

Arborbrook Christian High School  
Summer Reading 2013

Dear students and parents,

Once again this summer, we are asking each high school student to read at least one book from the selections listed below and complete an assignment related to that book. Reading is absolutely foundational to learning, but it is also fun! With this in mind, we have selected three books that we think you will really enjoy but will also teach you so much. Please look on page two of this document for a brief summary of each of these novels. If you have any questions at all about these books or this assignment, please contact me at [jamie.emrich@arborbrookhigh.org](mailto:jamie.emrich@arborbrookhigh.org).

*Enjoy your time reading. I certainly will!*  
Mrs. Emrich

### **The Books**

*The Count of Monte Cristo* by Alexandre Dumas  
*All Creatures Great and Small* by James Herriot  
*Through Gates of Splendor* by Elisabeth Elliot

### **The Assignment**

**Freshmen and Sophomores:** Write a two page essay following the attached rubric in which you answer the following question: What is the most important decision the main character makes in the novel you read? You must explain why the decision you write about is the *most* important one he or she has to make.

**Juniors and Seniors:** Write a three page essay following the attached rubric in which you answer the following two questions: What is the most important decision the main character makes in the novel you read and would you make the same decision if placed in the same circumstances? You must explain why the decision you write about is the *most* important and why you would or would not make the same choice.

**Due Date:** Wednesday, August 21- *This is the first day of school.* Essays turned in on Thursday will receive a deduction in ten points from the final grade. No essays will be accepted past Thursday, August 22.

**Guidelines:** Essays must be typed in Times New Roman, using a 12 point font, one inch margin and be double spaced.

## Summaries

### ***The Count of Monte Cristo* by Alexandre Dumas**

This is a classic book yes, but it is also a wonderful adventure story. A man who was wrongfully imprisoned is able to escape from jail and acquire a vast fortune. He then uses his money and time to seek revenge on those who had him falsely imprisoned. However, things never go according to plan and the consequences of his actions force him to face his own darkness as well as that of others.

### ***All Creatures Great and Small* by James Herriot**

James Herriot was a veterinarian for decades in the beautiful Yorkshire region of England. This book tells the many poignant, funny, and dramatic adventures he faced treating large and small animals. This book reveals “the magical, unforgettable world of James Herriot, the world's most beloved veterinarian, and his menagerie of heartwarming, funny, and tragic animal patients.” -*Amazon*

### ***Through Gates of Splendor* by Elisabeth Elliot**

“In 1956, five young men, including Elliot's husband, Jim, traveled into the jungles of Ecuador to establish communication with the fierce Huaorani Tribe, a people whose only previous response to the outside world had been to attack all strangers. The men's mission combined modern technology with innate ingenuity, sparked by a passionate determination to get the gospel to those without Christ. In a nearby village, their wives waited to hear from them. The news they received--all five missionaries had been murdered--changed lives around the world forever. This book is Elisabeth Elliot's personal account of their brave final mission.” -*Amazon*

## **Rubric to be used by all students:**

Essay directly answers the given question	/20
Essay provides adequate and relevant examples from the novel	/25
Essay includes at least three quotations from the novel that serve as examples.	/15
Ideas are presented clearly and logically throughout the essay.	/15
Essay is free from spelling, punctuation, or mechanical mistakes	/15
Essay follows all assignment guidelines	/10