Honors World Reading List
2022-2023

Required Summer Reading:

Dickens, Charles   *A Tale of Two Cities* **essay on this is due the FIRST day of school and the essay topic is listed below***

Sophocles   *Antigone* **test on this on the FIRST day of school* (test covers basic knowledge of the play)**

***Essay topic for *A Tale of Two Cities*:*

"By their deeds shall ye know them." We often judge people by what they do; therefore, we consider people who commit cruel or reprehensible acts corrupt, base, or amoral. In literature, however, authors often introduce us to characters whom we learn to like or even respect, despite their deeds.

Write an essay about a corrupt or amoral character in *A Tale of Two Cities* for whom you developed admiration or compassion. Briefly explain, **WITHOUT USING FIRST/SECOND PERSON (I, ME, YOU, ETC.)**, why you felt his or her behavior to be condemnable or contemptible and how the author's techniques influenced you to admire that person nonetheless. **DO NOT SUMMARIZE THE PLOT**. Follow the essay guidelines located at the end of your reading list.

Suggested Readings for the Remainder of the School Year:

Buck, Pearl   *The Good Earth*
Bradbury, Ray   *Something Wicked This Way Comes*
Hilton, James   *Lost Horizon*
Grass, Gunter   *The Tin Drum*
Gordimer, Nadine   *July's People*
Smith, Betty   *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn*
Camus, A.   *The Plague*
Malamud, Bernard   *The Fixer*
White, T.H.   *The Once and Future King*
Hesse, Herman   *Siddhartha*
Remarque, Erich Maria   *All Quiet on the Western Front*
Achebe, Chinua   *Things Fall Apart*
Markandaya, Kamala   *Nectar in a Sieve*
Kafka, Franz   *The Metamorphosis*

Kincaid, Jamaica	*Annie John*
Allende, Isabel	*Paula*
Dickens, Charles	*David Copperfield*
	Great Expectations
Wiesel, Elie	*Dawn*
Wilder, Thornton	*The Bridge of San Luis Rey*
Dostoevsky, Fyodor	*Crime and Punishment*
Silko, Leslie Marmon	*Ceremony*
Potok, Chaim	*The Chosen*
Anaya, Rudolfo	*Bless Me, Ultima*
Tan, Amy	*The Bonesetter's Daughter*

The Following Are to Be Purchased for Use During the School Year:
The titles are tentative, so I will let you know when it is time to purchase them.

Shakespeare, William	*Julius Caesar*
Shelley, Mary	*Frankenstein*
Wiesel, Elie	*Night*

The essay due on the first day of school and any succeeding novel reports/papers/essays during the year are to be typed in Times New Roman 12 pt. font and double spaced. After the summer reading essay is graded and returned, all successive writing assignments will be placed in the same folder and will be turned in at the end of the school year. If you would like to keep a personal copy, please be sure to save to a jump drive.

Remember that the two required summer reading assignments are for the first day of school. There are no acceptable excuses for late work, for you have over two months to complete the assignments. If you are not ready to take the test or do not have the essay on the first day of classes, be prepared to be placed in the survey of grammar and introduction to literature class.

Essay Requirements:
Your essay is to be at least five paragraphs (including an introduction and conclusion). Each paragraph must have at least five sentences each. It should be two-three (two FULL pages required) in length. Points will be deducted if it is less than two full pages. Since the essay is written in MLA format, this necessitates the use of double-spacing (no extra spaces between paragraphs), in text citations, and a works cited page. You also should have proper page numbers

and an original title for your essay. Make sure you follow all formal grammar writing conventions, such as no slang, no contractions, and no first or second person pronouns. Make sure you adhere to the proper rules of grammar and punctuation.

Guidelines for Writing the Essay:

The following is a sample for structuring your essay: (adapted from *Thinking and Writing About Literature* by Edgar V. Roberts)

Theme: Arsat inspires understanding and compassion in the reader.

Paragraph 1:   Introduction containing the central idea and the thesis sentence.

                   Central idea: Arsat inspires a sense of understanding and compassion
                                    in the reader.
                   Thesis Sentence: The sense of understanding and compassion inspired by
                                    Arsat results from his love for Diamelen, from his grief
                                    for the loss of his brother, and from Joseph Conrad's
                                    artful presentation of Arsat's feelings of loneliness
                                    and isolation.
                   Body: Containing three topic sentences.

Paragraph 2:   Topic Sentence: Arsat's love for Diamelen establishes him as both
                                    passionate and conflicted.

Paragraph 3:   Topic Sentence: His grief underscores the guilt that he feels because
                                    of his role in the loss of his brother.

Paragraph 4:   Topic Sentence: Joseph Conrad's artful presentation of Arsat's feelings
                                    of loneliness and isolation inspires the reader's
                                    compassion.

Paragraph 5:   Conclusion
                   Topic Sentence: Understanding and compassion for Arsat are powerful
                                    statements made by the story.

Writing Tips:

Introduction- The introduction begins with general ideas and ends with specific points. Be sure to state what works, authors, characters, and ideas are under consideration. The first part of the introduction should present ideas that are related to the subject. The second part of the introduction states the thesis, which will draw the reader into the main text of the essay. Your thesis sentence should anticipate the body of the essay.

Body- In each paragraph of the body of your essay, present one of the main points in your thesis sentence, expanding and supporting with examples from the work or research.

Conclusion- The conclusion ties together the points of the essay or thesis. The closing lines may make a connection between the idea presented in the essay and life in general.

Novel Report Format for Use During the School Year:
1. Title
2. Original Publication Date* **research required***
3. Author
4. Authorial Background (include style, techniques, classification, significance, influence)***research required***
5. Setting (description required; is it important? why?)
6. Theme (support with elements from the novel)
7. Character Sketch (a literary sketch not an actual drawn sketch; written analysis of one major character)
8. Works Cited Page

All novel reports are to be written in paragraph format. Research is required for numbers two and four and will probably be helpful in composing the sections for numbers five and seven.

Please note for all essays, research papers, novel reports, etc. , the standard rules of grammar apply. All grammar mistakes are one point off each. For each day a paper is turned in late, a deduction of eight points will be taken off the final grade. After one week goes by, I will not accept it.

Extra Tips to Follow:
● Use the word *novel* not the word *book*
● Always refer to the author's last name once you have stated the full name; do not refer to the author by his/her first name
● Make sure you remove extra spaces after paragraphs; this can be found under the spacing tab
● Make sure to have agreement between all pronouns and antecedents (agree in number and gender)
● Use a semicolon to join connected thoughts that are complete sentences
● Use a colon to list items, but do not use one after a verb or a preposition; use one to introduce a quote when you do so with a full sentence
● Use the literary present when discussing the novel
● No first or second person pronouns
● No contractions
● Don't begin a sentence with there or here
● Avoid using the words *sort of, kind of, a lot, so, very, cannot*
● Do not start a paragraph with an indefinite pronoun; also don't start a sentence with an indefinite pronoun that has no clear antecedent
● Make sure you have a minimum of five sentences in a paragraph; however, I prefer more!
● Use a variety of nouns and verbs and sentence structures; avoid repetition

- DO state, "This paper will be about…" or "In conclusion…" Do not state the obvious!
- Do not give your opinion or state whether or not you would recommend the novel (remember you can't use first person)
- Make sure you create an original title for your paper