Instructions:

1. **NUMBER OF BOOKS TO BE READ:** All students are required to read 3 books. Book 1 should be the Upper School common read book. Book 2 should come from LIST A, and Book 3 should come from LIST B.

2. **ASSESSMENT:** The student will be required to write responses to given prompts during class time of the first week of school. These responses will be valued as one essay/test score and will be used both to assess (at a very basic level) the student’s compliance with the assignment and to serve as a diagnostic tool to help gauge improvement over the course of the year. Typical prompts:

   a. Please isolate one of the CENTRAL CONFLICTs faced by the work’s leading character and discuss how that character treats the conflict. [You must refer to details, passages, from the novel to verify your claim.]

   b. Please demonstrate how the STRUCTURE of the novel (how it was told, the order of the chapters, and the management of time or perspective, the number of subplots) helped support its main idea.

   c. Please demonstrate how a dominant SYMBOL is used to contribute to the central meaning of the work [again, please cite (in parenthesis) the passages in the work that help prove this]

   d. Please isolate passages where the author has described or introduced the main CHARACTER of a work and explain how any of the details in that description helped to bring emphasis to certain qualities of that character, say like, what he represented in the novel.

3. **LIKE THAT AUTHOR?** A student certainly may substitute other authors or offerings that are not on this list once he or she has cleared it with the instructor through email: sconnors@brookstoneschool.org

**ALL SCHOOL COMMON READ:** The common book that everyone reads will be our jumping off point as we begin in August. The use of a common read gives us a shared experience upon which we can build as we start the year. *Grit* by Angela Duckworth will be the Upper School common read book for 2020.

**LIST A**

*In Cold Blood* by Truman Capote

*Into Thin Air* by Jon Krakauer

*Under the Banner of Heaven* by Jon Krakauer

*Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil* by John Berendt

*On Writing* by Stephen King

*Unbroken* by Laura Hillenbrand

*Seabiscuit* by Laura Hillenbrand
The Glass Castle by Jeannette Wells

The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks by Rebecca Skloot

The Professor and the Madman by Simon Winchester

In the Heart of the Sea: The Tragedy of the Whaleship Essex by Nathaniel Philbrick

Endurance: Shackleton's Incredible Voyage by Alfred Lansing

King Leopold's Ghost by Adam Hochschild


The Emperor of All Maladies by Siddhartha Mukherjee

The Disappearing Spoon by Sam Kean

The Poisoner’s Handbook by Deborah Blum

LIST B

The Remains of the Day by Kazuo Ishiguro

Persuasion by Jane Austen

Pride and Prejudice by Jane Austen

Emma by Jane Austen

King Lear by William Shakespeare

King Lear by William Shakespeare

Hamlet by William Shakespeare

Macbeth by William Shakespeare

Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead by Tom Stoppard

A Clockwork Orange by Anthony Burgess

Jane Eyre by Charlotte Bronte

Wuthering Heights by Emily Bronte

Lord Jim by Joseph Conrad

Adam Bede by George Eliot
Silas Mariner by George Eliot

A Passage to India by E.M. Forster

The Mayor of Casterbridge by Thomas Hardy

The Dubliners by James Joyce

Paradise Lost by John Milton

1984 by George Orwell

Brave New World by Aldous Huxley

A Handmaid’s Tale by Margaret Atwood

Frankenstein by Mary Shelley

Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde by Robert Louis Stevenson

The Importance of Being Earnest by Oscar Wilde

The Picture of Dorian Grey by Oscar Wilde

Mrs. Dalloway by Virginia Woolf

To the Lighthouse by Virginia Woolf

Atonement by Ian McEwan

Great Expectations by Charles Dickens