

## Independent Study Project Options

### Tier 1.0: Read “The Lottery” by Shirley Jackson and “Charles” by Shirley Jackson

- Complete appropriate handouts/assignments on both texts.
- Write a guided/structured, four paragraph essay on foreshadowing and irony development.

### Tier 1.5: Read “Three Blind Mice” and “The Adventure of Johnnie Waverly” by Agatha Christie

- Keep an annotated journal (including questions, reactions, what builds suspense, what builds irony, and a summaries) for both texts.
- Write a guided/structured, four paragraph essay on suspense and irony development.

### Tier 2.0: Read “The Lottery” by Shirley Jackson and *The Haunting of Hill House*\* by Shirley Jackson

- Keep an annotated journal (including questions, reactions, what builds suspense, what builds horror, allusions in the novel, and chapter summaries) for both texts.
- Write a guided/structured four paragraph essay that explores Jackson’s approach/ development of suspense and horror.

\*The novel may require your need to secure your own copy--from a library, a bookstore or an online PDF.

### Tier 2.5: Read *The Haunting of Hill House*\* by Shirley Jackson and then “The Yellow Wallpaper” by Charlotte Perkins Gilman

- Keep an annotated journal (including questions, reactions, and summaries) for *The Haunting of Hill House* and a smaller one (including questions, reactions, key similarities and differences between the two texts, and a story summary) for “The Yellow Wallpaper.”
- Write a partially guided/structured essay that explores the key similarities and key differences between the two texts and the extent to which you believe Gilman’s story may have influenced Jackson’s.

\*The novel may require your need to secure your own copy--from a library, a bookstore or an online PDF.

### Tier 3: Read at least four new/not previously studied horror short stories of your choice by Edgar Allan Poe **or** by H.P. Lovecraft **or** of some combination of the two.

- Keep an annotated journal (including questions, reactions, tracking the author’s developments of both suspense and horror and the author’s consistent stylistic similarities across the texts for each of the stories, as well as a summary for each story).
- Create a partially guided/structured multi-media project that explores the author’s (or authors’) development of suspense, horror, and the author’s general writing style. The project should include visual aides, other images, and text to show similarities and differences in development across the various stories. If doing an exploration of both authors, also explore their stylistic similarities and differences from one another.

Tier 4: Choose to read one of two anti-hero novels (*Catcher in the Rye* by J.D. Salinger or *The Stranger* by Albert Camus).\*\*

- Keep an annotated journal (including questions, reactions and summaries) of the novel.
- Determine a topic of focus that you'd like to explore that came from your reading of the novel, and then create a self-selected project idea (requires teacher approval), and then appropriately plan out and create the self-selected project.

\*\*The novel selected requires parent approval and must be obtained on your own, either from a library, by purchase, or an online PDF.