**Honors 11th Grade American Literature**

**Summer Reading assignment**

**Columbus High school**

**liberal arts college preparatory magnet**

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**HONORS AMERICAN LITERATURE SUMMER READING LIST**

The purpose for summer reading in Honors American Literature is to prepare you for the level of reading, writing, and thinking that is the hallmark of this course. You will complete writing assignments for Octavia E. Butler’s *Kindred* and J.D. Salinger’s *The Catcher in the Rye.* Both of your assignments must be typed and submitted electronically to Canvas. In addition to submitting your work electronically, make sure that you also save an electronic copy of all of your summer work (on a portable flash drive or other portable device). All written work (essay & journal) will be uploaded to the turnitin.com database via Canvas during the first week of school. Your reading and writing assignments are as follows:

**JUNE 2020**



* ***Kindred* by Octavia E. Butler**

*“Butler’s most celebrated, critically acclaimed work tells the story of Dana, a young black woman who is*

*suddenly and inexplicably transported from her home in 1970s California to the pre–Civil War South. As she*

*time-travels between worlds, one in which she is a free woman and one where she is part of her own complicated*

*familial history on a southern plantation, she becomes frighteningly entangled in the lives of Rufus, a conflicted*

*white slaveholder and one of Dana’s own ancestors, and the many people who are enslaved by him.”*

Complete the reading and writing assignment by the end of June. Make sure that you annotate

(write notes, questions, highlight, etc.) as you read. WRITE in your book, or if you read the novel

online, write notes on paper. This will assist with your overall comprehension of the book. You will

have a 50 point writing assignment to complete over the summer and a 100 point test on this

book within the first two weeks of school. **Your writing assignment must be electronically submitted to the Canvas database BEFORE 11:59 pm on Monday, August 10, 2020. Late work (anything after 11:59 pm on Monday, August 10, 2019) will incur a 50% penalty for each day that it is late. Thus, you will only have one day to submit a late assignment. If you have any issues with Canvas when submitting, email Mrs. Jenkins, Mrs. Landry, or Mr. Cross with your assignment attached by the due date. However, your assignment will not be graded until it is submitted to Canvas. During the first week of school, assignments will be uploaded to turnitin.com. Please be mindful of avoiding plagiarism. The majority of your writing should be your own, and the similarity on Turnitin.com should not exceed 20%. Points will be deducted for any percentage in excess of 20%.**

**I. Short Write Response: 50 points**

Select **ONE** of the prompts from below. **You must use concrete examples from the novel as evidence to prove your opinion.** Your answer **must** include at least 2-3 examples from ***Kindred* quotes or summary of particular details from the story in MLA format).** You may also use your personal experiences, and/or what you have learned previously (through reading or historical examples) as evidence. **A high scoring response will contain multiple examples to prove your opinion. Your response should be at least 500-700 words and include a word count.**

Your response should contain an inviting introduction with a clear thesis, supporting body paragraphs, and a satisfying conclusion. Keep in mind to include examples from the text, from your personal experience, and/or examples from other books you have read or examples from history. As you compose your response, please consider the following:

* Make sure you cite the page numbers (in MLA format) when you cite from the book.
* Provide specific evidence from personal observation, experience, and/or reading to support your position. **For this assignment, you must have evidence from *Kindred.***
* Provide a conclusion that does not merely summarize, but rather addresses the “so what?” issue: How should educated, informed citizens continue to think about the issue at hand? How will it continue to influence readers’ lives?
* Type your essay in Microsoft Word or Google Docs (one page, 12 point Times New Roman font, and single spaced in a Microsoft Word document). ***The prompt should be typed at the top of the page. The words in the prompt do NOT comprise part of the 500+ word response.***

**II. PROMPTS: Select only ONE**

* Writers often highlight the values of a culture or a society by using characters who are alienated from that culture or society because of gender, race, class, or creed. Choose a character from the novel who plays a significant role and show how that character’s alienation reveals the surrounding society’s assumptions or moral values. Do not merely summarize the plot.
* The most important themes in literature are sometimes developed in scenes in which a death or deaths take place. Choose a character from the novel and write a well-organized essay in which you show how his/her death helps to illuminate the meaning of the work as a whole. Avoid mere plot summary.

* In many works of literature, a physical journey – the literal movement from one place to another – plays a central role. In this novel write about why the main character’s physical journey is an important element and discuss how the journey adds to the meaning of the work as a whole. You can also tie in his spiritual journey as well. Avoid mere plot summary.
* One of the strongest human drives seems to be a desire for power. Write an essay in which you discuss how a character in a novel struggles to free himself or herself from the power of others or seeks to gain power over others. Be sure to demonstrate in your essay how the author uses this power struggle to enhance the meaning of the work.
* Some novels seem to advocate changes in social or political attitudes or in traditions. In this novel, briefly discuss the particular attitudes or traditions that the author apparently wishes to modify. Then analyze the techniques the author uses to influence the reader’s or audience’s views. Avoid plot summary.
* Many novels use contrasting places (for example, two countries, two cities or towns, two houses, or the land and the sea) to represent opposed forces or ideas that are central to the meaning of the work. From this novel, choose two such places that stand in stark contrast to each other. Write an essay explaining how the places differ, what each place represents, and how their contrast contributes to the meaning of the work.

**GRADING FOR JUNE ASSIGNMENT**

Your typed response should be at least 500 words and single spaced. Each response will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

 1. Did you fully explain the prompt?

2. Did you make clear in the introduction your position on the prompt (thesis statement)? Did you make sure to note the complexities of the argument without oversimplifying?

3. Did your body paragraphs list specific reasoning, giving textual evidence in MLA format to support your reasoning?

4. Did your conclusion do more than merely summarize, but instead offer final thoughts on a complex topic?

During the first week of school, you will submit your assignments to turnitin.com. Your teacher will provide you more instructions regarding how to log in and submit your work. Please be aware should you be found guilty of plagiarism (either copying or allowing someone to copy your work), you will receive a zero. Grade penalties will be calculated based on your overall % matching to other sources submitted to the turnitin.com database as well as other online documents. **YOUR ESSAY SHOULD NOT** **EXCEED 20%!** Commonality in excess of 20% will receive grade deductions and potentially a zero on the assignment. Please keep in mind that you will also lose points should you submit your work late. DO YOUR OWN WORK, AND SUBMIT IT ON TIME!

**JULY 2020**

* ***The Catcher in the Rye* by J.D. Salinger**



*“The Catcher in the Rye, novel by J.D. Salinger published in 1951. The novel details three days in the life of 16-year-old Holden Caulfield after he has been expelled from prep school. Confused and disillusioned, Holden searches for truth and rails against the “phoniness” of the adult world.”*

Complete the reading and writing assignment by the end of July. Make sure you annotate (write notes, questions, highlight, etc.) as you read. WRITE in your book, or if you read the novel online, write notes on paper. This will assist with your overall comprehension of the novel. You will have a 50 point writing assignment (dialectical journal) to complete over the summer and a 100 point test within the first two weeks of school. **Your writing assignment must be electronically submitted to the Canvas database BEFORE 11:59 pm on Monday, August 10, 2020. Late work (anything after 11:59 pm on Monday, August 10, 2019) will incur a 50% penalty for each day that it is late. Thus, you will only have one day to submit a late assignment. If you have any issues with Canvas when submitting, email Mrs. Jenkins Mrs. Landry, or Mr. Cross with your assignment attached before the due date. However, your assignment will not be graded until it is submitted to Canvas. During the first week of school, assignments will be uploaded to turnitin.com. Please be mindful of avoiding plagiarism. The majority of your writing should be your own, and the similarity on Turnitin.com should not exceed 20%. Points will be deducted for any percentage in excess of 20%.**

Your task is to read the novel, and complete the following critical reading and writing activities:

1. **As you read,** you will write a dialectical journal in which you pick 10 significant passages from the book. These passages should demonstrate your engagement with the novel; thus, they should be chosen from different parts of the book. You may give your personal reaction to the selected passage, discuss ideas or actions of the author or character(s), make connections, write what the passage makes you think or feel or analyze the passage and its relationship to the story as a whole. The purpose of the dialectical journal is to help you develop a better understanding of the text as you read. Each response should be at least 3-6 sentences in length (required 50 words or more).

2. Prepare your dialectical journal (via a Word document) that includes the quote from the novel written in MLA format (with page number) **as well as your written response in the third column.**

4. Prepare your entries in a three-column format as the following model illustrates. You may **NOT** use the following example as one of your ten required entries. Remember, your dialectical journal entries will be due no later than 11:59pm on August 10, 2020 to Canvas. **Please include your name & assignment title** – ***The Catcher in the Rye* – Dialectical Journal**

**Dialectical Journal format is as follows**:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Page #** | **Quote/Passage from the novel:** | **Analysis & Significance:** |
| 1 | “Everything had gone wrong inside this man, absolutely everything, any one of which could have been fatal: the clotting, the massive hemorrhages, the liver turned into pudding, the intestines full of blood. Lacking words, categories, or language to describe what had happened, they called it finally, a case of ‘fulminating liver failure’ ” (Preston 18).  | In this passage the author utilizes scientific details and imagery to describe what Monet suffered after encountering what is perhaps the origin of the virus. This passage reveals the scientific studies in the initial stages prior to isolating a virus or cause of transmission. Perhaps this is the author’s way of shocking the reader into realizing the harsh realities of such a devastating virus while also recognizing the importance of ending its transmission. (71 words) |
|  | * MLA format required!
 | * Word count required!
 |

**GRADING FOR JULY WRITING ASSIGNMENT**

**In order to receive full credit, you must meet the following criteria for each entry**:

1. Did you follow the correct MLA format for the quote or passage and the three column format as shown above?

2. Did you give appropriate explanation of your reasoning for the significance of the quote with at least 3-6 sentences and at least 50 words (with word count) per entry?

**Parents & Students: Please feel free to contact Mrs. Jenkins (****Jenkins.Eadeinna.H@muscogee.k12.ga.us** **), Mrs. Landry (****Landry.Aneesah.T@muscogee.k12.ga.us****), or Mr. Cross (****Cross.Victor.E@muscogee.k12.ga.us****) via email at with any questions or concerns you may have.**