

## Senior British Literature - Summer Reading 2021

This assignment will count as 3 quiz grades and there will be a summer reading test/discussion of the books during the first week of school.

### Guidelines and Suggestions:

- Give yourself ample time to complete the readings and assignments. Do not wait until the last minute to try to complete this assignment.
- Try mapping out your plan of action in a planner, calendar, or any source you can easily refer back to!
- Decide when and how you will read- on the subway as you go to meet your friends? At the beach when you're relaxing? On a flight? With your morning cup of coffee? For a certain amount of time each night before bed? At the park on a beautiful day? The possibilities are endless!
- On the calendar count up the days when you know you will have anywhere between 20-40 minutes to read.
- Calculate how many pages (or chapters) you will need to read per day.
- If you find it difficult to focus, try listening to an audiobook version as you read along- this will make it harder for your mind to wander off! You can try sources like: <https://www.audible.com/> , [LibriVox | free public domain audiobooks](#) , YouTube, or even your closest public library!
- Don't forget to include days when you will dedicate time to writing your assignment. You may complete the assignment as you are reading the book or after you have finished it in its entirety.

### Summer Reading Texts:

- *Rebecca* by Daphne du Maurier
- *Grendel* by John Gardner

### Writing Assignment:

Note: This is a written assignment and should only be handwritten- give yourself a break from looking at google docs for a while. For each book, keep an organized journal or notebook where you will hand write and record your responses, be sure to clearly label each response.

- **Characterization** - In each section you will write a thorough description of each character. Describe their appearance (if given), their actions, and their thoughts. List the conflicts and challenges each character has faced. What role did they play in the story? *(For example: hero, villain, foil, supporting role, comic relief)*

**Setting:** Write a full account of the setting. What country, era, images and places of interest were used as the background for the story. Use the literary element of imagery to paint a picture for the story. How does the setting enhance the story or essay?

**Turning Point and Climax:** Explain the events leading up to the end of the character's journey. Describe the outcome and lessons learned from the story.

**Questions:** Write five questions for each novel. The questions could be for the author or for a specific character. Explain your reasoning for each question.

**Quotations:** Record ten statements or quotations from each novel that shed light on the theme of the work or quotes that you find striking for their structure and beauty. These can include character quotations or image descriptions. State the theme or central idea and list the quotations on the lines following it. Explain why you have selected this quotation.

**Personal Reaction/Review:** Write a three to five paragraph personal reaction to each story/essay. What have you learned from the character's experiences? Would you recommend this book to a friend? Explain why or why not. Be specific in your reasoning.

**Due Date:** This notebook is due on the very first day of class. We will be discussing themes and elements within the novels and essays during class so be prepared!

If you have any questions regarding the assignment, you can email me over the summer at [collins.i@stsviour.org](mailto:collins.i@stsviour.org).

Have a lovely summer and enjoy your reading!

Sincerely,

Ms. Collins

Books don't  
just go with  
you, they take  
you where you've  
never been.

*Anonymous*