

Advanced English 9 Required Summer Reading/Assignments (p. 1 of 2)

Rationale for Summer Reading

York County School Division summer English reading assignments allow students to broaden their scope and knowledge of novels and other long works that will not be covered during the school year. The summer work is designed to be completed by the student with minimal assistance, although teachers are available to provide assistance as indicated below. Assignments must be students' original and individual work. For students who continue to take advanced courses, summer assignments develop progressively each year. By the senior year, students are expected to be fully sophisticated in their knowledge and use of the major elements and characteristics of literature.

Required Summer Reading

York County students enrolled in Advanced English 9 for the next school year are required to read (prior to the beginning of school in September) **two** full-length works that have been identified by their schools.

1.) _____ by _____

2.) _____ by _____

Required Summer Assignments

Students will read and complete **handwritten** notes/annotations on **both** full length works identified above. Specific details about how to complete the notes/annotations will be provided by the teacher. All students will turn in these notes/annotations during the first week of school in September. This includes students on the 4 X 4 who are scheduled for English second semester. Students will turn in the notes/annotations to their English teacher if known or to the English department chair. **LATE WORK WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**

Students will write an essay in class on one of the two required summer reading works. The notes/annotations completed during the summer will be used to write the in-class essay. The teacher will announce which book is selected for the essay topic when the essay is assigned. The possible essay topics are given on page 2 of this handout.

Evaluation

There will be two grades based on the summer reading assignment.

- The handwritten notes/annotations will count as a quiz grade.
- The essay will count as a test grade.

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Possible Essay Topics

1. Identify the physiological, sociological, and psychological factors that influenced a major decision made by a main character in the novel.
2. Authors often create realistic, complex characters by showing how they change gradually over time or suddenly as a result of joyful or traumatic events. Explain how the protagonist in your novel changes throughout the story, either positively or negatively.
3. Analyze the internal and external conflicts experienced by a main character in the novel.
4. How does the title of the novel that you've read relate to the novel itself? Does it serve as foreshadowing? Does it highlight theme or character? Of what significance is the title?
5. Consider the relationship between the characters and the setting of your novel. Think about the way that the characters are described: their characteristics, the conflicts that they face, the actions they take and their emotional reactions. Compare these to the setting and the way it is described. Explain how the setting of the novel is representative, or is not representative, of the characters.
6. A good book will often address several universal subjects, such as love, war, friendship, loss, growing up, etc. Over the course of the work, a theme will emerge about that subject. Pick one theme that this book addresses and explain what readers learn about that subject from reading this selection. Your theme should have application not only to your book but to the world outside of the book.

Check with your English teacher as soon as possible for assistance or resources.