**HEED Summer Reading Invitation**

We in the HEED English Department wish for everyone to become lifelong readers. Not only does reading position us for greater academic success, but it also expands our horizons and influences our personal growth. Books are often a tool in God’s hand. There are certain stories that have been part of our HEED canon for many years. If you are new to HEED, before you begin our English program, we’d like you to read the titles listed on the next page. If you are returning to HEED, we’ve left a lot of choice for your reading selections.

New students, if you’ve already read one or more of the books on our list, you may reread them **or** choose a different book(s) instead. Returning students and new students for whom it’s applicable, any book with at least 100 pages counts, whether fiction (classic, contemporary, or YA in any genre) or non-fiction (spiritual growth, how-to, DIY, memoir, autobiography, biography, poetry…). We encourage (and assume) daily Bible reading regardless of season, so that will *not* count toward this goal. However, if another instructor assigns a book to read this summer, that can double toward the goal. If a friend(s) and you wish to read the same book(s), that would be even better! And yes, audiobooks count. Keep a log of the books you read, jotting down particularly memorable quotations. Remember, if you begin a free-choice book, and 30ish pages in, find that you are not enjoying it, choose another!

If you are having trouble knowing where to start your search for reading material, we recommend the following lists, which have been compiled by fellow Christians. And, of course, if you end up reading more than four books, all the better!

<https://iew.com/sites/default/files/page/fileattachment/IEW_Reading_List.pdf>

<https://readaloudrevival.com/203/>

Ladies: <https://readaloudrevival.com/series/girls-teens/>

Gentlemen: <https://readaloudrevival.com/series/092-teens/>

Goodreads is another helpful resource. If you don’t have a library card, we recommend you remedy that this summer. Hoopla and CloudLibrary are two apps through which cardholders can access free audio and ebooks.

Parents, while you might recommend or veto a book(s), please let your student make the final choice.

Happy reading, everyone!

**Here are just a few quick-read articles on the subject of the benefits of reading:**

<https://helpfulprofessor.com/importance-of-reading-books/>

<https://bookriot.com/2019/02/14/book-and-reading-statistics/>

<https://www.inc.com/marissa-levin/reading-habits-of-the-most-successful-leaders-that.html>

**High School Summer Reading List**

**For Students New to HEED For Returning Students**

Entering 9th Grade Entering 9th Grade

*The Secret Garden* by Burnett One spiritual growth book

Any of C.S. Lewis’s Narnia books 3 free choice titles (fiction or non-

 **or** *The Hobbit* by Tolkien fiction greater than 100 pages)

*The Watsons Go to Birmingham* by Curtis

 **or** *Roll of Thunder Hear My Cry* by Taylor

*Number the Stars* by Lowry **or**

*Words on Fire* by Nielsen

Entering 10th Grade Entering 10th Grade

*Epic* by John Eldredge *Epic* by John Eldredge

*Little Women* by Louisa May Alcott **or** *Little Women* by Louisa May Alcott **or**

*Huckleberry Finn* by Mark Twain *Huckleberry Finn* by Mark Twain

*The Hiding Place* by Corrie Ten Boom 2 free choice titles (fiction or non-

A Greek tragedy you’ve never read fiction greater than 100 pages)

Entering 11th Grade Entering 11th Grade

*The Hiding Place* by Corrie Ten Boom One spiritual growth book

*To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee 3 free choice titles (fiction or non-

*1984* by Orwell ***or*** *Frankenstein* by Shelley fiction greater than 100 pages)

Any Jane Austen title

Entering DEP College English Entering DEP College English

*Epic* by John Eldredge One spiritual growth book

*The Hiding Place* by Corrie Ten Boom One other non-fiction (memoir,

*To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee  biography, poetry, etc.)

*Jane Eyre* by Charlotte Bronte 2 fiction titles from two different genres

A Shakespearean play you’ve never read