

9TH GRADE ENGLISH REQUIRED SUMMER 2026 READING
Accelerated

The Hobbit, by J. R. R. Tolkien. ISBN: 978-0547928227

You can purchase the book on Amazon, or at many large bookstores

(Note: Please get the physical book, not the electronic version.)

You are required to have this book read by the first day of school. Additionally, you must also write a one-page typed and double-spaced response to the following prompt:

Bilbo often misses the comfort of home, yet he continues traveling despite danger and uncertainty. Why do you think people leave what is familiar to face difficult challenges? What does Bilbo gain that he could never have discovered by staying home?

In your one-page response:

- **Take a clear position and explain your reasoning.**
- **Use at least two specific moments with quotations from the book to support your points.**
- **Reflect on how the story made you feel and why.**
- **Make connections to your own values, experiences, or beliefs.**

If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Rachel Scheinmann rscheinmann@jbha.org

Optional, but recommended reading for the summer:

Cold Sassy Tree, by Olive Ann Burns
Annie John, by Jamaica Kincaid
This Boy's Life, by Tobias Wolff
Lord of the Flies, by William Golding

