

RMHS Grade 11 Summer Reading 2009

Summer Reading for Honors British Literature

The Requirement: Students should read a total of three books: two are required, one is selected from two options.

The Books:

Required:

Jane Eyre by Charlotte Bronte
The Eyre Affair by Jasper Fforde

Choose One:

1984 by George Orwell
Brave New World by Aldous Huxley

Assessment: In September students will be tested on their comprehension of these texts.

Guiding Questions:

Jane Eyre: This is one of the most beloved of English novels. The title character's life story is considered inspirational by many. As you read, consider what qualities make Jane Eyre admirable. Is her character as admirable for a citizen of the 21st century as for a citizen of the 19th century?

The Eyre Affair: This title is for fun. It will take you some time to get used to the world in which it is set, but you won't need to understand every literary reference to follow the story. As you read about the world of *The Eyre Affair* and its obsession with literature, consider our world: what are we obsessed with?

1984 & *BNW*: These mid-twentieth century English novels present disturbing visions of the future. You will be struck by how different their worlds are from our own, but be sure to consider the less obvious ways that they are similar to our own.