



8th Grade Summer Reading Assignment 2026

Students will be reading *Bonhoeffer: Student Edition: Pastor, Martyr, Prophet, Spy*.

Below is a link where the book can be purchased. While reading, students are responsible for annotating. Once students have finished reading, they will work on **two** different assignments. Both assignments will be due Monday, August 24, 2026.

[Bonhoeffer" Student Edition: Pastor, Martyr, Prophet, Spy](#)

I. After finishing *Bonhoeffer: Student Edition: Pastor, Martyr, Prophet, Spy*. You will choose **one** of the following options to complete:

Option 1: Create the front page of a newspaper that features a main event from your novel. Who, what, where, when, why, and how. Illustrate an image on the poster.

Option 2: Create an illustrated timeline that displays important events in your novel chronologically.

Whichever option you choose, the project should be on a poster board no larger than 11" x 17" (half the size of a standard poster board).

Grading Rubric

Overall Appearance	Your poster is detailed and neat. Images are clear and text is easy to read. The overall appearance is creative and aesthetically pleasing.	25 Points
Information	Your timeline or newspaper page has summary, explanations, and references that are accurate and you include all the components required in the directions.	25 Points
Analysis	You show you understand the literature through the information you include as well as the use of examples/quotations from the text.	25 Points
Graphics	You chose illustrations that highlight important parts of the novel. The graphic elements are neat, colored, and are incorporated seamlessly into the work.	25 Points

II. Summer Reading Assignment (part 2)

1. Please read the excerpt from a lecture from Martin Niemoeller.
2. After reading "First They Came," explain the effects of following the crowd.
 - a. Do you think the narrator failed to speak up because others did not?
 - b. Compare and contrast the attitude of the speaker in the poem and the choices Bonhoeffer made during this time period.
3. Requirements:
 - At least one typed page - standard 4-5 paragraph essay
 - Double-spaced
 - 12 pt. font
 - Times New Roman
4. Please make sure you include:
 - Name:
 - Date:
 - Title:

First They Came by Martin Niemöller

First they came for the Communists
And I did not speak out
Because I was not a Communist

Then they came for the Socialists
And I did not speak out
Because I was not a Socialist

Then they came for the trade unionists
And I did not speak out
Because I was not a trade unionist

Then they came for the Jews
And I did not speak out
Because I was not a Jew
Then they came for me -and there was no one left
To speak out for me.