

Sophomore World Literature Summer Reading

Hello and welcome to your sophomore World Literature course! I'm so excited to start this journey with you. So here we are, our very first assignment! I know summer reading can feel like a chore but I've picked two books I find truly captivating and tried to pair them with both analytical and creative assignments to give you a feel for the kind of work we'll be doing in class when we return in the fall. The summer reading assignment will count as two quiz grades. In addition to this, we will have class activities, assignments, discussions, and an exam on the books during the first week of school so please be prepared!

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 your 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? The possibilities are endless!
- 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. Typically, I aim to read 50 pages a day.
- If you find it difficult to focus (like I do sometimes), try listening to an audiobook version as you read along- this will make it harder for your mind to wander off! You can try sources like: <https://www.audible.com/>, [LibriVox | free public domain audiobooks](#), YouTube, or even your closest public library!
- 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. *Purple Hibiscus* by Chimamanda Ngozie Adichie
2. *The Alchemist* by Paulo Coelho

Writing Assignment: This assignment can be handwritten or you can use Canva to keep a digital notebook. Please do not pay for any features, just use the free templates if you are choosing this option. If you are choosing to handwrite your work (go you!! Hand writing your work well is a skill that needs to be practiced!) 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 *Purple Hibiscus* and which sections refer to *The Alchemist*. Feel free to decorate your small journal or keep it simple, if you consider yourself more of a minimalist! In my journals I love to press flowers between pages, use cute stickers or journaling materials, or create illustrations. Bonus points if they relate to the novel in any way! If using Canva to keep a digital notebook, feel free to add images, decals, and other decorative elements that are included.

- **Setting:** Look up the country WHERE and WHEN each book takes place. Write down 5 key facts about that country: things that will help you better understand the culture and setting of the novel. For the last novel, provide some context about mythology!

- **Character Study:** Select 3 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 collins.i@stsviour.org . Relax, rest, and read! Have a lovely summer. Looking forward to having you all in my class!