



The Catholic High School of Baltimore Summer Reading List

Teacher's Name: Mrs. Karen Mitchell

School Year: 2017-2018 **Grade Level:** 11

Course No.: 141 **Course Name:** World Literature

Academic Level (Honors/AP/CP1/CP2/CPA): Honors

Novels:

Epic of Gilgamesh

Use the following link to access the epic: www.aina.org/books/eog/eog.pdf

Use the following link to access the background article:

<http://www.smithsonianmag.com/history/epic-hero-153362976/>

Assignment:

1. Read the article "Epic Hero" on Smithsonian.org, the second link above, which provides background information on the *Epic of Gilgamesh*. Take notes on the article, writing down items you think are important. We will use the notes during the first week of school, so bring them with you.
2. Read the notes titled "Characteristics of an Epic Hero," located at the end of the assignment descriptions. As you read the epic, identify all traits Gilgamesh possesses and provide an example for each. Decide whether or not you believe him to be an epic hero.
3. Choose ONE of the following creative assignments.
 - **Wanted Posters:** Choose two characters and make a wanted poster for each. The poster should be 18 x 24 and include the crime, physical description, where the character was last seen, reward amount, and picture.
 - **Timeline:** Create an illustrated timeline showing important events from the story. Choose at least 10 important events, write a description of each event, and draw/color an illustration for each event. Events must be in the order they occurred.

- Postcards: Create three postcards from one of the characters and “send” them to your teacher. On the back of the card write a short summary of an important event from the story. On the front, illustrate the event.
- Report Card: Write a report card for two characters in the story. Choose a character, come up with five areas of his personality to grade based on how the character behaved. Write the name of the character on the top. Give the character a grade in each area of personality (subject area), and give details from the story to support the grade in a comments section.
- Powerpoint: Create a powerpoint for the epic. Be sure to include the title, author, publication date, brief plot outline of main events, character list with descriptions, description of setting, your favorite quote or part of the story with explanation of why it is your favorite, write a book review paragraph with a 1-5 star rating and explain why, and pictures. You must have 10 slides total.

If you have questions please email me at kmitchell@thecatholichighschool.org. I will be available throughout the summer to help you any way I can.

The assignments are due on September 5, 2017.

“Characteristics of an Epic Hero” Notes

Most epic heroes possess most or all of the following characteristics.

1. A Noble Birth
 - An above average station in life
 - They may be kings, princes, or nobles
 - Commoners usually do not become epic heroes
2. Capable of Deeds of Great Strength and Courage
 - The hero has the potential to do great things
 - The actions are above and beyond what a regular person does
3. Great Warrior
 - The hero has established himself in combat during a war
 - The hero has spent much time in battle
 - In the epic we see his capabilities in war
4. Travels Over a Vast Setting
 - Heroes travel a far distance from home and interact with a variety of people and cultures
5. National Heroism
 - A hero must be recognized as great by his own country

6. Humility

- A hero never brags about his accomplishments or takes praise
- He commits his deeds because they need doing and not because of a reward

7. Faces Supernatural Foes and/or Receives Supernatural Help

- Receives aid from a god or goddess or battles a superhuman enemy
- Fights something mortals cannot battle
- The enemy is unique to that hero