

Mr. Griekspoor Grades 9/10/11/12 WMPCS High School Summer Reading 2023

(English I/II and III/IV)

Overview:

This summer reading assignment is designed to give you practice several of the most necessary and helpful skills in next year's English curriculum. Completing this assignment well and to the best of your ability will show me (and you) that you are ready to excel in my class. For those interested in joining my **honors course**, I ask that you take the assignment one step further and prepare an oral presentation for the class in addition to your regular summer reading assignment. In order to qualify for entry into my honors course, this additional work must be prepared and completed by no later than the first week of class.

Instructions:

- 1) Choose a book. It can be fiction or nonfiction of any genre. This book should be grade appropriate (not written for small children, for example) and at least 70,000 words in length. You'll need to use Google to verify whether or not your chosen book is long enough. I encourage you to challenge yourself.
- 2) Read your book cover to cover, taking notes as you go along. You will **need** these notes, so put some effort into them and make them as detailed and insightful as possible. Rather than just taking notes on what happens (so-and-so does this, then does that, then does this, etc.) try to focus on *why* things happen and what they *mean*. You should make a schedule and read a little bit at a time - this will help with comprehension, note-taking, and avoiding stress.
- 3) During the first and second weeks of school, I will meet with you for a 5 minute interview to discuss your book. You will then use your notes and memory to give me a short overview of your book, tell me the significance and relevance of the work, and tell me whether or not you would recommend this book to others.
- 4) **Prospective Honors Students Only:** Please prepare a 5 - 8 minute presentation on your reading. You may use PowerPoint, Prezi, or even a video-essay format. You will present this to the class during either the first or second week of school.

Grading:

Your grade for this project will depend 50% on the quality and detail of your notes and 50% on how well you know your book (as proven through your "interview" with me). Honors students' presentations will not factor directly into their grade, but the presentation must be completed satisfactorily in order for that student to be considered for the honors program in the fall. I will grade you on the following quality scale:

100 - 96: Incredibly detailed and insightful notes / very close knowledge of book. 95 - 90: Impressively detailed and great notes / close knowledge of book. 89 - 80: Good notes with sufficient detail / decent knowledge of book. 79 - 70: Some detail in notes / knows a basic overview of the book. 69 - 60: Barely any detail in notes / does not seem to understand book well. 0: Did not complete any notes or read book.

Help:

If you have any questions, please email me at Nicholas.griekspoor@wmpcs.org.