

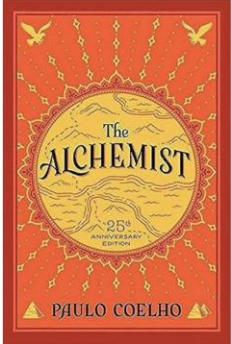
# ENGLISH 10 SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENT

*The Alchemist* by Paulo Coelho

Fiction: NEW/CLEAN copy in PRINT only, ISBN-13: 978-0062315007

## SUMMER READING GOAL:

In addition to helping encourage you to create a life-long habit of reading, as teachers, we truly want you to enjoy your summer reading book. In fact, we hope that reading it might even inspire you to pick up another book and another... Paulo Coelho's "The Alchemist" offers readers a captivating narrative filled with spiritual themes, profound insights, and universal truths. As you delve into Santiago's journey of self-discovery and fulfillment of his Personal Legend, it's intriguing to examine the text through the lens of a Biblical worldview.



**REQUIRED READING:** A special 25th anniversary edition of the extraordinary international bestseller, including a new Foreword by Paulo Coelho. Combining magic, mysticism, wisdom and wonder into an inspiring tale of self-discovery, *The Alchemist* has become a modern classic, selling millions of copies around the world and transforming the lives of countless readers across generations. Paulo Coelho's masterpiece tells the mystical story of Santiago, an Andalusian shepherd boy who yearns to travel in search of a worldly treasure. His quest will lead him to riches far different—and far more satisfying—than he ever imagined. Think about these essential questions while reading and make notes in your book that relate to them:

- Why do people allow the past to control them?
- How does fear stop us from pursuing our dreams?
- What does it mean to have a growth mindset?
- Is there any purpose to suffering?

## TEXT MARKING:

In addition to reading the novel, upon returning to school, students will be responsible for a **100-point objective test** on *The Alchemist* as well as a **summative written essay**. You will be permitted to use your markings on the essay.

Your task is to engage deeply with the text, exploring the following themes and concepts:

1. **The Quest for Purpose:** Santiago's journey is driven by his quest to discover his Personal Legend. Explore how Santiago's experiences, encounters, and challenges contribute to his understanding of his purpose in life.
2. **The Language of the Universe:** Throughout the novel, Santiago learns to decipher the language of omens and symbols, believing that the universe communicates with those who are willing to listen. Analyze the role of signs and omens in Santiago's journey.
3. **The Fear of Failure:** Santiago faces numerous obstacles and setbacks on his journey, including fear, doubt, and the temptation to abandon his quest. Explore the theme of fear of failure and its impact on Santiago's journey.
4. **The Alchemy of Self-Discovery:** The alchemist teaches Santiago the principles of alchemy, emphasizing the importance of transformation and self-discovery. Explore the concept of alchemy as a metaphor for the journey of self-discovery and personal transformation.
5. **Biblical Worldview:** Draw connections between specific passages or events in "The Alchemist" and relevant Biblical passages or stories. Consider how Coelho's narrative both parallels and diverges from Biblical teachings and reflect on the implications of these similarities and differences.

If you have any questions, please e-mail Mrs. Lench: [mlech@ccslancers.com](mailto:mlech@ccslancers.com)