

English 1 Honors: Summer Reading Assignment

Welcome Class of 2027! I hope you enjoy some time to relax and engage in the hobbies and activities that you love this summer. Consider carving out some time each day to read great literature too! The earlier you start, the easier it will be.

A list of the books you are required to read over the summer are listed below. When you return to school in September, you will be given a test at the end of the first full week of school based on the **handwritten notes** in your composition notebook. **No typed notes will be accepted for the day of the test.** Also, you will choose one of the Summer Reading books to write a **One Pager** about the themes that emerge from your reading.

To make the challenge of Summer Reading easier, consider **setting a goal** of how many pages you plan to read in a day. For example, if I want to read the book within two weeks, I would divide the number of pages of the books by 14 days, and make the resulting number of pages my reading goal. Track what you read in your notebook each day and write down the page numbers you are reflecting on.

Then, complete the handwritten assignment below.

2023 List of Required Readings:

Play: *The Night Thoreau Spent in Jail* by Robert E. Lee and Jerome Lawrence

Fiction: *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee

Nonfiction: *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings* by Maya Angelou

Assignment #1: Keep a journal for each text.

A. **For the fictional novel and the play**, record the following:

- Key plot events
- Narrative point of view

- Conflicts- Character Driven or Plot Driven; Internal or External Conflict; How are conflicts introduced and how are they addressed; Does it get resolved?
- Characters involved and their relationship with each other; their personality traits; how does the character change throughout the story.
- What is the theme or the message of the text?
- Are there literary devices that are used? Consider characterization, symbolism, setting, point of view, motif, irony, imagery, etc. (There's many, many more so just show what you know).
- **Select and record ten quotations** from the text that you found compelling and explain the significance of each quotation.

B. For the non-fiction book.

- Summarize any major points the author makes including the central idea or message that the author wants you to know.
- **Select and record ten quotations from the text** that you felt were interesting and explain each one's significance to what the author wanted to convey to the readers.
- Indicate what issue the non-fiction book addresses and try to make connections to either another text or to issues you hear in the news.

Assignment #2: After you complete your handwritten journal, write a one-page composition (300-500 word essay) with a thoughtful response about what you've read on a Google Doc (12 pt. Font, Times New Roman, Double Spaced with the heading). **Please do not summarize the text in your writing composition.** In September, you will be given a Google Classroom

code with a link to where you can post this assignment. It will be due at the end of the first full week of classes.

How will this be used in the Fall?

Your written response and your ability to discuss it in class will be one of the first impressions I will have of your writing style. More details will be provided in the first week of class regarding how to submit it. Have the journals ready for the first day of class. The written response can be submitted by the end of the first week.

****Again, every student is expected to complete these assignments and they will be due at the end of the first week of school.****

Note: Here are some local places to buy your books besides ordering it online.

- **Barnes & Noble bookstore** (on 7th Ave. & 6th Street)
- **Greenlight Bookstore** 686 Fulton St, Brooklyn, NY 11217
- **Troubled Sleep**, 129 6th Avenue, Brooklyn (used bookstore/cheaper)
- **The Community Bookstore**, 143 7th Avenue. They have a nice reading area in the back of their store
- **Books are Magic**, 225 Smith Street, Brooklyn
- **The Strand Bookstore**, the corner of 12th Street and Broadway in Manhattan. This is the most iconic bookstore in New York City and it's completely worth the trip. It can be a bit overwhelming to navigate this bookstore so ask one of the booksellers to help you. Also, visit The Bean near The Strand afterwards for a drink, a snack

and a place to sit and read in air conditioning. I am not affiliated with them at all!

Now, find a great spot to read! Consider reading outdoors. My favorite places to read are the Brooklyn Bridge Park in DUMBO, the Brooklyn Heights Promenade, The Old Stone House Park and, of course, Prospect Park. Enjoy!

- **Too hot to read outside?** Try the Brooklyn Public Library; The Central Branch has a small cafe with seats on the first floor. You might also be able to borrow your required reading there too. Ask the Reference Library where the Summer Reading books are located.

If you have any questions, feel free to send me an email at ulgen.m@stsaviour.org addressed to Mrs. Ulgen. In the heading, just write:
RE: Summer Reading 9th English Honors

Enjoy your summer!