

## **ACA's Novel Selection Policy Language and Fine Arts Department**

It is English Department policy that books for required reading do not emphasize immoral or unethical practices, nor do they contain excessive profanity or immoral suggestiveness. The department does not, however, censor all materials found to be offensive. Any language or situation that is considered inappropriate by the teacher, department, or administration is discussed with the students at the beginning of the assignment. A lesson of Christian values is taught concerning the issue.

It is the position of the English Department that in order to prepare for college and life, students must be equipped with Christian principles. In this regard, the department does not shelter students totally from adverse language and situations, but addresses these in a Christian manner.

The reasons for book selection and expectations for students vary according to grade. A book should qualify in most of the categories listed but not necessarily in all categories.

### **Sixth Grade**

Reasons for Book Selection:

1. Award winners or recommended by highly respected sources;
2. Teach a lesson or bring to light an issue sixth graders need to "discover";
3. Bring to life background information for social studies units.

Expectations for Students:

1. Recall plot, character, theme, sequence of events, climax, and resolution;
2. Make life application from the book;
3. Pass a test covering the text.

### **Seventh – Tenth Grades**

Reasons for Book Selection:

1. Challenge student reading ability;
2. Presents value and/or lasting truths;
3. Contain historical relevance;
4. Reflects author's writing skills while entertaining students;
5. Deal with topics, issues, and relationships relevant to readers and age appropriate for readers;
6. Considered a "classic" or an award winner by literary critics or highly respected sources.

Expectations for Students:

1. Recall plot, character, theme, sequence of events, climax, and resolution;
2. Make life application from the book;
3. Pass a test covering the text.

## **Eleventh – Twelfth Grades**

Reasons for Book Selection:

1. Strong characters for character analysis;
2. Look for symbolism;
3. American novels are chosen from different areas of the country for emphasis during American Literature;
4. Novels by British authors are chosen for the British Literature classes.

Expectations for students:

1. Participate in class discussions;
2. Test on each assigned reading;
3. Write essays on character, plot, creative symbolism, and story-line in preparation for college courses;
4. Pass a major exam on each novel.