

The Village School's Rising 12th Grade English 4 Summer Reading Packet



Please complete and turn in the following activities
on the first day of school in August.

The Village School of Naples

Required Summer Reading for Rising 12th Grade English 4 Students

Dear Seniors,

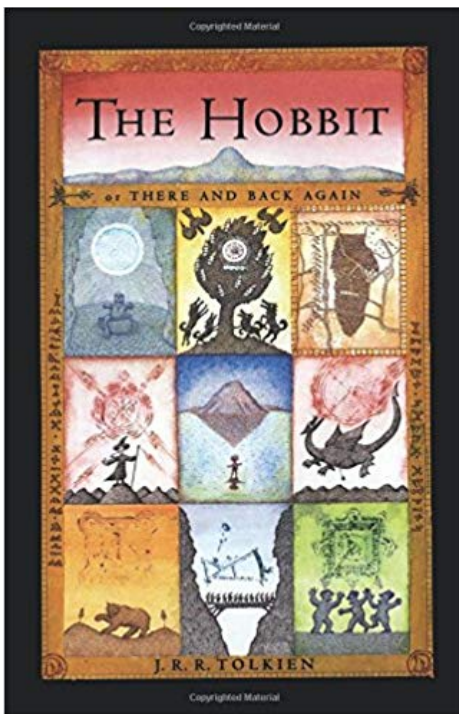
Welcome to your final summer of high school reading! The books below will set the stage for our year together, so the tasks that accompany them should be executed with the same care and attention you'd give to any work during the school year. Please look through the entire packet to make sure you've found everything that applies to you. Everyone will read two pieces this summer.

I am always available to you via email (dbright@tvsnaples.org) should you have any questions over the summer.

I am delighted to be spending your senior year at TVS with you, and I look forward to lots of laughing and learning as we read and think and write together.

Have a wonderful summer! Happy reading!

Ms. B. :)



The Hobbit

J.R.R. Tolkien

(required of **all** English 4 students)

ISBN-13: 978-0618150823 / Available for purchase [HERE](#)

In the story that opens the door to Tolkien's marvelous *Lord of the Rings* Trilogy, hobbit Bilbo Baggins is recruited to join the wizard Gandalf and a band of dwarves as they set off on a quest for the gold guarded by the evil dragon Smaug the Magnificent. Along the way, Bilbo encounters Gollum and the Ring, setting the stage for an even grander adventure to come.

Since our goal in this course is to explore how writers use words to create and people fictional worlds, you should annotate thoughtfully with this goal in mind. Using one color pen or pencil, make note of any and all references to the physical world and structures of the novel, of course, but pay attention also to cultural elements such as language, currency, government and laws, social class, and spirituality. Then using another color pen or pencil, annotate for the standard elements of fiction such as significant plot moments, character development, and unfamiliar words. Bring your (multi-colored!) annotated book with you on the first day of class.



Wool Part 1 (Silo Series Book 1)

Hugh Howey

(required of all English 4H students)

Available [HERE](#)

Please note: This is the FIRST CHAPTER ONLY of the novel Wool, which we will read in its entirety later in the semester. This chapter is only available digitally, but it will be free if you acquire it through this link.

The self-published story that gave us the *Wool Omnibus* introduces us to the world of life in the silo, where going outside is, literally, the last thing you do.

It's going to be hard for you to annotate this one, since it's only available digitally. I'd like you, though, to be on the lookout for the elements that make up the imaginary world of Howey's Silo, so you will be creating a graphic organizer around the acronym GRAPES:

G = Geography (including food and water sources)

R = Religion/values/beliefs

A = Art, to include writing

P = Politics, to include government

E = Economics, to include jobs and public works

S = Social classes

Create a chart (digital or otherwise) around this acronym and use it to track the characteristics of life in the world of the Silo so that we might add Howey's story to Tolkien's and use them as templates for our work during the semester.

Finally, please complete one of the choice activities described on pages 5-7 of this packet for this reading.

Students enrolled in English 4 CP are also required to read and annotate one of the titles from the following list and complete one of the choice activities described on pages 5-7 of this packet.

<i>The Chosen</i>	Chaim Potok	Literary Fiction: The now-classic story of two fathers & two sons and the pressures on all of them to pursue the religion they share in the way that is best suited to each. As the boys grow into young men, they discover in the other a lost spiritual brother, and a link to an unexplored world that neither had ever considered before.
<i>The Book Thief</i>	Markus Zusak	Historical Fiction: Death himself narrates the World War II-era story of Liesel Meminger from the time she is taken, at age nine, to live in Molching, Germany, with a foster family in a working-class neighborhood of tough kids, acid-tongued mothers, and loving fathers who earn their living by the work of their hands.
<i>Life of Pi</i>	Yann Martel	Fiction: After the sinking of a cargo ship, a solitary lifeboat remains bobbing on the wild blue Pacific. The only survivors from the wreck are a sixteen-year-old boy named Pi, a hyena, a wounded zebra, an orangutan, and a 450-pound Bengal tiger.
<i>The Alchemist</i>	Paulo Coelho	Literary Fiction: It is the story of a shepherd boy from the Spanish province of Andalusia who dreams of travelling the world in search of a treasure as desirable as any ever found. From his home he journeys to the exotic markets of North Africa and then into the Egyptian desert. It is an unforgettable story about the essential wisdom of listening to our heart, and above all, following our dreams.
<i>The Invention of Wings</i>	Sue Monk Kidd	Historical Fiction: A beautiful novel about friendship and self-efficacy and human dignity tracing the friendship of two women joined by an unlikely bond: one of them <i>owns</i> the other one, though they are both children.
<i>1984</i>	George Orwell	Dystopian Fiction: Winston toes the Party line, rewriting history to satisfy the demands of the Ministry of Truth. With each lie he writes, Winston grows to hate the Party that seeks power for its own sake and persecutes those who dare to commit thoughtcrimes. But as he starts to think for himself, Winston can't escape the fact that Big Brother is always watching...
<i>The Sweetness at the Bottom of the Pie</i>	Alan Bradley	Historical Mystery: This book begins with the narrator—a precocious young scientist who has a particular fascination for poison—tied up in the closet, and spins out from there into a quirky and compelling murder mystery, filled with unlikely clues and surprising turns. You'll love the voice of Flavia de Luce, whom Amazon calls a “fearless, funny, and unflappable kid sleuth.”
<i>Circe</i>	Madeline Miller	Mythology: In the house of Helios, god of the sun and mightiest of the Titans, a daughter is born. But Circe is a strange child--not powerful, like her father, nor viciously alluring like her mother. She does, however, possess the power of witchcraft, which can transform rivals into monsters and menace the gods themselves. Threatened, Zeus banishes her to a deserted island, where she hones her occult craft, tames wild beasts, and meets many famous figures of mythology.
<i>Tuesdays with Morrie</i>	Mitch Albom	Memoir: For Mitch Albom, the one person who understood him when he was a young man was his college professor, Morrie Schwartz. Nearly twenty years after graduating, Mitch rediscovered Morrie in the last month's of the older man's life. Morrie visited with Mitch every Tuesday, just as they did back in college. Their rekindled relationship turned into one final "class": lessons in how to live. <i>Tuesdays with Morrie</i> is a magical chronicle of their time together.
<i>Brave New World</i>	Aldous Huxley	Dystopian Fiction: Set in London, nearly six hundred years in the future, human life has been industrialized-- controlled by a few people at the top of a World State. A darkly satiric vision of a "utopian" future—where humans are genetically bred and pharmaceutically anesthetized to passively serve a ruling order.
<i>The Bean Trees</i>	Barbara Kingsolver	Fiction: Taylor Greer tries to run away from all that makes life so challenging, only to find that a completely unexpected gift offers her the biggest challenge—and the biggest gift—of all. This novel redefines family with humor, with urgency, and with compassion.

<i>To Kill a Mockingbird</i>	Harper Lee	Fiction: A gripping, heart-wrenching, and wholly remarkable tale of coming-of-age in a South poisoned by virulent prejudice, it views a world of great beauty and savage inequities through the eyes of a young girl, as her father—a crusading local lawyer—risks everything to defend a black man unjustly accused of a terrible crime.
<i>The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks</i>	Rebecca Skloot	Nonfiction: Her name was Henrietta Lacks, but scientists know her as HeLa. She was a poor black tobacco farmer whose cells-- taken without her knowledge in 1951-- became one of the most important tools in medicine, vital for developing the polio vaccine, cloning, gene mapping, and more. Henrietta's cells have been bought and sold by the billions, yet she remains virtually unknown, and her family can't afford health insurance. This is her story.
<i>Brown Girl Dreaming</i>	Jacqueline Woodson	Autobiographical Poetry: This collection of simple poems reveals what it was like to grow up as a young African American girl in the 1960s and 1970s. Woodson's autobiographical poetry sparkles with love for her family. It also shines light on the inequalities of the Jim Crow era.
<i>Old School</i>	Tobias Wolff	Fiction: The story follows a boy at an elite prep school in 1960 who is an outsider who has learned to mimic the negligent manner of his more privileged classmates. Like many of them, he wants more than anything on earth to become a writer. But to do that he must first learn to tell the truth about himself.
<i>Refugee</i>	Alan Gratz	Fiction: Three different kids. One mission in common: Escape. All three kids go on harrowing journeys. All face unimaginable dangers. But there is always the hope of <i>tomorrow</i> . And although Josef, Isabel, and Mahmoud are separated by continents and decades, shocking connections with tie their stories together in the end.

Choice Activities to Complete for English 4 CP Novel #2

After you read and annotate your second novel, please complete one of the following activities.

- ❖ **One-Pager** → A one-pager is a creative (and colorful!) single-page response to what you read. It is a way to connect the verbal and the visual by bringing to life the thoughts you have about your novel. Start with a sheet of 8.5" x 11" plain white paper. Make sure to include the title of your book & the author's name. Then do the following:
 - Draw a border around the paper including favorite quotes, symbols, words, etc.
 - Include TWO quotes from the story-- these should be meaningful to you and to your reader.
 - Explain or draw WHY you chose them.
 - Use visual images to create a focus that captures a mood or theme.
 - Cluster around a dominant impression, feeling or thought you have while reading.
 - Ask a question and answer it.
 - Make connections between the text and current events using sketches and text.
 - Examine one or two main characters and their development.
 - Design your one-pager so that your audience understands something about the novel.
 - Use colored pencils or markers (or shades of grey/black, if appropriate).
 - Use every inch of space! Do not leave anything blank.

- ❖ **Pull Some Passages** → Select three passages from different points in the novel that you feel are representative of the author's style, stand out as "good writing," or are so vividly worded that they took your breath away. In a Google Doc, type out the passages (with page numbers), and then write a minimum of 300 words for each to explain why you chose it. Please avoid using first and second person pronouns (I/me/my & you).

- ❖ **Write a Letter** → Choose one of the below options to compose a letter of no less than two pages. In your letter, you must reference at least two passages, with their page numbers, from the book to support your topic. Please type your letter in MLA format (size 12, Times New Roman, double-spaced, with a proper heading) and share it with your English teacher before the first day of school.
 - **To the author:** Do you have lingering questions for this author? What did you really like or dislike about the book? What would you like to discuss further?
 - **To the main character:** Do you have questions about something this character did or said? Did you recognize an experience or a feeling this character had? Would you want to talk further with the character about a particular issue?

- ❖ **Recorded Book Talk** → Using a digital tool with which you are comfortable (iMovie, [Flipgrid](#), or even just the camera on your phone) record a three-minute Book Talk in which you pitch your book to a friend. Elements of an effective Book Talk include:
 - **An interesting opener which catches the audience's attention**
 - **A brief plot overview but NO SPOILERS!**
 - **A reading from the book**
 - **A description of what you liked about the book**
 - **Suggestions about what kind of reader might enjoy this book**
 - **An appropriate conclusion so that the video feels finished**

Be sure you plan and rehearse (and time!) your Book Talk before you record it. Make eye contact; speak clearly and expressively. [HERE](#) you will find a short video that demonstrates some of the things NOT to do when giving a Book Talk, and then offers an example of what works. Share the finished video with your English teacher before the first day of class.

- ❖ **Radical Book Cover** → Design and produce a brand new cover for your book that demonstrates your understanding of the book's themes. You may create your book cover by hand (any medium) or digitally, but it must be original, and you must be prepared to share the thinking that led you to make the design choices you made. This work should be produced on a piece of 8.5 x 11 paper with minimal white space.

❖ **Instagram Account** → Create an Instagram account for the main character of your novel with at least ten posts that track his/her journey. When you create the account, come up with a *unique handle* and *appropriate profile/bio* to fit their personality. Be sure to write down the handle and password so that you can present in August! If you do not have access to Instagram, you may make a copy of [this template](#). Your posts must:

- **Be at least twenty words long with an appropriate hashtag at the end.**
 - **Do not use direct citations-- use your own words!**
- **Follow the character's journey-- showing the exposition, conflict, rising action, climax, falling action, and resolution of their story.**
- **Be chronological -- your 1st post should come from the start of the book; your last, the end.**
- **Include a page number citation as a reference for the image you take.**
 - **EX: If you take a picture of a person looking out over the water to represent when the main character spent a relaxing day at the beach, your caption may read: Wishing this day would never end. Looking forward to tomorrow's sunrise, and the promise of a day like this. #blessed (47)**