

Summer Reading 2017-18 (Grades 9-12)

Students entering into grades 9-12 will be reading two books this summer and completing a project due on the first day of school.

For the first book, choose one from the following list:

- *The Man Who Was Thursday* by G.K. Chesterton (Check Local Library or ISBN: 1543143229)
- *The Innocence of Father Brown* by G.K. Chesterton (Check Local Library or ISBN: 1533694044)
- *The Ball and the Cross* by G.K. Chesterton (Check Local Library or ISBN: 1481956787)

For the second book, choose one from the following list:

- *Man and Superman* by George Bernard Shaw (Check Local Library or ISBN: 1507812310)
- *Saint Joan* by George Bernard Shaw (Check Local Library or ISBN: 1973732165)
- *Pygmalion* by George Bernard Shaw (Check Local Library or ISBN: 0486282228)

Each list shows a few works written by two opposing authors: G.K. Chesterton and George Bernard Shaw. In life, these men became the closest of friends and the bitterest of enemies. Chesterton, an ardent Catholic, was one of the chief defenders of Christianity in the 20th century while Shaw, an enthusiastic atheist, sparred with him both in public and private. This rising debate between these two authors eventually overflowed into their work. These books were chosen so that students have the opportunity to evaluate how spiritual and intellectual conflict plays a role in the literature we read.

Choose one project from the following list:

1) Write a paper about how each author's outlook on life has influenced his writing. Your paper should be broken into two parts. The first part will deal specifically with an analysis of each book that answers the following questions: (1) What is a worldview? (2) How do the Christian and atheistic worldviews of each author influence their works? (3) Does the influence of these authors' friendship with each other seem to affect the worldview of the these books at all? The second part of your paper should be a personal response that answers the following questions: (1) Why is understanding worldview important? (2) How has reading two opposing worldviews affected your life? (3) Do you think it is important to understand your own worldview? This paper should follow the requirements below:

- Length: three pages
- Section one: two pages
- Section two: one page - MLA Style - Typed - Times New Roman, size 12

2) Make a short film (at least 5 minutes) in which the conflicting worldviews of the books are presented. The film should also contain the student's response to each book's worldview. This could take place as an interview of the authors/characters or as its own story, but it is in no way limited by that format. It is possible for two or more students to work together on this project, however, the addition of each student will add one minute and thirty seconds to the production.

This must be e-mailed to kashibley@ggwo.org before the first day of school.

3) Draw a comic book or make a collage painting in which the worldviews of the authors/characters are presented. This could mean that the worldviews of the authors/characters are directly compared through art, or the worldview itself could be the central piece. Either way, the worldview must be addressed. The formatting is up to the student. It can be drawn in notebook, on a posterboard, or it can be done on the computer. The main thing is that the ideas the student is trying to express are fully portrayed. This project will be graded not on the student's ability to draw or paint, but on the content of the work.

If you have any questions about summer reading, please feel free to contact me at:
kashibley@ggwo.org.

Sincerely, Mr. Shibley High School literature teacher

