

A child who reads will be an adult who thinks.

“Once you learn to read, you will be forever free.” ~ Frederick Douglass

English 9-12 (2023-2024)

You may communicate with Miss McDivitt using the following methods:

- Email: smcdivitt@twintiersca.org
- Text: 607-215-2651

*“The man who does not read good books has no advantage over the man who can't read them.”
~ (attributed to) Mark Twain*

Summer Reading Checklist

Due Dates

- Book:** [A Student's Guide to Culture](#) by John Stonestreet and Brett Kunkle
- Read and annotate** each page (in the margins) of the book, starting with the introduction. (Please do not write on note paper. You may use sticky notes, but they must stay in the book.)
 - See the annotation checklist. **At least one annotation per page.**
- Chapter Summaries:** At the end of each chapter, **write a 2-3 sentence summary** of that chapter.
 - Do not quote the chapter. A summary is when the reader puts the author’s words into their own words to show understanding.
 - See my example on the next page.
- Reading Preference:** My preference is that you read 1-2 chapters a week so that you keep your brain active and thinking critically throughout the whole summer.
- Parents:** There is an adult version of this book that you could read along with your child. This book follows the same basic structure, but goes more in-depth for each chapter. There are some chapter differences. I read this version as part of my Colson Fellowship in 2020.
 - [A Practical Guide to Culture: Helping the Next Generation Navigate Today's World](#) by John Stonestreet and Brett Kunkle

- ★ **Book** fully read and annotated with short chapter summaries by the first day of school. **Bring and leave the book at school the first day.**
- ★ **Test Grade: 100 points**
 - Annotations (50 points)
 - Chapter Summaries (50 points)

“The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you’ll go.” ~ Dr. Seuss

Annotations (50 points)

While you read, annotate your book.

- Please be respectful when you annotate. Pretend the author is standing in front of you when you annotate. The author is your neighbor. You are called to show love to your neighbor even if you don't agree with them or the assignment.
- Please note, I will be reading your annotations. Don't put anything in writing that you would be uncomfortable with me reading.
- Annotating means to actively read your book by writing **and** highlighting or underlining, etc. in your book as you read. (***Credit will only be given for annotations with writing that shows evidence of thinking, and not just reacting.***) Below is a list of the different types of annotations. You should try each of the different types of annotations at least once. However, you only need **at least one annotation (more is preferable) per page of your book.**
 - Summary of what you read in that section
 - Evidence of thinking about the text and the author's perspective
 - Outline of the section/chapter
 - Interesting statements/quotations from the text
 - Evaluation of the author's evidence—is it appropriate? Unique? Does it contain logical fallacies? Does it contradict or agree with something else you read, saw, experienced?
 - Your reactions to the text and the author's viewpoint (Please be respectful. You can disagree without being nasty. You can also agree without being condescending to the opposing side.)
 - Definitions of unfamiliar words
 - Connections between the text and your own experience
 - Connections between the text and something you have read before
 - Connections between the text and something you have seen in the world
 - Questions you have about the material (either for the author or someone else who believes/disbelieves the material)
 - Answers to your questions found in the text
 - Arguments with the author's ideas
 - Personal responses
 - Inferences and guesses about the author's core beliefs
 - Drawings or diagrams, especially about details that are hard to picture
 - Anything else you find interesting or useful

Chapter Summaries (50 points)

- At the end of the introduction and each chapter, write a 2-3 sentence summary in your own words. Do not quote the text or plagiarize the text.
- The summary follows this formula: The topic of the chapter + what the author said about the topic. Be sure to cover the whole chapter. Basically, your summary should answer the question: What was the chapter about?
 - **Example for Chapter 1:** *Culture is what humans do with the world that God has given them. Because humans are constantly changing, culture is constantly changing. Culture is made up of ideas, champions of these ideas, artifacts that reflect these ideas, and institutions that spread these ideas. Because I live in a culture, I will be affected by culture. I need to be a culture shaper rather than shaped by my culture.* (This is five sentences long, which is okay too.)