

# 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Summer Reading Assignment Summer of 2021

This summer you will read: **The Count of Monte Cristo** by Alexander Dumas







Alexandre Dumas' father was the son of a French military officer and an afro-Caribbean slave. Though a man of color, Dumas' father was a nobleman. A fact which helped him in an illustrious military career. Alexandre Dumas celebrated his creole heritage and his father's successful career and noble standing helped Alexandre find work as a writer - write he did. Alexandre Dumas is considered by some to be the father of the modern novel. His works were often published a chapter at a time – one a week in a pamphlet. His novels are still popular. You might even recognize some of the names: The Count of Monte Cristo, The Three Musketeers, and The Man in the Iron Mask are Dumas' three most popular works. Originally written in French, these stories have been translated into almost every language spoken today; they are still very popular – still being made into movies, referenced in stories, and even in the names of food, places, and people. In fact, tourists still visit the Chateau d'If to see the jail cell of Edmond Dantes – a fictional character who is rewriting history!

### The Assignment:

### 1) Read: The Count of Monte Cristo

Honors students – read any translation of the unabridged book. On-level students – read any translation of the abridged book. (Recommended: Lowell Bair translation ISBN 0-553-21350-4) Accommodated or Modified students – you may read any translation and abridgment including the Classics Graphic Novels edition.

# 2) Watch one of the movies of The Count of Monte Cristo

(243) The Count Of Monte Cristo 2002 (Full Movie) - YouTube Or

(243) The Count of Monte Cristo 1975 (Richard Chamberlain) - YouTube

### 3) Keep a Reader's Journal

The purpose of this journal is three-fold:

- 1) Help you keep track of the story and your reading progress.
- 2) Provide the anchor text notes for unit one of the school year.
  a. Yes! The Count of Monte Cristo is the anchor text for unit 1.
- 3) Provide a starting point for building on your knowledge and skills.

## Journal Expectations:

### Create a digital journal: you may use OneNote or Google.

- 1) Keep a synopsis of each chapter.
- 2) Make notes on and keep track of character development.
- 3) Note the way Dumas uses figurative language to tell the story.
- 4) Compare what you read to what you watched.

Be sure to share your link with us and give us permission to view it. We will need access to your journal starting the second-class day of the school year.

#### Do you have questions? Drop us an email -

fflath@uplifteducation.org

### <u>bthompson@uplifteducation.org</u> We hope you enjoy *The Count of Monte Cristo*.

Ms. Flath & Mr. Thompson

#### **PS.** Feel free to use the SparkNotes for support

Here is a link that will give you some resources and assistance -

https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1li5p0NiRgpkpZVVdV2xMBGJlkx1mK7InPeGhGlbKDg/present