

DOCTORS CHARTER SCHOOL
Language Arts Department
2009-2010 Reading List

DCS students will be responsible for reading all books on the “Summer Required Reading List” for their incoming grade level by the start of the 2009-2010 school year. Parents (of middle school students especially) are welcome to read and discuss the books with their child. Students must be prepared for class discussions, critical analysis, comprehension and vocabulary quizzes, critical essays, and final tests for each novel. ONE NOVEL WILL BE TESTED BY THE END OF THE FIRST WEEK OF SCHOOL.

See the back of this page for the Summer Novel Projects, **due the first week of school.**

Due dates and other requirements (such as specific editions) for books on the “In-Class Novels List” will be determined and announced by each Language Arts instructor. Additional novels, literature, drama, etc., may be required by individual teachers.

Summer Required Reading List

6th

Westing Game, by Ellen Raskin
7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens
One free student choice

7th

Tom Sawyer, by Mark Twain
Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry, by Mildred D. Taylor
The Pigman, by Paul Zindel

8th

The Outsiders, by S. E. Hinton
Fahrenheit 451, by Ray Bradbury
Animal Farm, by George Orwell

9th

Anthem, by Ayn Rand
Catcher in the Rye, by J.D. Salinger
Night, by Elie Wiesel

10th

The Joy Luck Club, by Amy Tan
Breath, Eyes, Memory, by Edwidge Danticat
A Raisin in the Sun, by Lorraine Hansberry

11th

Reservation Blues, by Sherman Alexie
The Glass Menagerie, by Tennessee Williams
The House of Seven Gables, by Nathaniel Hawthorne

12th

Angela's Ashes, by Frank McCourt
The Importance of Being Earnest, by Oscar Wilde
The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time,
by Mark Haddon

In-Class Novels List

The Giver, by Lois Lowry
The River, by Gary Paulson
Heroes, Gods, and Monsters of Greek Myths, by
Bernard Evslin

Diary of a Young Girl, by Anne Frank
Romeo and Juliet, Shakespeare (Oxford School
Shakespeare ed)

1984, by George Orwell
Hamlet, by Shakespeare (Oxford School Sh. ed)

The Count of Monte Cristo, by Alexandre Dumas
Macbeth, by Shakespeare (Oxford School Sh. ed)

Dreaming in Cuban, by Christina Garcia
Othello, by Shakespeare (Oxford School Shakespeare
ed)

Their Eyes Were Watching God, by Zora Neale Hurston
The Great Gatsby, by F. Scott Fitzgerald
Fast Food Nation, by Eric Schlosser

Great Expectations, Charles Dickens
Jane Eyre, by Charlotte Bronte
A Clockwork Orange, by Anthony Burgess
The Tempest, by Shakespeare (Oxford School Sh. ed)
A Midsummer's Night Dream, by Shakespeare (“ ”)

SUMMER NOVEL PROJECTS (Grades 6-12)

INSTRUCTIONS: Do one project each; you may choose which novel to use for each project, but you must do a project on EACH novel.

Project 1: Critical Character Analysis Essay

Choose one character from a novel (it need not necessarily be the main character) and write a critical essay of at least one full page, typed and double-spaced, in which you analyze the character's personality, actions, and motivations.

Project 2: Visual Presentation

Create one of the following visual media for the second novel; you must include visuals plus textual evidence (quotes from the text) indicative of plot or theme. You will be graded on 1) neatness; 2) professionalism of presentation; 3) creativity.

Choices of media:

Collage: minimum of 15 images and 15 quotes, all specifically relevant to text

Travel Brochure: tri-fold pamphlet/brochure, 2-sided, in color, original art preferred; minimum 2 quotes from text and 1 image per panel required

Comic Strip: minimum 8 color cels with a visual and a matching quote in every cel; extensive, relevant details and creativity are very important

Newspaper Front Page: original text of at least one full story incorporating quotes from the book is required. Authentic newspaper layout is expected. Include headlines and at least 3 relevant photos/pictures with captions

Project 3: Children's Book

Turn the third novel into an elementary-grade children's book, minimum 10 pages. Each page must include both text and a color illustration. As in project 2, you will be graded on 1) neatness; 2) professionalism of presentation; 3) creativity.