

## Sophomore World Literature Summer Reading

A warm welcome to Sophomore World Literature. In this course, we'll explore a wide range of literary works from across the world. Our first assignment, due the second day of school, is to read two novels that I hope you'll find as fascinating as I do. As you read, you'll be completing a journal recording details and responses. This journal will count as the first major grade of the year. We'll also dedicate our first two weeks of class to discussion of the novels and they will appear on the first exam.

### **Guidelines and Suggestions:**

- Give yourself ample time to complete the readings and assignments. Do not wait until the last minute to try to complete this assignment.
- Try mapping out your plan of action in a planner, calendar, or any source you can easily refer back to.
- Decide when and how you will read: On the subway as you go to meet friends? At the beach when you're relaxing? On a flight? With your morning cup of coffee? For a certain amount of time each night before bed? At the park on a beautiful day? Having a strategy will help you get through the texts.
- On the calendar count up the days when you know you will have anywhere between 20-40 minutes to read.
- Calculate how many pages (or chapters) you will need to read per day. 10 to 50 pages is doable. More than that can be overly ambitious
- Don't forget to include days when you will dedicate time to writing your assignment. You may complete the assignment as you are reading the book or after you have finished it in its entirety.

### **Summer Reading Texts:**

1. *Brave New World* by Aldous Huxley
2. *Purple Hibiscus* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie

**Writing Assignment:** This assignment can be handwritten (preferred) or you can use Canva to keep a digital notebook (don't pay for any features, just use the free templates). If you choose to handwrite your work keep one small, organized journal (no five subject notebooks necessary) where you will hand write and record your responses. Be sure to clearly label each response. You should create a section of your journal for each prompt and clearly label which sections refer to *Brave New World* and which sections refer to *Purple Hibiscus*.

- **Setting:** Look up the country WHERE and WHEN each book takes place. Write down five key facts about that country: things that will help you better understand the culture and setting of the novel. For *Brave New World*—set in a dystopic future—you'll want to specify how the places described in the novel differ from those places as they are today.

- **Character Study:** Select three characters from each book. Trace their development throughout the novel and address the following questions: Who are they when we first meet them? Describe their appearance, their actions, and their thoughts. What challenges or conflicts do they face? How do they change and what is the cause? Be sure to indicate page numbers where these important details occur.
- **Quotations:** Record ten quotations from each text and indicate the meaning or significance of each. Why does this quote stand out to you? How is it important to the story?
- **Personal Reaction/Review:** Write a three to five paragraph personal reaction to each story/essay. What have you learned from the character's experiences? Would you recommend this book to a friend? Explain why or why not. Be specific in your reasoning.

**Due Date:** Your journal is due the second day of school.

If you have any questions regarding the assignment, you can email me over the summer at [specland.j@stsviour.org](mailto:specland.j@stsviour.org) . Have a lovely summer, and I looking forward to having you in class next year.