

2025-2026 English 1: Summer Assignment

Welcome 9th Grade English! I hope you enjoy your summer. Here is your list for required reading this summer. Try to give yourself enough time to read both books by starting early.

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 on which you are reflecting.

Then, complete the handwritten assignment below.

List of Required Readings:

Fiction:

- *Lord of the Flies* by William Golding

Nonfiction:

- *Tuesdays with Morrie* by Mitch Albom

Assignment #1: Keep a journal for each text. This must be handwritten in a composition notebook. You might want to divide the notebook into two sections to make it easier for you to go back and read again. You will be using the notes in your notebook to take an open book test after the first full week of school.

Here are some suggestions when taking notes: A. **For the fictional novel,** record the following:

- **Key plot events:** Do you know the setting (exposition); the rising

action; the climax (the turning point); the falling action; and the conclusion

- **Point of view:** Who's telling the story? Is it a character or a separate narrator? How do you know?
- **Conflicts** (or, challenges faced by the main character)- Are the challenges **internal** (like a decision the character must make)? Are the challenges **external** (does another person or something in nature pose a challenge for the character)? Does the conflict, or struggle, get resolved somehow? Explain.
- **Characters:** What are their personalities like? How do you know? (think about what they say, what they do, what others think about them, how they see themselves, what they look like); **How does the character change throughout the story?** What causes that change?
- What is the **theme or the message of the text?** Think about what the author wants you to realize after reading the story.
- Are there **literary devices** that are used? Some examples are vivid descriptions of the setting, different points of view, figurative language (metaphors, similes, personification, etc.); Give examples.
- **Select and record ten quotations** from the text that you found interesting and **explain** what you think the quote means. Try to be selective about which type of quotes you select. Choose ones that convey a significant point or add meaning to your understanding of the text.

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 found interesting and explain what your understanding of the quote is.

Assignment #2: The One Pager. 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). During the first week of school, you will be given a code to Google Classroom where you will upload your assignment.

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 ways I will get to know your reading style. Have the journals ready for the first day of regular classes. The written response can be submitted by the end of the first full week of school.

****Every student is expected to complete these assignments.****

If you have any questions, feel free to send me an email at hurwitz.m@stsaviour.org addressed to Ms. Hurwitz. In the heading, just write:
RE: Summer Reading 9th Grade.

Enjoy your summer!