

## SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENT (2024)

Dear Rising American Literature & Composition Student,

The faculty in the English department at Bethlehem Academy would like to welcome you to your junior year. Over the summer months, we encourage you to participate in all the usual summer activities—swimming, biking, bonfires, hanging out with friends—but we also encourage you to read! The selection for American Literature students is ***The Grapes of Wrath* by John Steinbeck**. As you're reading, use the following outline and questions to guide and focus your reading. Then when you return to school in late August, be prepared to engage in a variety of activities regarding your novel as determined by your English teacher.

**PART I:** It is important to be able to recognize the plot summary for each of the novels you have read. Describe in detail the following:

**Exposition.** This is the novel's setting, including time period and place, and a detailed description that covers both the physical and emotional characteristics of each of the main characters.

**Rising Action.** The conflict is introduced.

**Climax.** A truth is revealed and/or decisions are made that will allow the characters to work toward a resolution of the conflict.

**Falling Action.** The characters are involved in working toward a resolution.

**Resolution.** All the loose ends are tied up.

**PART II:** It is also important for you to identify the theme(s) of the novel you've read. What were its messages? Support your ideas with a quote or anecdote from the novel.