

## Summer Reading and Assignments

English 9 Honors

Mrs. Haddock

Dear Student and Parent:

As part of the Honors English curriculum required by Harrison County, summer reading assignments are to be assigned and **completed before the 2011 school session begins in August**. The following are the assignments for English 9 Honors which will develop vocabulary and reading comprehension enhancement. The assignments must be turned in **by the first day of school for all students**. The selected books may be purchased at a local bookstore or at a discounted price online at half.com or amazon.com. Please allow week or two for delivery if purchased online. Make sure to get the high school level.

Assignment 1 :

Read ***Animal Farm*** by George Orwell. It is an example of a political satire. The author has used a simple story of animals to make a statement about Communism which he disliked. A fable of brilliant satire and a frightening view of the future is a devastating attack on the pig-headed, gluttonous and greedy rulers in an imaginary totalitarian state.

\*After researching books and the Internet to learn about the Russian Revolution, make a poster board chart comparing the key characters of ***Animal Farm*** with those of Russian history. Compare the key events on Russia's history to those in the novel. Use pictures from the Internet to make **your poster eye-catching**.

Assignments will be evaluated on **following directions, having excellent workmanship, being colorful and large, and having creativity**. All information should be typed.

### **\*Satire – Editorial Cartoons**

Create a satirical cartoon depicting satire (writing that seeks to arouse a reader's disapproval of an object by ridicule) based on the novel's message, On the back a note why his/her cartoon is considered a satire.

**Assignment 2 :**

Read *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee. Write a focused, fully developed, and logical five-paragraph essay. There is seldom a chapter which does not teach Finch something new or which does not build toward a new learning experience. Thus, one rewarding approach to the novel is through an examination of these experiences.

\*Discuss what Scouts learns about (1) justice and injustice through the Tom Robin trial; (2) prejudice and its effect upon the process of the law and society; (3) courage as shown in ways other than physical acts.

Organization for five-paragraph essay:

**Introductory** paragraph is to be 4 or more sentences and last thesis is to be the last.

- \* Title which reflects the idea of the thesis
- \* Begin with interesting or unusual “hook” sentence to grab the reader’s attention.
- \* Include 2 general comments of background information (include name of novel and the author’s name) leading up to a thesis sentence. Make your introduction flow logically into a thesis. A **thesis statement** is one sentence of your purpose (3 points you are going to discuss and prove which you already have been given in the question). **This is the last sentence.**
- \* Thesis statement 3 points which are to be parallel structure: **Example: The king was honest, courageous, and respectful. All points are adjectives, which is parallel structure. However these are not your points to be discussed.**

**Three body paragraphs** = 5 or more sentences for each paragraph

- \* Use a general topic sentence which supports the thesis and introduces the point to be discussed.
- \* Use the same order for all paragraphs.
- \* Use the same order for the 3 body paragraphs as the order of the thesis.
- \* Use transitional devices to join one paragraph to another.
- \* Use transitions to show the relationship of ideas in each paragraph.
- \* Use convincing support (evidence from text) specific details (not word for word either)
- \* **Put the support in your own words.**
- \* **Use 2 short quotes (only 2-10 words).** These two quotes are to be woven into the sentence with the page number in parentheses after each direct quote with quotation marks around quote. Remember quotes are only used to support previous information. Example of citation (38) if at the end of sentence use a period (28). **(Do not use I, you, we, us pronouns).**

**Conclusion** = 4-5 sentences

- \* **“Ties up”** the topic – What knowledge or feelings does the reader leave the novel with?
- \* Discuss Harper Lee’s universal message and/or warning to the reader illustrated through the children’s experiences.
- \* Does the book end with hope, remorse, or just awareness?
- \* Repeat the thesis points but differently.

**Note:** Students will earn grades on these selections based on a display of knowledge of the books by responding to an objective test (without prior discussion), writing, and other projects.

Students taking this class should be prepared to take an objective test on the second day.



Please sign and return to Mrs. Haddox, Room 111 or office by May 28, 2011

I understand that my child, \_\_\_\_\_ is responsible for completing all English 9 Honors reading assignments by the first day of the school year, 2011 – 2012. I also understand that he/she is responsible for obtaining books.

Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_