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English 9 Honors

Summer Reading Assignment

Due by September 6, 2019

2019-2020

Introduction and Objective

Welcome to 9th grade English Honors! We are excited that you have accepted the challenge of taking an honors level course, and we look forward to spending time learning, thinking critically, and having fun with you this year.

In order to develop, sustain, and promote your habit of reading outside of the classroom, we are asking that you complete a short summer reading assignment on any new fiction book of your choice. The assignment is based on identity and characterization, which will connect to our curriculum at the start of the year. Please see below for the assignment details.

Assignment Guidelines:

1. Choose a new fiction book to read over the summer. You should have this new book read by the start of school on August 26, 2019 even though the assignment isn't due until September 6. Don't procrastinate or it will make the assignment more stressful than it needs to be. We want this to be an enjoyable experience for you, so focus on finding a book that fits your interests.
2. Complete the short assignment on the back of this handout. It will be worth 10 points. **Tip:** complete the assignment along the way instead of waiting until after you read the book. It will save you time! The assignment will be due during your second week back to school.

LEARNING TARGETS

STANDARD 9.4: READING

The student will read, comprehend, and analyze a variety of literary texts including narratives, narrative nonfiction, poetry, and drama.

STANDARD 9.6: WRITING

The student will develop narrative, expository, and persuasive writings for a variety of audiences and purposes.

Questions? Contact an English 9 Honors teacher:

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Authors use various techniques to build characterization. The acronym “STEAL” helps us, as readers, think about the specific strategies authors use to create characters in a text. **Directions:** Read through the notes on STEAL in the left hand column of the chart below, and then apply the concept to the main protagonist(s) of your book. If your book has more than one protagonist, then you’ll need to complete it for all of them. This assignment is worth 10 points.

<p>Descriptions</p>	<p>Analyze how each element of STEAL fits your protagonist(s). What insight does it reveal about the character(s)?</p>	<p>Copy a small passage from the book that supports your response in the middle column. Be sure to include a citation in MLA format (see example at the bottom of this handout).</p>
<p>Speak What dialogue is spoken that reveals details about a specific character? Also pay attention to how the character speaks, and/or what other characters have to say about him/her/it.</p>		
<p>Thoughts Consider what a character thinks, believes, and values. What motivates the character?</p>		
<p>Effects on Others Pay attention to how the character treats other characters, and how other characters treat him/her/it.</p>		
<p>Actions How does the character behave? How does he/she/it react to events or other characters’ behaviors?</p>		
<p>Looks Authors usually describe a character’s physical appearance in order to provide readers with a clear visual. Pay attention to any details revealed about the character’s looks, clothes, features, etc.</p>		

MLA citation example: When you are citing a passage from a novel, you should include the author’s last name and the page number in your citation. This is an example citation from Harry Potter: “There was silence inside the hut. Only the sea and the whistling wind could be heard” (Rowling 50).

