



**HOLY SPIRIT**  
PREPARATORY SCHOOL

## **Summer Reading Project For Students Entering Grade 8**

Our goal is for the Holy Spirit Preparatory School student to be introduced to a wide breadth of classical books both in the classroom and over the summer. Students entering eighth grade will be required to read the selected Classical books. Students should be reading independently or with some help.

Students also need to independently complete the responses below for both books. The responses should be turned in the first week of school to their homeroom teacher. Each student is required to complete a book review for each book. This book review will be turned in the first week of school, and it will be counted toward their 1<sup>st</sup> quarter reading grade. Each book review will be at least three paragraphs in length. The book reviews can be either typed or handwritten on lined paper.

### **Required Readings:**

\**Animal Farm* by George Orwell

\**The Hobbit* by J.R.R. Tolkien

\**The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes*, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle (For Seton Center kids that have previously read *The Hobbit*)



**Note: All summer reading assignments are due on August 20<sup>th</sup>.**

## **Written Component**

**Option 1:** Create a typed book review of the text you read as if you are a critic writing for a website or publication such as “goodreads.com”. Make sure you use textual evidence (quotations, specific examples, and page numbers) to show your readers you are well-informed in your review. A thorough review will answer all of the following questions with at least one paragraph (5-7 sentences) for each bullet point:

- Plot: What is this book about? What happened? Is it fun to read? Why or why not?
- Characters: Who are they? Do you like them? How did they make you feel?
- Your Opinion: Did you like the book? What was your favorite part and why? Were there any funny or scary parts? Did you learn anything?
- Age/Interests: What age do you think this book is suitable for? Who might enjoy this book most?
- Recommend: Would you recommend this book to other people? Why or why not?

**Option 2:** Write a short but well-developed narrative choosing one of the following story revisions:

1. Add yourself as a character and develop a plotline where you participate in the story.
2. Change the original ending creating your own resolution to the plot.
3. Add a chapter narrating events that could take place before, after or in the middle of the story.

The narrative should make sense within the context of the story and its themes, and it should be a minimum of one page typed double-spaced.

**Option 3:** Identify the character whom you feel changed the most throughout the story. Explain the changes (physical, emotional, mental, and/or spiritual) as well as the causes and effects of those changes. The response should be a minimum of one page typed.

## Assignment Rubric

	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
Comprehension 15 points	The response demonstrates a deep understanding of the text, its characters, and its themes through the use of insightful details and examples.	The response demonstrates a complete understanding of the text, its characters, and its themes and includes some important details and examples.	The response demonstrates a basic or superficial understanding of the text, its characters, and its themes with some flaws.	The response shows a flawed understanding of the text, its characters, and its themes.
Components 15 points	The response contains all required elements of the prompt.	The response contains all major components of the prompt but is missing 2-3 minor elements.	The response contains at least half of the major requirements of the prompt.	The response does not meet the requirements of the prompt.
Style/Mechanics 10 points	The response demonstrates a mastery of conventions and style, sophisticated word choice, and sentence fluency; there are no grammatical errors.	The response demonstrates a solid grasp of conventions and style, appropriate word choice, and sentence fluency; there are minimal grammatical errors that do not distract.	The response demonstrates an adequate knowledge of conventions and style and uses basic word choice and sentence fluency; there are many minor or a few distracting grammatical errors.	The response demonstrates a lack of mastery of conventions and style and contains inappropriate word choice, poor sentence fluency, and pervasive grammatical errors.
Presentation/ Effort 10 points	The response reflects extra effort on the student's behalf in terms of neatness, adherence to MLA, and overall presentation.	The response reflects good effort in terms of neatness, adherence to MLA, and overall presentation.	The response reflects some effort but appears rushed or sloppy.	The response reflects little effort.