

Kolbe Academy Home School

GRADE FIVE READING

Catholic National Reader Book 5

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Teachers' Notes: Begin every class with a prayer. This is a good way to help the child memorize new prayers. Repeat the same ones every day until they are known. Be sure to explain the meanings of the prayers. Repetition in all areas of study is most beneficial. In most cases, Fridays have been left open. You may do a four-day week or use Friday as a "catch-up" day. While art and music should be worked in during the week, Friday is also a good day to concentrate on those subjects.

Your student may not need all of Week 8 for review. You can use this time to catch up and then go over the subject matter. If you intend to use the sample tests provided, look them over before teaching the subjects and make sure you teach the material in the tests. Some children have a difficult time doing written exams, but it is important for them to learn how to take them. If your fifth grader does poorly on them, give them to him orally a couple of days after he has taken them and average the grades.

COURSE TITLE: Reading

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

The Grade Five reading program is designed to introduce the young student to the world of literature. There are basic questions that apply to all literature. The student, moreover, begins to understand the world and God's creation through literature. Essentially, all education is literature – based, as the overall style of the Scriptures shows. It is through literature that man comes to know, love, and serve.

The Catholic National Reader (CNR), Book Five is the primary reader for this level. The child should read orally every day. Go through the vocabulary, making explanations when necessary. It is good for him to read the story to himself first so it will not be a cold reading.

Read carefully and follow the *Introduction to the Teacher's Edition of Questions for the Catholic National Reader, Book Five*. The *Catholic National Reader* is quite challenging so if necessary, proceed more slowly than the course plans suggest. It is not unusual for a student to be reading the book that is a year below his grade level. Make sure the student understands the vocabulary and the content of the stories. He should also have another reader or a book from the *Kolbe Academy Recommended Reading List* for his grade level. Some that I can recommend for fifth graders are: *Any lives of the saints* that are at the fifth grade level, *Swiss Family Robinson* by Johannes Wyss, *The Trumpet of the Swan* by E.B. White, any Tolkein books, *Gulliver's Travels* by Jonathan Swift, *Heidi* and others by Johanna Spyri, any of the Robert Louis Stevenson books, *The Redwall Series* by Brian Jacques, *Tales from Shakespeare* by Charles Lamb, any of Louisa May Alcott's books, and many others. Use your own discretion.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

The student is to be introduced to:

- ❖ the world in literature
- ❖ the world of imagination
- ❖ the world in others' minds
- ❖ a Christian approach to literature

SKILLS TO BE DEVELOPED:

There are five principles that are essential for the student to understand and apply in reading literature. The reader must:

- ❖ read with objective charity;
- ❖ understand that the parts do not condemn the whole;
- ❖ recognize sin as such when he encounters it in his reading;

- ❖ avoid reading tempting descriptions of sin;
- ❖ understand that fiction's function is not to teach.

For an elucidation of these principles, consult *Tenets for Readers and Reviewers*.

There are four principles on the function of literature:

- ❖ Art is a moral activity.
- ❖ Literature is fundamentally religious.
- ❖ Art inspires.
- ❖ Art is a means of charity.

COURSE TEXT: *Catholic National Reader Book Five*

Supplemental Resources:

Catholic National New Speller and Word Book

McGuffey's Fifth Reader

Books from Kolbe Academy's Recommended Reading List

Tenets for Readers and Reviewers (America Press 1943; pamphlet)

Notes:

As much outside reading as possible (at least two book reports per quarter) should supplement the Reader. The McGuffey Readers can be used instead of, or in addition to the Catholic National Reader.

COURSE PLAN METHODOLOGY: *Catholic National Reader Book 5* is represented by the abbreviation **CNR**. Each weekly assignment is summarized in the first line of the week's daily course plan. The specific daily assignments are outlined in the following lines indicated by the **MON**, **TUES**, **WED**, and **THUR** abbreviations.

Kolbe Academy has worked diligently to create the best possible course plans with the home schooling family in mind. Remember, however, that our program is intended to be flexible. Per the principle of subsidiarity, these course plans are a **suggested** course of study. As the teacher, you should adapt and modify these course plans to meet the individual learning needs of your child. **Do not feel obligated to follow these course plans exactly.**

◆◆◆ FIRST QUARTER ◆◆◆

WEEK 1	
CNR	Lesson I – III
MON	Lesson I
TUE	Lesson II
WED	Read from an outside book of your choice. If it is a reader, have him write a short summary of the story. If he is reading a chapter book, have him write a short summary of each chapter.
THUR	Lesson III
Go through the vocabulary and explain as necessary. Read the questions in the student's question book before reading the story. Have the student write the answers to the questions in complete sentences after having read the story orally. These instructions should be followed with <i>CNR</i> unless otherwise instructed.	
Notes	
WEEK 2	
CNR	Lesson IV – VII
MON	Lesson IV
TUE	Lesson V
WED	Lesson VI
THUR	Lesson VII
Follow instructions from last week.	
Notes	
WEEK 3	
CNR	Lesson VIII – X