



FAITH CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Tenth Grade Summer Reading Assignment 2026

1. Each student will read the following:

The Seven Against Thebes by Aeschylus.

Students are expected to make **marginal** and **textual** notes as they read to show evidence of “active” reading, and they should clearly mark any parts of the text where they have questions. (**Annotations are worth 50 points.**) Pay attention to the character of Eteocles and his leadership of Thebes.

Students should fill out the handout in preparation for an essay when classes resume.

2. Each student will also read one book chosen from the Grade 10-11 Book List (found at the end of this document). For that book, the student will complete a five-paragraph essay, to be turned in on the first day of school. Students may write their essays on one of the following topics:

1. A comparison between two of the major characters, **using specific examples from the text. Examples must be cited in MLA format, whether or not they are quoted.**
2. An explanation of a major theme of the book **with supporting quotes. Examples must be cited in MLA format, whether or not they are quoted.**
3. A discussion of setting (time, place, mood/atmosphere) with **specific examples of how the setting advances the plot. Examples must be cited in MLA format, whether or not they are quoted.**
4. For non-fiction: A description of challenges faced and how they were overcome, **using specific examples from the text. Examples must be cited in MLA format, whether or not they are quoted.**

Checklist for summer essay:

- _____ Paper is typed in 12-point, Times New Roman font
- _____ Paper is double-spaced, with 1-inch margins on all sides
- _____ Paper has a title and page numbers
- _____ All quotations from the text are cited in MLA format: (**Author last name page number**)
- _____ Paper contains a Works Cited page*

*The Works Cited Entry for a book (with no editor or translator):

Author Last Name, Author First Name. *Title*. Publisher, publication

date. (**NOTE THE HANGING INDENT FOR A WORKS CITED ENTRY!**)

Name _____

Seven against Thebes. Complete these instructions in complete sentences. Provide line numbers for all quotes.

1. Provide three quotes from the text (and cite the line numbers) that indicate that Eteocles is trying to be a good leader. Explain your reasoning in 2-3 sentences for each quote.

Quote 1: _____

Reasoning: _____

Quote 2: _____

Reasoning: _____

Quote 3: _____

Reasoning: _____

2. Provide two quotes from the text (and cite the line numbers) that indicate that Eteocles' pride is hindering his leadership. Explain your reasoning in 2-3 sentences for each quote.

Quote 1: _____

Reasoning: _____

Quote 2: _____

Reasoning: _____

3. Provide two quotes from the text (one from the beginning, one from the end) about the role of fate. Cite the line numbers.

Quote 1: _____

Reasoning: _____

Quote 2: _____

Reasoning: _____

2026-2027 Grade 10 Summer Reading Lists

Fiction

Fiction

Author	Title
Austen	<i>Pride and Prejudice</i>
Bronte	<i>Jane Eyre</i>
Cather	<i>My Antonia</i>
Dickens	<i>Great Expectations</i>
Lewis	<i>Out of the Silent Planet - Space Trilogy #1</i>
Lewis	<i>Till We Have Faces</i>
Tolstoy	<i>War and Peace</i>
Wiesel	<i>The Night Trilogy (all 3)</i>

Drama

Author	Title
Aeschylus	<i>Oresteia</i> - pick 2
Shakespeare	<i>Antony and Cleopatra</i>
Shakespeare	<i>The Merchant of Venice</i>

Non-Fiction

Author	Title
Baer	<i>Mere Believers: How Eight Faithful Lives Changed the Course of History</i>
Bellos	<i>Here's Looking at Euclid</i>
Bonhoeffer	<i>The Cost of Discipleship</i>
Carson	<i>Silent Spring</i>
Eliot	<i>Through Gates of Splendor</i>
Heyerdahl	<i>Kon Tiki</i>
Hillenbrand	<i>Unbroken</i>
Kolata	<i>Flu</i>
Lewis	<i>Surprised by Joy</i>
Singh	<i>Fermat's Enigma</i>

