

English I Marcellin Summer Reading

One of the qualities we hope to instill in each and every RedHawk is the ability to be a leader. Leadership and mentoring takes many forms in the halls of Marist--from participating in athletics, peer leadership, working with neighborhood schools, summer camps, and through many, many service projects throughout the city.

In literature, film, and our own lives, mentors come in many shapes and sizes, of any ages and gender, and often when we least expect them. Your summer reading assignment is designed to analyze mentorship in literature, film, and your own lives.

PART I. LITERATURE

Read the short story *Thank You, Ma'am* by Langston Hughes. A pdf version of the story can be found [here](#). If you would like to listen to the story as you read, a recorded version is available on YouTube and can be found [here](#).

When you are finished with the reading, answer the following question in the form of a paragraph.

Question: After reading the short story, what is the lesson the woman teaches the young boy and how does she teach him?

PART II. FILM

Watch any of the films from the list below. Then, on the same sheet you typed your answer for Part I., answer the following question.

Question: What is the lesson the mentor tries to teach and how does the mentor reach the main character?

Radio
Miracle
Hoosiers
Karate Kid
Remember the Titans
Coach Carter
Star Wars
Mulan
The Mighty Ducks
Sister Act
Pinocchio

Rocky

PART III. YOUR LIFE

Think over your life and the people who have influenced you. Who are some of the people that taught you lessons? Who are some of the people that have tried to be a guide, mentor, or leader for you.

On the same document that you answered PART I and PART II, answer the question below.

Question: Identify someone in your own life as a mentor. What have they taught you and how have they taught you those lessons.

GRADING:

During our time in quarantine, I watched *The Last Dance*, starring Michael Jordan. Jordan played for the Chicago Bulls and mentored his whole team. Throughout the time with the Bulls he provides the team with lots of advice, but one of my favorite pieces of advice follows: "if you do the work, you get rewarded. There are no shortcuts in life." It is in this spirit that you will receive credit for this assignment. As long as you put in full effort into the assignment, you will receive full credit.

Each portion is worth 5 points, totaling 15 points for the assignment.