

ENGLISH V SUMMER 2026 READING ASSIGNMENT



PART I

Your first assignment for this summer is simply to read Lucian's *Lover of lies*, a dialogue between two friends about a houseful of respectable philosophers who enjoy telling outrageous lies. Lucian wrote the *Lover of Lies* in the second century AD, around five hundred years after Plato wrote his famous philosophical dialogues.

You'll find the *Lover of Lies* on page 321 of Link 1 below. You'll notice that every second page is in Greek. Don't panic! Just read the English—or, if you like, just read the Greek.

You need not write an essay or complete a project on this work (yet). We'll use the *Lover of Lies* at the start of the year to enlarge our working vocabulary of literary terms and as material for in-class discussions and writing. If you have any problems with the text, feel free to contact me at pspence@cistercian.org.

PART II

Select one book from the list (at Link 2 below).

While you are reading, use the Oxford English Dictionary (OED) to look up ten new words. You will need to log in. Login information for the OED (oed.com) is on the library blue sheet (Link 3 below). **Reminders:**

- * Use the OED. *Do not* use another dictionary (including the "Oxford Dictionary of English," which does not have all of the definitions the OED has).
- * Do not use Lucian's *Lover of Lies* for this vocab assignment. You must use a different book.

You will turn in a typed vocabulary list. For each of your ten words, please include:

1. the word itself,
2. the *full sentence* that contains the word in your book, in quotation marks, and
3. the *correct* OED definition for the word in its context.

If you would like some extra credit you may do this for a *second* book on the list as well.

If you would like to read a book that isn't on the list, you are welcome to email me and see whether it might work for this assignment. I'll look forward to seeing you all in the fall!

LINKS

1. *Lover of Lies* (at p. 321): <https://ryanfb.github.io/loebolus-data/L130.pdf>
2. Book list: https://school.cistercian.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/2018_Recommended_Reading_V-VIII.pdf
3. Blue Sheet: <https://cistercian.libguides.com/c.php?g=1101426&p=8793914>