

STUDENTS MUST CHOOSE ONE BOOK – OLIVER TWIST or WUTHERING HEIGHTS and complete the appropriate assignment.

Rising 12th Grade Summer Reading– *Oliver Twist* by Charles Dickens

Overview: The novel is the story of a young boy, Oliver Twist, whose mother dies after giving birth, so he is raised in an orphanage. At the age of 9, Oliver is sent out as an apprentice in a workhouse. In attempt to escape the horrid conditions of the orphanage and the workhouse, young Oliver runs away to London seeking a better life. Unfortunately, Oliver is taken in by a gang of criminals who try to convince him to join their gang and commit crimes on the streets of London. Resistant to this lifestyle, Oliver is eventually taken in by a kind gentleman who promises to give Oliver a better life. This is the story of a young boy's fight for survival, his fight for justice, and his never-ending search for a family to call his own.

ASSIGNMENT:

1. You are to answer the Summer Reading Companion Questions using the attached chart. This chart may be downloaded and you may type directly on the chart, expanding boxes as needed to fit the information requested. If you choose to recreate the chart, it must include all of the same questions and explanations as required on the original. All work must be typed – handwritten responses will not be accepted. Please follow the format for name, date, grade, subject (English IV), as shown at the beginning of the Summer Reading information.

2. Please answer the following questions regarding *Oliver Twist*. These responses must be typed and numbered. Use complete sentences and restate the prompt in your answer. Each answer must be a **minimum** of ½ page in length.

1. Dickens used his popularity to bring to light many social issues facing England in the early 19th Century. We see this in novels such as *Hard Times* and *The Pickwick Papers*. To what extent is *Oliver Twist* a social commentary portraying Dickens' frustration at the hardships faced by many in England after the French Revolution such as child labor, children as criminals, and children living on the streets? Are there times when the commentary slips into propaganda? Explain. (you may find that a little research about the conditions in England at the time will help you answer this question)
2. *Oliver Twist* is full of thievery. Some of it is committed by criminals like Sikes against respectable people like the Maylies, while some of it is committed by "respectable" people like Mrs. Mann and Mr. Bumble against the poor. How are these two types of thievery different? What do they have in common? Also, consider the various ways in which other people "rob" Oliver of his identity.
3. In Chapter 4, Mr. Bumble states "*By the bye, you don't know anybody who wants a boy, do you? A parochial 'prentis, who is at present a dead weight, a millstone, as I may say, round the parochial throat.*" This is an allusion to the gospels where Jesus describes the

punishment for anyone mistreating young children. Discuss the irony of Mr. Bumble using this phrase to describe Oliver.

4. Also in Chapter 4, we seen another biblical allusion as Mr. Bumble is continuing to discuss with Mr. Sowerberry the opportunity to take Oliver off his hands and put him to work in a workhouse. *"You know--dear me, what a very elegant button this is, Mr. Bumble! I never noticed it before. 'Yes, I think it rather pretty,' said the beadle, glancing proudly downwards at the large brass buttons which embellished his coat. The die is the same as the porochial seal--the Good Samaritan healing the sick and bruised man. The board presented it to me on Newyear's morning, Mr. Sowerberry"*. Discuss how this is ironic, considering the story of the Good Samaritan in the bible and Mr. Bumble's treatment of the children in his care.
5. This book was originally written and published in monthly installments in a magazine. Discuss how Dickens used chapter breaks, foreshadowing, and cliff-hanger endings to maintain reader suspense and interest.
6. Why do you think Fagin was not able to corrupt Oliver?

FORMAT:

REMINDER FOR ALL WRITTEN RESPONSES:

- Type your responses.
- Send your work through spell and grammar check.
- Times New Roman– Font –Size 12 – double spaced
- Heading on top left of your paper
- Label each section
- Do not “share” any work with your peers.

NAME
Mrs. Vetter
English IV
Date (August 12, 2019)

Students must be prepared for a graded assessment on each novel read for their grade-level assignment during the first week of school.

As a reminder, all written work is due on the first day of school and late work will not be accepted.

How Do You Turn In Work?

- Hard Copy on August 12, 2019 brought to class with you
- Email with attachment by 8:00 a.m. on August 12, 2019 (amy.vetter@cathedralemail.com)
- Shared Google Doc by 8:00 a.m. on August 12, 2019 (amy.vetter@cathedralemail.com)

Setting: The setting of a story defines the time, place and era of the action. A book can have multiple settings. List and label facts about each setting you know as you read. Include page numbers to support your ideas.

Where does the story take place? Describe the location: country or city, mountain, so beach, dirt roads or highways, bustling or sleepy, etc.


What time period does the story take place in? Describe what you know and how you know it: Is it modern day because there is current technology? Is it wintertime because it's snowing? Do you know the decade, year or month?

Characters: Characters are the “players” in the story who perform the action. List the Protagonist (main character), the Antagonist (the character the main character has a conflict with), and supporting or secondary characters (as many as needed – you are not limited by the space provided here). Include page numbers to support your ideas. **You must include at least 3 secondary characters**, but may include more if needed to adequately cover the key players in the novel.

Character Name	Physical Description	How the character feels about him or herself	How the character feels about others	Character Traits; Describe qualities the character has: caring, selfish, conceited, etc.
Protagonist				
Antagonist				

Secondary Characters

Plot: The plot of the story is how the actions progress through the book. Different sections of the action have different names; they also happen at different times in the story. Write down specific, key events in the boxes.

Introduction: Setting, characters, and conflict are introduced	Rising Action(s): Part(s) where the protagonist is faced with or tries to solve the conflict	Climax: Turning point in the story where the conflict is resolved or made worse 	Falling Action(s): Part(s) where the protagonist learns to live with the consequences of the conflict.	Resolution: Part that arrives at a natural, ironic, surprising, or thought provoking end.
Beginning of Story		Middle of Story	End of Story	

Themes and Symbolism: As you read, list ideas about these following elements of fiction to help you discuss and writ about the literary work. Include page numbers to support your ideas.

Themes: The author’s statement or lesson about life learned through the characters. For instance, the theme of <i>The Ugly Duckling</i> might be “don’t judge someone by their appearance alone”. Provide at least TWO examples.		Symbolism: When a concrete or real object is used to represent an idea or concept. For example, a bird, because if can fly, has often been used as a symbol for freedom. Provide at least TWO examples	
Themes:	Character(s) that represent the lesson	Symbol	Significance

Conflicts: As you read, identify problems or struggles between two opposing forces in the story. **Provide at least two examples below.** Remember, there are 4 main conflicts:

Man vs. Man – problem between two characters **Man vs. Self** – problem within the character’s mind
Man vs. Nature – problem between character and some force of nature (blizzard, fire, hurricane, etc) **Man vs. Society** – problem between a character and the law, regulation, tradition, or other social norm

<i>Description of Conflict</i>	<i>Type of Conflict</i>	<i>Why did you choose this Conflict type?</i>
	Man vs. Man Man vs. Self Man vs. Nature Man vs. Society	
	Man vs. Man Man vs. Self Man vs. Nature Man vs. Society	