



**The Catholic High School of Baltimore  
Summer Reading List**

**Teacher's Name:** Mrs. Karen Mitchell

**School Year:** 2017-2018      **Grade Level:** 12

**Course No.:** 145                      **Course Name:** World Literature

**Academic Level (Honors/AP/CP1/CP2/CPA):** College Prep

**Novel:**

*The No. 1 Ladies Detective Agency*

Alexander McCall Smith

You will read the first book in the series.

**Assignment:**

1. Describe each character: Mma Precious Ramotswe, Obed Ramotswe, Note Mokoti, Mma Grace Makutsi, Mr. J.L.B. Matekoni, Happy Bapetsi, Mma Malatsi, Mr. Patel, Dr. Maketsi, and Thobiso
2. Answer each of the following questions in 2-3 sentences. Be as specific as possible and succinct as possible.
  - a. How are the roles of men and women portrayed in Botswana? How does Mma. Ramotswe defy stereotypes about women's roles?
  - b. Why does Mma. Ramotswe feel it is so important to tell her father's life story? What does Obed Ramotswe's life reveal about the history of Africa and South Africa? What does it reveal about the nature of the cost of working the mines in South Africa?
  - c. Is this a feminist novel? Does the fact that its author is a man complicate the reading? How well does the author represent a woman's character and consciousness in Mma. Ramotswe?
  - d. There are 16 books in this series. Will you read any more? Why or why not?

Choose one of the following: These may be submitted electronically any time during the summer, or you may submit them on the first day of school.

1. **Talk Show Invitation:** Select a character and think about his or her involvements and experiences then figure out which talk show would most want your character

as a guest. What would they want the character to talk about? Who else would they invite on the show to address the issues the character is involved in? Write up the correspondence between the talk show host and the character in which the host explains what the character should focus on while on the show. After the show, have them exchange one more correspondence mentioning how they felt about what happened.

2. **Character Awards:** Create an award for five of the characters in the novel based on their actions in the novel. One might be awarded “most courageous” for fighting peer pressure, another might be awarded “wisest” for solving the crime. For each award, write a paragraph describing why the character deserves it.
3. **Current Events:** Select five current news or feature stories from television or news magazines that you think your chosen character would be interested in. Then explain how your character would respond to each of the stories and the opinions your character would have about what is happening in the story.