

## Dialectic Summer Reading List 2016

6<sup>th</sup> grade: Read *The Magician's Nephew*

The following is a selection from the Oxford Tutorial Reading Guide for *The Magician's Nephew*.

Please respond to all questions thoroughly and in complete sentences.

1. Who are the main characters introduced in Chapter 1?
2. How do they meet?
3. Why has the boy begun crying?
4. What is the setting (where does the story take place)?
5. What did the girl discover in the box-room (storage room) in the attic?
6. What use did she make of her discovery?
7. What do the children learn about Uncle Andrew in Chapter 2? What kind of a person is he?
8. How would you describe his character?
9. How is the Wood between the Worlds like the tunnel in the attic?
10. The similarity between the two places gives the boy a wild idea. What is it?
11. What is Digory tempted to do in Chapter 4? Why does he do it?
12. Does it seem like magic forced him to do it or not? Explain.
13. Are there reasons why he should (or shouldn't) have done what he did?
14. What do the children learn about Queen Jadis in Chapter 5?
15. How would you describe Queen Jadis' character? Do you see any similarities between her and Uncle Andrew?
16. Why does Jadis want to go to the childrens' world?
17. What is it that catches Jadis' interest, causing a "hungry and greedy look" on her face?
18. In Chapter 6, how does Queen Jadis seem to think about Uncle Andrew? What does that show us about Jadis?
19. What new word does Lewis (the author) use to describe her?
20. What more do we learn about Uncle Andrew in this chapter? Why had he become a magician?
21. In Chapter 7, why is Digory so interested in the lady who brings some grapes for his mother?
22. What does Aunt Letty say about the grapes?
23. How is the Cabby portrayed in Chapter 8? What kind of person is he?
24. How does Queen Jadis behave when the pool takes them to the dark world?
25. What did the children hear in the darkness?
26. Who is the Singer? How is he described?
27. What does Polly notice about the Lion's song in Chapter 9? What does she think is going on?
28. How effective is the Witch's attack on the Lion? How does the Lion respond?
29. How do Jadis and Andrew respond to the Lion?
30. What makes Uncle Andrew so excited about "commercial possibilities"?
31. What does the Lion do to all the creatures just before he wakes them up?
32. What does the Lion say to the Beasts?
33. What does the Lion give to all the creatures in chapter 10?
34. What warning does he make? What is the "first joke" in Narnia and who makes it?
35. What name does the author give to the Lion in Chapter 10?
36. What more do we learn about Uncle Andrew in this chapter?
37. According to Lewis, what did Andrew succeed in doing?
38. What does "talking lettuce" have to do with what the Jackdaw calls the "second joke" in Narnia?
39. In Chapter 11, what does the Jackdaw call the "third joke"?
40. What does Aslan ask Digory to do in front of the council of the beasts?
41. What does Aslan promise to do about the evil consequences which now will inevitably come upon Narnia?
42. In Chapter 12 what does Digory see in Aslan's eyes when he asks him to cure his mother?
43. What happens to Strawberry in this chapter?
44. What warning does Digory find written on the golden gates outside the sacred garden in Chapter 13?
45. What is Digory tempted to do?

46. What helps Digory not to do the wrong thing?
47. How did the children get into Narnia to begin with?
48. How do they leave Narnia and get home
49. What happened to the Apple which Aslan gave to Digory?
50. What warning and command did Aslan give to the children before he sent them back to their own world?

**7<sup>th</sup> grade:**

*Man of Blessing: A Life of St. Benedict*, Carmen Acevedo Butcher

**Assignment:**

Write a 1 to 2 page reflection on Saint Benedict's life. Include an analysis of his character drawn from his actions. Include at least two relevant quotes from the text.

**8<sup>th</sup> grade:**

*The Red Badge of Courage*, Stephen Crane

**Assignment:**

Write a 2 page book review of the story, including setting (where and when it took place), main characters and plot summary, and bring it the first day of school. Be prepared to discuss the book.