



2026 – 2027 SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENT

8th Grade
English
Mrs. Brown

READING REQUIREMENT

- *The Hiding Place* by Corrie ten Boom (required for all 8th grade students)
- *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* by Mark Twain (required for 8th grade HONORS only)

*You are responsible for this book over the summer. If you choose to annotate your summer reading book by interacting with the text – underline, circle or highlight key words and phrases, write summaries in the margin, ask questions, agree or disagree with the text, etc. —this book is yours to keep. Bring your copy of the novel with you along with your writing assignment on the first day of school.

ASSIGNMENT

English 8

Read *The Hiding Place* by Corrie ten Boom prior to the start of school. Choose THREE (3) of the discussion prompts listed below and write a well-developed paragraph (5-7 sentences) for each. Type your responses on one double-spaced document (12 pt. font, Times New Roman). Be sure to give specific examples from the book, not vague generalities.

- (1) Discuss how Father was such an important moral example in the lives of his children by citing specific examples to prove this point.
- (2) Why does Corrie never marry (cite at least two reasons) and what are the consequences of this decision in her life?
- (3) Why do the ten Booms choose to hide Jews who are fleeing the Nazis? What are the consequences, both good and bad?
- (4) What problems does Corrie have coexisting within her faith and the Resistance Movement? How might this relate to a Christian in the world today?
- (5) How does Corrie gain strength from her time in solitary confinement? What insights can you take from her experience?
- (6) Corrie states the worst temptation in camp life was to think only of oneself. Why did she state this? What are some examples of this? In what ways does this temptation take form in your life?
- (7) Analyze how Corrie's religious faith gave her strength not just when she was in prison, but also at other tragic or stressful times in her life.
- (8) How does Corrie's story inspire you? Be sure to give specific examples.

HONORS English 8

(1) Complete *The Hiding Place* assignment.

Choose FIVE (5) of the discussion prompts listed on Page 1 of this document and write a well-developed paragraph (5-7 sentences) for each. Type your responses on one double-spaced document (12 pt. font, Times New Roman). Be sure to give specific examples from the book, not vague generalities.

(2) Read *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* by Mark Twain

PROJECT: Create a **time capsule** with important objects from the book. Creativity must reflect your reading!

Choose an appropriate container (a tube or box that shows creativity and connection to the book – not just a grocery bag or shoe box that says “Adidas”) and then fill it with at least **SEVEN well-chosen objects** that would be near and dear to Tom’s heart.

The seven objects cannot all be from the same portion of the book (ie. paintbrush, white paint, tin pail, and white marble all from Chapter 2) – choose **ONE** object from each section:

- (1) Chapters 1-5
- (2) Chapters 6-10
- (3) Chapters 11-15
- (4) Chapters 16-20
- (5) Chapters 21-25
- (6) Chapters 26-30
- (7) Chapters 31-35

The objects should be significant to Tom (not something randomly mentioned) and the object in your time capsule must be tangible (a physical item, not just a description or paper cut-out). Be creative with these -- please do not spend \$50 at Hobby Lobby (you can probably find most items around the house if you are imaginative). Be sure to relate directly to the text.

You must also include a **typed, written explanation of each item and its importance** to Tom, including a direct quote from the book with page number. Your seven entries should look much like this example (from *Journey to the Center of the Earth*):

Chapters 31-35: Cumulus clouds (represented by cotton balls). In Chapter 35, Axel notices clouds on the horizon. He describes them as “great bales of cotton piled up in picturesque disorder” (118). They are the warning signs of a huge storm that nearly destroys the raft and carries them across the underground sea. In this section the group experiences a battle against the elements, showing the conflict of man vs. his environment.

DUE DATE: FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

GRADING / EXPECTATIONS

Your *Hiding Place* assignment will be graded on content, use of specific examples, and grammar/mechanics.

This assignment will be the first grade in the gradebook. Remember, this assignment is due on the first day of school and will be considered late if it is turned in after the first day of school.

HONORS: Your *Tom Sawyer* assignment will be graded based on the time capsule, its contents, and your written explanation. Please bring your time capsule on the first day of school.

NEED HELP?

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