



June 2018

**Summer Reading for 9th Grade Combo English & History**

Dear Future High School Student:

Summer is a wonderful time to read, as we have time to think and enjoy the literature and new ideas to which we are exposed. Additionally, reading keeps our vocabulary, language usage, and understanding/analytical skills honed for the next school year. Take advantage of this relaxing time of year to get acquainted with the classic works of Homer and Gombrich we will be studying in the next school year.

In preparation for the 9th grade Combo course, please complete the following two tasks:

1. Read: **A Little History of the World By E.H.Gombrich**
  - a. For each of the 40 Chapters, discuss at least one idea or event you find interesting. Be sure to explain why you found this interesting/important.
  - b. Label each chapter clearly. You need to write in clear, complete and grammatically correct sentences. Be prepared to draw from the material covered in this book throughout the 2018-2019 academic year.
2. Read: **The Odyssey written by Homer. The Fagle translation published by Penguin Classics.** If ordering from Amazon: **ISBN-13: 978-0143039952.**  
*Be sure to read the poetry version, not prose.*

-Read the following Books (chapters) from *The Odyssey*:

Book 1: Invocation  
Book 2: The debate in Ithaca  
Book 3: Telemachus Nestor  
Book 4: Menelaus and Helen

Book 5: Nymph and Shipwreck  
Book 9: New Coasts and Poseidon's Son  
Book 10: The Grace of the Witch  
Book 12: Sea Perils and Defeat

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**ACS Athens Mission Statement:**

ACS Athens is a student-centered international school, embracing American educational philosophy, principles and values. Through excellence in teaching and diverse educational experiences, ACS Athens challenges all students to realize their unique potential: academically, intellectually, socially and ethically — to thrive as responsible global citizens.

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**Your assignment will be due as soon as classes begin in September.**

**Option 1** Create annotated map detailing Odysseus' journey. Focus on the areas associated with the assigned books. For this you will trace the journey and select relevant quotes so that an observer could have an understanding of all of the important events that happen along the way. Be creative and prepared to present your work.

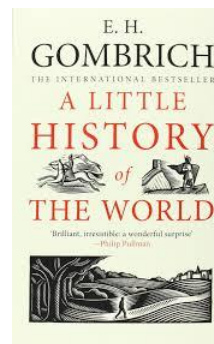
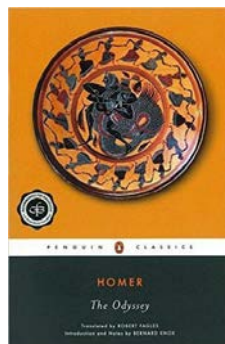
**Option 2:**

Write an alternate ending for your favorite book of *The Odyssey*. The alternate ending must maintain the integrity of the relevant characters and setting, but the events can and should be changed.

**Option 3:**

Create a collage or other visual representation of each challenge Odysseus faces throughout his journey and support it with quotes from the epic poem. The quotes should be directly related to your visuals.

*\*Both of these books will lay a foundation for the 9<sup>th</sup> grade combo curriculum; therefore it is imperative that the assignments are completed prior to the start of the school year. The first unit of study will be based on the summer work and an assessment should be expected. **You must purchase your own copy of these books.***



Have a pleasant summer and see you in the fall!  
Happy reading!