

For promotion to Chief Petty Officer and above, you must pick one of the following leadership essay prompts to respond to, read one of the books from Captain's reading list, and write a book report following the guidelines below (answer all four prompts for the book report). Ask your Platoon Chiefs and Platoon Commanders to look over your work to get critiques and advice.

Leadership Essay Prompts (**choose one**):

1. Leaders often have many strengths but also have weaknesses as well. Describe your three best leadership strengths and give at least one example that demonstrates each of your strengths. The point is to identify and show a clear awareness of your personal strengths.
2. A successful leader must be at his/her best when faced with great challenges. Leadership requires the ability to make a difference under difficult circumstances. With this in mind, describe in detail a situation in which you exhibited such leadership. What difference did you, your action, and your decisions make?
3. If given the opportunity to interview any person from history about his/her leadership philosophy, which would that person be? Why did you choose this person? What three key questions would you ask them? Why?
4. Discuss a leader who has had a significant impact on you. How did this person affect your life? How did this person influence the development of your personal leadership style?

The Reading List:

A Bridge Too Far
Second World War
All Quiet on the Western Front
Semper Fidelis
American Caesar, Douglas Mac Arthur
Shackleton's Way
Attack on Liberty- James Scott
The Best and the Brightest
Battle Cry of Freedom
The Five Dysfunctions of a Team
Brave Men- Ernie Pyle
The Killer Angels Caine Mutiny
The Leadership Secrets of Santa Claus
Cruel Sea
The Pueblo Incident
Fields of Fire
The Right Thing
Guns of August
The Servant- James Hunter
Hunt for Red October
The Village In Harm's Way- Doug Stanton
Today's Isms
It's Your Ship- D. Michael Abrashoff
Two Souls Indivisible- James S. Hirsch
Korean War- Max Hastings
Vietnam: A History
Lone Survivor
War and Remembrance
My American Journey
Red Badge of Courage
The Things They Carried
Rifleman Dodd

Leadership Book Report (answer all):

1. Analyze an important character in the book. Discuss his or her leadership challenge and explain how the conflict is resolved. (Here it would be helpful to describe the character's actions using the leadership traits which have been discussed in the Naval Science courses.)
2. Quote a passage from the book that you feel is interesting or important from a leadership point of view and thoroughly explain its meaning and significance to the story.
3. Explain what a reader can learn from this book. Use specific events from the book to illustrate your opinion.
4. Create a cover for your report which includes the title of the book, its author, your name, the promotion you are seeking, and the date the report is submitted. Further, include one line from the book you find significant and use an illustration either drawn, computer generated or cut out to enhance the paper.

Example Cover:

All Quiet on the Western Front

By: Erich Maria Remarque

Submitted by: Madison Whitney

For: Promotion to Lieutenant Junior Grade

14 June 2021



“I have opened the collar of my tunic and breathe heavily, I sweat and my face is swollen with the strain of carrying. All the same, I urge him to let us go on, for the place is dangerous.”