



2026 – 2027 SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENT

11th Grade
Mrs. Hallam
ENG III

READING REQUIREMENT

- *Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption* by Bryan Stevenson

Annotate as you read – your notes should be intentional, meaningful, and at least 1 note on every 2 pages. All annotations must include notes; just highlights/underlines will not count.

You can write:

- Questions you have
- Thoughts that pop into your head
- Things you learn
- Things you agree/disagree with
- Things you relate to
- Things you don't understand

Prepare to take an exam on the book during the first week of school.

ASSIGNMENT

(A) Choose 3 chapters from *Just Mercy* that stood out to you. For each of these chapters, write a short response (200 words) that includes:

- a quote that resonated with you (include the page number)
- a personal reaction or real-world connection, and
- a question or idea you'd like to bring up in the class discussion.

Each response should be typed and formatted as follows:

Chapter #

Quote: "Insert quote here" (pg #).

Response: 200-word response sharing your reflection and/or making a real-world connection. If you connect it to a current event, include a link to your source that you referenced.

Question: Thoughtful discussion question

(B) Then, create something that shows what you learned about the US justice system. You can make something visual, like a poster or art piece, or you can write something, like a report or news article. You should have at least 5 textual references. If doing an art piece, include the page numbers or quotes on the back. If doing a written piece, include page numbers as in-text citations. You should only reference the book. There are no additional requirements, such as a word count or number of pictures; as long as you show real effort and creativity, you will receive full points.

DUE DATE

Be prepared to turn in a physical copy of your project on the first day of school.

GRADING / EXPECTATIONS

Your assignment will be graded based on both completion and quality of responses.

Provide thoughtful, well-developed written responses for three chapters, including accurate quotes, meaningful personal connections, and discussion questions. The creative or written project will be evaluated on effort, understanding of apartheid, use of textual evidence, and overall creativity.

Grading: 50% for analysis/connections to the text, 20% for neatness, 30% for creativity

NEED HELP?

If you have any questions concerning your summer reading assignment, please email Mrs. Hallam at ehallam@scamail.org