

**RMHS Summer Reading 2009:
Grade 12 Honors and AP**

Summer Reading for Honors Idea of Man

The Requirement: Students should read all of the books listed below.

The Books: *All Quiet on The Western Front* by Erich Maria Remarque
Song of Solomon by Toni Morrison
The Turn of The Screw by Henry James

Assessment: In September students will be tested on their reading.

Guiding Questions:

The Turn of The Screw: This narrative is a ghost story. Or is it? What alternative explanations could account for the events of the story? How would you define reality?

All Quiet...: Paul Baumer and his friends enlist in the German army as idealistic young men, but their experiences in the Great War radically alter their morale. Can they ever recover from the shock of disillusionment, or has the new technology of mass warfare irrevocably destroyed the world's innocence?

Song of Solomon: This novel presents a man's quest for identity, so it would make sense for Toni Morrison to have written it in 1st person to give emphasis to Milkman's search for himself. But this novel is written in 3rd person. How does this style of narration and the perspectives of different characters help illustrate the themes of the novel?

Summer Reading for AP Literature and Composition

The Requirement: Students should read all of the books listed below.

The Books: *Jude the Obscure* by Thomas Hardy
Madame Bovary by Gustave Flaubert
The Real Life of Sebastian Knight by Vladimir Nabokov
Song of Solomon by Toni Morrison

Assessment: In September students will be tested on their reading.

Guiding Questions:

Jude the Obscure: Why obscure?

Madame Bovary: How does reading affect Emma's life?

The Real Life of Sebastian Knight: Is this a biography or an autobiography?

Song of Solomon: How is this novel organized?

