

CCS Summer Reading Assignment

Rising 12th Grade Students

Your assignment is to read the novel below and complete the essay prompt. You will find a link to a full PDF for the text below.

Novels:

- *Gulliver's Travels* by: Jonathan Swift ([Gulliver's Travels](#))

Essay Prompts:

- *Gulliver's Travels*: Critic Roland Barthes has said, "Literature is the question minus the answer." Considering Barthes' observation, write an essay in which you analyze the central question raised by Swift in *Gulliver's Travels* and the extent to which it offers any answers. Explain how the author's treatment of this question affects your understanding of the work as a whole. Avoid mere plot summary.

Keep in mind, your essay:

- must be at least 5 paragraphs in length (introduction, body paragraphs, and conclusion). You may have more than 5 if you see fit.
- must include a thesis statement, which succinctly expresses your main argument. Your thesis should be based on the essay prompt and should include your 3 main points.
- must give at least 6 specific textual examples, which support your thesis – 2 minimum per body paragraph
- should be free of grammatical and spelling errors. Upload your essay to [grammarly.com](#) prior to turning it in.
- must be in MLA format (typed, 12 point Times New Roman, double-spaced, with a proper heading)

Please note:

Your responses should be 100% your own. You may not reference the internet or any other source outside of your brain in answering the prompt. To do so would be plagiarism and will result in no extra credit.

This is an OPTIONAL assignment. Students may complete up to two assignments for extra credit using both books listed above. Students who successfully complete the reading assignment(s) will receive one percentage point per assignment added to the final grade for the first quarter in Language Arts. The completed assignment and summer reading pledge are due to the Language Arts teacher on the first day of school.

**CROSSROADS CHRISTIAN SCHOOL
SUMMER READING PLEDGE**

Name: _____ Grade Entering: _____

Title of Book: _____

Author: _____

- I have read this entire book.
- I have never read this book before this summer.
- No one has helped me in the preparation of the summer reading assignment.

Student Signature

Date

- My student has completed the CCS summer reading assignment.

Parent Signature

Date