



Rising Twelfth Grade Summer Reading

You are required to read two books for your summer reading: *Mere Christianity* by C. S. Lewis and *Animal Farm* by George Orwell.

The required reading may be purchased at Books-A-Million, or online at booksamillion.com or Amazon.com:

Mere Christianity

ISBN 9780030322920 (paperback)

Animal Farm

ISBN 9780451526342 (paperback)

Assignment I: Apologetics
Mere Christianity

Mr. Hendrix-thendrix@tcsopelika.org

From the Foreword:

“Lewis seeks in *Mere Christianity* to help us see religion with fresh eyes, as a radical faith whose adherents might be likened to an underground group gathering in a war zone, a place where evil seems to have the upper hand, to hear messages of hope from the other side.” *Kathleen Norris*

Mere Christianity is a short book (175 pages) about basic Christianity. It is designed to help the reader think about the Christian faith in very practical terms.

Your assignment:

Read the book, including the preface and foreword. Take notes as you read, paying particular attention to passages in the text that you find interesting, or about which you have questions. As you take notes, please give consideration to the following:

1. The general theme of the four books
2. Definitions and terms with which you are unfamiliar**
3. A list of key components of the book
4. Your questions about the author’s propositions and conclusions

We will spend the first week of school discussing the major ideas presented in this book. Be prepared to participate fully in this discussion using the notes that you have taken. Your notes need not be lengthy, but they do need to be carefully thought through.

** You are expected to expand your vocabulary by looking up the definitions of words with which you are unfamiliar and keep lists of those words.

Trinity Christian School | 1010 India Road | Opelika, Alabama 36801

A Classical and Christian Academy



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Assignment II: Government

Mr. Smith – tsmith@tcsopelika.org

Animal Farm

We will begin the 2026-2027 school year in Government class discussing George Orwell's *Animal Farm*. You will be expected to have read the book thoroughly by then in order to discuss it in class. Reading includes learning unfamiliar words. This dramatically improves understanding of the text. Please keep a list of these words. Please take **notes** as you read. The notes should remind you of passages that you particularly liked as well as those you had difficulty understanding. Your notes are not a re-creation of the book but a reminder for the discussion. You will be allowed to use your notes for a brief comprehension quiz on the first day, so I recommended they be thorough!

In addition to having read the book, on the first day of class you will be expected to hand in a 5-paragraph essay describing which of Orwell's warnings you believe are most relevant today. Research is not required for this essay; while Orwell was addressing particular historical developments over eighty years ago, I would like your paper to be based on your own knowledge of current events, the motivations behind power, and the timeless nature of fallen man.

Your senior year brings with it many privileges, both in school and out of school. With these privileges come added responsibilities, higher standards, and greater expectations. Do your best work and start your senior year by setting your own high standard!