

Summer Reading Assignment—12th Grade

Dear Parents:

Research shows that the frequency of reading plays a significant role in reading level retention. Therefore, we encourage students to read throughout the summer.

Students read *Night*, a Holocaust survivor story in 10th grade. *Unbroken* (adapted for young adults) has similar themes. It includes military fighting violence and some sensitive language that is only partially censored. If you are particularly concerned about your student seeing this, please go to page 205 and cross out the offensive part. *Unbroken* is the amazing true story of American Louis Zamperini who was a United States Olympic runner, bombardier in WWII, crash survivor, castaway, and Japanese POW camp prisoner. Louis struggles with PTSD and alcoholism, and after all he has endured these are the two threats that seem to push him toward the breaking point. However, Zamperini is saved and through God's love is able to overcome even his darkest challenges, a lesson that these soon-to-be graduates will hopefully take to heart.

****Please make sure you are purchasing the version that is "adapted for young adults." I have not compared it directly to the original, but I suspect that the original may have additional material unsuited for our students. Also, the original is much longer than the adaptation.**

Students:

Did you know that reading for just 20 minutes a day has been scientifically proven to increase your academic performance and brain power? The good news? Your reading selection can be something that you enjoy; the important thing is that you are exercising your brain. Think of the last book you read that you enjoyed. Go search for that book on Amazon and see what other people purchased after buying that book. Read some reviews, and when you find something you like you could purchase it or go the FREE route and check it out from the library. Graphic novels count (they're basically comic books with more words). Watch a movie with subtitles. Research something you are interested in online and read articles about it. Read a magazine. Read the back of the cereal box. Do a crossword puzzle or two. Read as much as you can this summer – keep your brain working. Enjoy your summer, and don't wait until the last minute! See you in August!

Assignment:

- *Unbroken: An Olympian's Journey from Airman to Castaway to Captive (Adapted for Young Adults)*

The only assignment you have for the summer is to read the book *before* school starts.

During the first 90-minute class period (the second class day), students will take a comprehension test on the book. This test grade will be worth a 50-point grade for the 1st quarter.

In addition to the test score, students will be required to complete a writing assignment based on the summer reading book. This writing assignment will be completed during the first two weeks of school. Additional information will be given when the school year begins.