

Legacy Christian Academy

Summer Reading Assignments for students entering UNW Composition

Summer Reading Philosophy:

Reading is a fundamental life skill, and it can also be a pleasurable and rewarding activity. The LCA English Department cares greatly about fostering in our students the enjoyment of quality literature as well as helping them achieve academic gains across all disciplines. Studies show that people who read more become stronger readers and writers, and have better vocabulary and spelling skills. Independent reading outside the classroom is just as important as guided reading inside the classroom in developing these skills. Our goal is for all students to take ownership of their reading and know the pleasure of independence.

REQUIRED Class Reading:

October Sky by Homer Hickam. You will have a quiz the first week of school.

REQUIRED Independent Reading Choice

Choose ONE additional biography, autobiography, or memoir of a historically significant individual.

REQUIRED Project:

Complete the Summary, Journaling, and Overview Project **for the Independent Reading choice (biography, autobiography, or memoir)** according to the instructions provided below.

OPTIONAL:

Read as many more books as you want!

Summer Reading Project Instructions for UNW Composition

1. **Write a brief summary of the book** (no more than 200 words).

2. **Complete 5-7 journal entries** (approximately 1,200 words total). Use any of the following starters for journal entries. Never summarize the text! All journal entries are to be analytical exercises. Be sure to vary your entry types.
 - Start with a quotation that is particularly compelling. Explain it; comment on it; go beyond it.
 - Write about an event or memory in your own life that is comparable to something you read in the work. Make comparisons and contrasts; draw conclusions about lessons learned.
 - Write about something surprising or startling; draw conclusions about lessons learned.
 - Write about something from the work that stirs you emotionally.
 - Discuss in great detail how the events in the work are influenced by the historical context in which they took place.
 - Create your own entry.

3. **Write a final overview:** Choose any of the following (400-500 words). For any of these choices, cite the text in support of what you say.
 - Personal reflection: why you liked this book and are glad you read it.
 - Recommendation: choose a person you know and write an email to him or her giving your recommendation. I want you to really send this email to me and that person.
 - What you learned about yourself as a reader? What did you learn from studying this book? Be specific.