



## SUMMER READING LIST | 12th Grade

Reading is the gateway to knowledge. There is no more valuable learning activity. Our summer reading program is designed to encourage year-round immersion in literature.

We have provided the following summer reading lists to assist you in selecting the best literature available for you. The number of books is not as important as the quality of books and the time spent reading.

Why is reading assigned over the summer? Reading keeps your scholarly muscles in shape, working out your brain by:

- \* Building vocabulary
- \* Improving spelling through word recognition
- \* Focusing your thoughts
- \* Introducing new people, places, ideas, and situations
- \* Exposure to the time period we will be studying

**Please read the following books over the summer and be ready for a short comprehension evaluation (comprehension worksheet).**

### **BOOKS**

1. Mere Christianity by C.S. Lewis
2. Economic Growth - Unleashing the Potential of Human Flourishing by Edd S.Noell , Stephen L. S. Smith, et al.

⇒ *After reading, answer the questions in the associated packet*



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### SYNOPSIS OF THE BOOKS

#### **Mere Christianity**

In the classic *Mere Christianity*, C.S. Lewis, the most important writer of the 20th century, explores the common ground upon which all of those of Christian faith stand together. Bringing together Lewis' legendary broadcast talks during World War Two from his three previous books *The Case for Christianity*, *Christian Behavior*, and *Beyond Personality*, *Mere Christianity* provides an unequalled opportunity for believers and nonbelievers alike to hear this powerful apologetic for the Christian faith.

#### **Economic Growth - Unleashing the Potential of Human Flourishing**

For almost 10,000 years of recorded history, most people had to eke out a living in pain and difficulty. But today, the deep poverty that was the global norm for most of human history is almost entirely foreign to citizens of the developed world. What caused this burst of prosperity? What has been its impact? In *Economic Growth: Unleashing the Potential of Human Flourishing*, Edd S. Noell, Stephen L. S. Smith, and Bruce G. Webb make a comprehensive case for economic growth, equipping readers with an understanding of not only its pragmatic benefits but also its moral dimensions. The authors offer empirical evidence from the past two centuries showing the relationship between growth and human well-being, greater global income equality, and environmental improvements and sustainability. They make the case that economic growth is key to lifting societies from dire poverty to prosperity and holds the promise of sustaining unreachd levels of human flourishing.



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### **Economic Growth - Unleashing the Potential of Human Flourishing**

*Answer all four questions in paragraph form and in readable cursive. All questions are worth 12 points each.*

How do the authors describe how economies have changed throughout recorded history. Provide examples.

How do the authors tend to describe how to address the questions of environment and sustainability in conjunction with economics?



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What is the Effect Of Growth within nations laid out in chapter 3? Give some examples.

Summarize the main arguments the authors make in terms of how economic growth relates to human flourishing.



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### **Mere Christianity by C.S. Lewis**

Course: 12th-grade UTT - Colson

Instructor: Jeff Isaac

Book: Mere Christianity by C.S. Lewis - available for checkout from the main office.

Due: Sept. 5, 2023

These questions cover the major themes and arguments presented in Mere Christianity. They should guide your reading and comprehension of the book while providing opportunities for reflection and be a part of our class discussion upon your return to Hillcrest in the fall.

**Directions:** Read Mere Christianity by C.S. Lewis. The book is divided into four sections. Please answer the five questions from each section (one has four). Some are straightforward questions, others ask for a summary (that's in your own words, not copying), and some ask for an explanation, which you would reason from the book. When you're asked to "state" Lewis' position on something, simply write it down as written in the book.

#### **DO NOT TYPE THIS ASSIGNMENT.**

There will be an exam on this book on Sept 6.



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### Part I: Right and Wrong as a Clue to the Meaning of the Universe

- According to Lewis, what is the "Law of Nature," and how does it provide evidence for the existence of God?
- Describe Lewis's argument for the existence of an objective moral law. How does he counter the idea of subjective moral values?
- Explain Lewis's distinction between the Moral Law and a particular society's social conventions or customs. How do these concepts differ?
- How does Lewis explain the problem of evil in the world, particularly the existence of pain and suffering?

### Part II: What Christians Believe

- Summarize Lewis's argument for the existence of God based on the moral argument, the argument from design, and the argument from desire.
- Explain Lewis's view on the divinity of Jesus Christ. How does he explain the claims made by Jesus and the responses to those claims?
- According to Lewis, what is the central teaching of Christianity? Explain its significance in relation to human redemption and the moral choices we make.
- Describe Lewis's perspective on the relationship between Christianity and other religions. How does he differentiate Christianity from mere moral teachings?
- Discuss Lewis's thoughts on the process of becoming a Christian and the role of faith in accepting Christian beliefs.

### Part III: Christian Behavior

- What is Lewis's understanding of the concept of "faith" in Christianity? How does he distinguish it from mere belief or intellectual assent?
- State Lewis's argument for the existence of the Christian moral code and its importance in the life of a believer. Is his argument a good one?
- According to Lewis, what is the ultimate goal of the Christian life? How does he address the issue of moral perfection and human limitations?
- Explain Lewis's view on the Church's role in a Christian's life. What is the purpose of Christian community, and how does it relate to individual believers?
- Describe Lewis's understanding of the relationship between morality and the Christian faith. How does he argue for the objectivity of moral values?



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### Part IV: Beyond Personality: Or First Steps in the Doctrine of the Trinity

- State Lewis's explanation of the Trinity and his attempt to make it more accessible to the average reader. How does he use analogies to illustrate the concept?
- How does Lewis relate the concept of the Trinity to the Christian understanding of love? Explain the relationship between the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit in this context.
- According to Lewis, how does the doctrine of the Trinity impact the way Christians should view themselves and their relationships with others?
- State Lewis's explanation of the process of becoming a "son of God" and participating in the divine nature. How does he understand the concept of "adoption" in relation to the Trinity?
- Explain Lewis's argument for the importance of the Holy Spirit in the life of a Christian. How does he describe the Spirit's role in shaping a believer's character?