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English 9 Honors

Summer Reading Assignment

Due by September 7, 2018

2018-2019

Introduction and Objective

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.

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 critically, we are requesting that you read and annotate a nonfiction book titled *The Other Wes Moore* by Wes Moore over the summer. You will find specific guidelines and a rubric for the assignment on the back of this handout.

To complete this assignment, you will need a copy of *The Other Wes Moore*. You may purchase your own copy of this book, borrow one from the school or a local library, or use the electronic PDF version we posted on Google Classroom. To check out a book from the school, go to the main office and sign out a book. You will be responsible for returning this book at the start of the school year. To join our Google Classroom, use your Schgoogle Accounts to login and enter the code "fhzcn6". If you have any issues or questions, please email one of the teachers below.

"We are not products of our environments. We are products of our expectations."

-Wes Moore

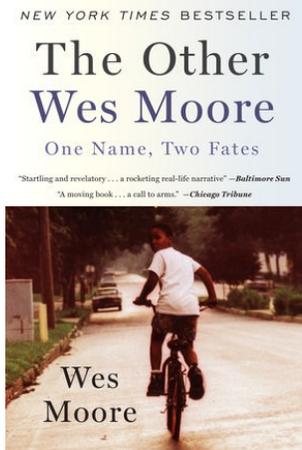
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Please note that the book for this assignment may contain mature content and/or controversial material (i.e. offensive language, violence, and/or implied explicit sexual situations). This book has been approved the Hayfield Secondary School Book Committee for a 9th grade audience. The resources listed below can be used to see book reviews and get more information about the book.

Fairfax County Library (www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/)

Book Reporter (www.bookreporter.com)

Bartleby.com: Great Books Online (www.bartleby.com)

Book Spot (www.bookspot.com)

What am I supposed to do?

As you read *The Other Wes Moore*, you will write 20 annotations and gather 10 new vocabulary terms with definitions. You will write your annotations and vocabulary words/definitions on a separate sheet of paper to submit to your English teacher by September 7th.

What are annotations?

Annotations are simply notes, connections, comments, or questions you have about what you are reading. They are a way to track your thoughts and observations as a critical reader.

Examples of things you could look for as you annotate

- Insight into a particular character
- Motifs (images that pop up repeatedly)
- Diction (word choice the author uses)
- Conflicts
- Passages related to theme
- Allusions, symbols, and/or figurative language
- Nonfiction techniques (purpose, writing style, tone, bias)

What should my annotations and vocabulary look like?

Number your annotations as you write them (1-20). Since an annotation is a response to the text, I need to see which part of the text you are responding to; therefore, each annotation you write should be accompanied by evidence from the text with an MLA citation (author's last name and page number— see example below). Your annotations should show insight and should be at least 3 sentences. While you may ask a few questions as part of your annotations, you shouldn't just write questions throughout the book with no observations/commentary. See the rubric below for more specific details.

Example Annotation

1. "It wasn't as if I didn't want to work. I did. I had even gone to the social security office the month before to get my social security number. I needed money. The Catholic high school cost a lot, and Papa said nobody went to public school unless you wanted to turn out bad" (Cisneros 53). This part of the book stood out to me first because of the sentence variety the author uses. I like the way she mixes short, choppy sentences with longer sentences to make her point. I also like that the tone she uses here is more conversational, so it makes me feel like the character is actually talking to me about why she wants a job. It makes the book much more personal. This part also made me laugh because of the way she described public education. There are definitely some bad public schools, but we are fortunate to live in a county with a good public school system.

The vocabulary section of this assignment is simple. You will most likely come across new vocabulary words throughout your reading of the text. All you need to do is record 10 of these unfamiliar words and define them. You will staple this paper to your annotation "packet" to submit.

Rubric

Score	11-15 Exceptional	6-10 Satisfactory	0-5 Minimal/Incomplete
Level of Insight (15 points)	Thorough annotations reveal an understanding of the complexities of the text. Annotations are marked throughout the text rather than in just one small chunk of the text. Comments demonstrate analysis and interpretation— thinking is beyond surface level/ comprehension. Only a few (if any) annotations are question based. Annotations are at least 3 sentences.	Some annotations reveal an understanding of the complexities of the text. Annotations aren't marked throughout the entire text, but they are present through some/most of the text. Some comments demonstrate analysis and interpretation— some thinking is beyond surface level/ comprehension. Some (if any) annotations are question based. Annotations are at least 3 sentences.	Annotations don't reveal much understanding of the complexities of the text. Annotations are based on a small chunk of the text. Few comments show critical thinking. They are mostly surface level observations. Most annotations are question based. There is little commentary on observations. Annotations are short and do not show much effort. They are 2 sentences or less.
Completeness (15 points)	At least 20 NUMBERED annotations. Each annotation has textual evidence and an MLA citation.	At least 10 NUMBERED annotations. Each annotation has textual evidence and an MLA citation.	At least 5 NUMBERED annotations. Each annotation has textual evidence and an MLA citation.

Insight ___/15 pts. Completeness ___/15 pts. Vocabulary ___/5 pts. Total: ___/35 pts.

