

**PCS Summer Reading Activities 2010-2011**  
**10<sup>th</sup> Grade**

**\*Red** (book #2 of the Red, White and Black series) by Ted Dekker  
**The Hiding Place** by Corrie Ten Boom  
**Rocket Boys** by Homer H. Hickam Jr.

Students are required to read the starred book on their list in addition to one other book on their list. Students will complete activity 1 for the starred book and activity 2 for the other book. Activities for both books will be turned in to the English teacher within the first two weeks of school for grading.

**Activity 1:**

Part A—For the first novel on the list, complete the following:

Journal as you go - As you're reading the book, keep a two-sided reading journal. The left side should have quotes from the book and page numbers (minimum of ten), The right side should have your questions, thoughts, observations, revelations, etc. written in complete sentences.

Part B—As a final journal, identify what you believe to a theme (or themes) of the novel. Explain the relevance these themes hold for you (Minimum 200 words).

**Activity 2:**

Write a 750-1000 word autobiographical essay about a significant event /moment in your life. Your audience for this essay is your classmates—in other words, other students, more than likely about your same age, who appreciate quality, college-level writing and who want to know something substantial and important about you.

The event / moment that you select might not be earth-shattering, and it might not be exemplary, but that does not mean that it did not leave a lasting impression on you—and cannot leave a lasting impression on your readers. Your purpose is to entertain as well as to instruct, as you teach the audience something about yourself through the use of specific details, narration, and description.

A successful essay will have a narrowed / focused event (a particular moment in time), a clear dominate impression, and a clear main point (significance). Less effective essays will tell a long story without having any focus; they will not answer the question “So What?”