



## UPPER SCHOOL SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENTS – PART 2

### GRADE 11

#### **SUMMER READING: PART TWO**

This summer, you have the opportunity to read two books: one from the school-wide list and one from this grade-level list. To complete the requirements for the grade-level list, **please select one book** from the two titles suggested for your grade as listed below.

**When you return to school the first week, you will be asked to write, in class, a response to a question regarding the reading.** The in-class response will be factored into the first term of your English assessments as a quiz grade.

While teachers will design their own questions for their classes, **here are some examples of the kinds of questions you might encounter:** 1) explain how a key moment in the book helps one character discover a significant truth about him or herself; 2) choose one symbol that appears several times in the book and discuss how its meaning develops with three examples, or 3) write a letter (from yourself) to one of the characters in the book giving some advice and demonstrating that you understand the situation that character is in.

#### **Eleventh Grade**

*Empire Falls* by Richard Russo

This novel captures life in a small town in Maine through the eyes of a father (a café manager), his daughter (a teenage artist), ex-wife (in love with the fitness gym owner), and other assorted small town types. The storyline is engaging, moving back and forth across time, and Russo's prose keeps you turning the pages wondering how it will all end.

*Ceremony* by Leslie Marmon Silko

Set in the American West around World War II, this novel concerns the main character's finding himself walking between two worlds, those of his native ancestors and that of contemporary mainstream culture. This is a beautifully crafted, compelling portrait of self-determination in relation to culture.