12th Grade

The teachers of senior electives offer translated works of comparative and world literature that will broaden their students' literary experience. The elective instructors also believe that these works will prove enjoyable as well as helpful to their students' growth as readers. Over the summer rising seniors should read three books, one required and two chosen from the list. On his honor a student should not select a book that he has already read. Students will be tested on all three books on the first or second day of class in August.

In addition, seniors are required to write one essay in response to one of the Common Application prompts. This college essay will be due on the student's first day of English class. The penalty for failure to write the essay is a zero on a major assignment in English.

Required:
The Stranger, Albert Camus. Vintage edition. (French)

Choose two:
The Garden of the Finzi-Continis, Giorgio Bassani. Trans. William Weaver. (Italian)
Don Quixote, Miguel Cervantes. Trans. Edith Grossman. (Spanish)
The Cherry Orchard and The Seagull, Anton Chekhov. Trans. Paul Schmidt. (Russian)
Crime and Punishment, Fyodor Dostoevsky. Trans. Pevear & Volokhonsky. (Russian)
Brand, Henrik Ibsen. Trans. Geoffrey Hill. (Norwegian)
Barabbas, Par Lagerkvist. Trans. Alan Blair. (Swedish)
The Unbearable Lightness of Being, Milan Kundera. Trans. Michael Henry Heim. (Czech)
Love in the Time of Cholera, Gabriel Garcia Marquez. Trans. Edith Grossman. (Colombian)
Rickshaw Boy, Lao She. Trans. Howard Goldblatt. (Chinese)
The Gulag Archipelago, Aleksandr Solzhenitzyn. Author's official abridged version. (Russian)

FAQ: How can I remember in August details from a novel I read in June?

Answer: To read your teachers' answer to this question, please click here if viewing the reading list online. If you are using a printed copy of the list, please see the last page.