

English 9 Summer Reading Requirements

All summer reading assignments will be due on the first day of school. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact one of the 9th grade English teachers at their below listed e-mails. We are looking forward to a wonderful 2016-2017 school year!

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Requirements: Please choose one of the novels listed below and complete one assignment from each category (A-C).

1. *The Hobbit*, J. R. R. Tolkien
2. *The Hunger Games*, Suzanne Collins
3. *Night*, Elie Wiesel
4. *The Giver*, Lois Lowry
5. *The Halloween Tree*, Ray Bradbury
6. *The Green Mile*, Stephen King
7. *The Lord of the Flies*, William Golding

Category A: Character Analysis

Assignment 1: Chart or Journal (15 entries)

Complete a character analysis chart or journal with at least 15 citations. Choose a direct quote from the book that shows the main character's actions, as well as the thoughts and reactions that other characters have about the main character. Record your insights, analyses, likes, dislikes, connections, or references about the main character at various points in the reading. Please include the page number next to the citation.

Sample Journal Entry

In *Treasure Island*, the narrator describes the captain who moves into his father's inn: "And indeed, bad as his clothes were, and coarsely as he spoke, he had none of the appearance of a man who sailed before the mast" (Stevenson 1).

Sample Reactions to Citation:

This quote tells me that the narrator has certain expectations as to what a ship's Captain should look like. Certainly, not this dirty man with bad clothes and harsh language. This tells me that the narrator is either naïve or the Captain is very different from other captains that he may already have met.

You may want to fold the paper in half length-wise and write the citation on one side and your reaction on the other.

Assignment 2: Letters (2 letters)

Pretend one of the characters in the literature piece has written you a letter asking for advice about a particular situation that occurred in the story. Write the letter you received and the one you write in response. Be sure your letter carries substance and is long

enough for the reader (your teacher) to gain a full understanding of your thinking and that of the character.

Category B: Plot

Assignment 1: Artist's Journal (1 per chapter)

Capture each chapter of the book in art form by keeping an artist's journal. As you read each chapter, stop to make a detailed sketch, drawing, or painting of an event or setting that is crucial to the plot or mood of the story. If you would like to use a computer as a tool to create your artwork, please do so. Add a caption or sentence that suits the illustration and the story.

Assignment 2: Antagonist's Point of View (3 events)

Rewrite three events that represent the beginning, middle, and end of the novel from the antagonist's viewpoint. (The antagonist is the person who causes conflict with the main character or hero in the novel.) Choose events where the antagonist is in conflict with the protagonist. Rewrite the episode from the antagonist's point of view allowing him/her to JUSTIFY or show why his behavior is correct.

Assignment 3: Open-Ended Questions (2 questions)

1. Explain how your character's personality is based on the author's use of characterization. Use citations to help support your ideas.
2. Based on the author's use of characterization, choose a character from your novel and discuss your character's personality. Discuss how you can connect to the main character at a personal level (you may pretend that the character is a friend, relative, or acquaintance to do this). Use citations to help support your ideas.

Category C: Theme or Big Idea

Assignment 1: Essay (5 paragraphs)

What is the theme of your novel? Write a 5 paragraph essay with citations from the text to support your opinion.

Assignment 2: Videotape Discussions (3 discussions)

Have friends or family members read along with you and then meet two or three times to discuss the novel. Videotape it in parts so that the discussion revolves around several important questions you have chosen to lead the discussion. *Such questions might be: What makes the book memorable? How did the character evolve throughout the story to engage the plot? Has the author given us a message that may affect the lives of the reader?* You decide the questions and lead the discussion in the way you feel is worthy of the book and shows the extent of your engagement with the story.