

Summer Reading

Pre AP 9

For the following school year, all Pre-AP English 9 students will be reading Meditations by Marcus Aurelius. Please purchase the Dover Thrift Edition which can be found on Amazon for about \$4. While the book is short (about 100 pages), it is strongly recommended to read only about 10 to 15 pages per day with a highlighter and pencil to take notes in the margins or flyleaf. Upon the first day of school, students will have been expected to have read the book in its entirety (there will be an exam shortly upon returning to school). In conjunction with Meditations, students will also be reading excerpts from Sun Tsu's Art of War, John Lewis Gaddis' On Grand Strategy, etc. From here, they will begin a large analytical writing assignment. The exam upon returning will be short answer. It is suggested to know key maxims presented (at least 4), being able to explain their meaning **in depth using text evidence**, and (most importantly) know how to **specifically** apply them in the real world. **Avoid being general or vague**. To help study for the exam (and be able to write the essay later) take notes on and be able to address the following for each chapter/book:

Book 1: Discuss the best advice given to M.A.

Book 2: Discuss M.A.'s advice to deal with both the good and bad aspects of life and how it affects the soul.

Book 3: Explain section 12 and show how to apply the lessons in real life.

Book 4: How does M.A. advise the reader to have a tranquil mind and life?

Book 5: Explain sections 1, 5, and 20.

Book 6: Explain M.A.'s advice to dealing with "wrongdoers" and how to deal with the complex stresses of life.

Book 7: Explain sections 8, 27, and 69.

Book 8: Explain section 53.

Book 9: Explain section 29.

Book 10: Explain sections 15, 16, and 34.

Book 11: M.A. explains that nothing is more disgraceful than wolfish friendship (false friendship) and to "Avoid this most of all". How can you put this into practice in real life?

Book 12: Explain section 1.