please number them 1a, 1b, 1c.)
2. Describe *three* of the obstacles/challenges on his journey and how Bilbo responds. In what ways does Bilbo change / grow as a result of these obstacles? Find *three* quotations that show his changing awareness of himself and that prove to you that he is developing. Quote and analyze. (Please number these 2a, 2b, 2c.)

Writing for *Your Choice Book*:

Consider your novel's protagonist as a hero. You may type or write. Remember to actively read so you can recall the details, page numbers, and themes of the text.

3. What does the protagonist do that makes him/her heroic? Find *three* examples with quotations and page numbers. Please explain what characteristics of a hero you associate with each example you have given. (Please number them 3a, 3b, 3c.)
4. Describe the obstacles/challenges on the journey and how the character responds. In what ways does the character change / grow as a result of these obstacles? Find *three* quotations that show his/her changing awareness of self and that show character development. Quote and analyze. (Please number them 4a, 4b, 4c.)

Latin and Greek (for new and for returning students)

Students coming from Crossroads 8th into our 9th grade already know Latin and Greek bases in Lessons 1-20 in *Everyday Words from Classic Origins* as well as a vocabulary word for each base. They should review to stay fresh. They will be re-tested on these in August. Students joining us new in the 9th grade should learn Latin bases in Lessons 1-4 found in *Everyday Words from Classic Origins*. The workbook is available from the online bookstore, as well as other sellers.

Enjoy your summer and happy reading!

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BOOK LIST (Decide if you wish to buy the books or get them from libraries during the year):

- *Everyday Words from Classic Origins* (ISBN 978-0789156846). Purchase this workbook.
- *Beowulf*, G. Hinds (ISBN 9780763630232) Graphic novel ... please purchase this specific version
- *The Odyssey*, G. Hinds (ISBN 9780763642686) Graphic novel ... please purchase this specific version
- *A Thousand Splendid Suns*, K. Hosseini (ISBN 9780739489505)
- *Things Fall Apart*, C. Achebe (ISBN 9780385474542)
- *Paper Towns*, J. Green (ISBN 978014241493)
- *Othello*, Shakespeare (ISBN 978150114629)