

Summer Reading AP Art History

World Without End – Ken Follett Summer Reading Guide

Complete the following activities as you read the book.

1. As you read the novel, make sure you take notes on the major characters and the theme to which they are best connected. For your reference, historical themes include: cultural, social, intellectual, military, government, technology, religion, scientific, geographic, artistic. For instance, Caris has a strong religious affiliation for a portion of the story. How do her religious beliefs contribute to the building of the cathedral; how does her relationship with Merthin affect the cathedral, etc. Keep detailed notes on all major characters, particularly on the strengths and weaknesses of their personalities. None are completely good; some are totally evil ... but they all contribute in one way or another to the building of the cathedral and the destiny of their world.
2. Keep a "Cause and Effect" sheet on the building of the cathedral. You should be able to describe the chain of events which will result in the building of the cathedral.
3. Keep a record of the activities of daily life for the main characters during the Middle Ages. How were each able to change their circumstances? What drove them? Track your day and keep a simple journal of how you spent your time; what you've thought about during the day, and what you've accomplished. Keep a record of the weather: high temperature; rain, clouds, storms, etc. You should have a minimum of four full weeks.
4. Things to think about while reading are how you personally relate to the characters. Do you like them ... do they make you angry ... are they similar to someone you know? How did the characters relate to each other? Could Merthin have changed Ralph or Ralph changed Merthin's destiny? Do any of us have control of our lives or is it played out on a constantly changing basis that forces us to adapt and survive?

Have a great summer and enjoy the book!