

# Honors English Summer Reading

Read three of the books listed below for the class you will be in next year. Select one of the books and write an essay using the prompt below. For the other two books, you may elect two of the assignment options on the list on page 37.

## Honors English 10

- The Life of Pi, Yann Martel
- Brave New World, Aldous Huxley
- Year of Wonders, Geraldine Brooks
- The Alchemist, Paulo Coelho
- The Good Earth, Pearl S. Buck
- Ethan Frome, Edith Wharton

Choose one of the major characters from your selection and demonstrate how the author characterizes this individual through the use of rhetorical strategies. Be sure to use evidence to support your writing.

## Honors English 11

- The Things They Carried, Tim O'Brien
- The Great Gatsby, F. Scott Fitzgerald
- Bel Canto, Ann Patchett
- Huck Finn, Mark Twain
- East of Eden, John Steinbeck
- Heart of Darkness, Joseph Conrad

Plot development includes elements such as exposition, rising action, climax, falling action, and denouement. Use examples of dialogue, narration, or rhetorical strategies to demonstrate the plot arc.

## Honors English 12

- Into the Wild, Jon Krakauer
- Pillars of the Earth, Ken Follett
- The French Lieutenant's Woman, John Fowles
- Jane Eyre, Charlotte Bronte
- Atlas Shrugged, Ayn Rand
- The Book of Lost Things, John Connolly

Select one character that has a mix of negative and positive qualities. Describe how the author uses diction, metaphor, and symbolism to demonstrate the mix of qualities. Use evidence to support your conclusions.

## Book Assignment Options

Your summer reading assignment is to read three books from the list of the class you will be entering in the fall. Select one book and write an essay in response to the prompt below the reading list. For the remaining two books, select two assignment options, one per book. Written assignments must be typed. There are no definite page or word length requirements; however, most responses will require two to three pages to demonstrate adequate analysis and understanding of the prompt. The summer reading assignments will be due during the first week of class.

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Imagine that you are a character in the book and write a diary entry about your experiences, thoughts, and feelings. Incorporate plot points and excerpts from the dialogue or text to provide context and a point of reference.

Imagine that you are the author of the book and describe what happened to one of the characters years before or years after the time of the book. Incorporate plot points and excerpts from the dialogue or text to provide context and a point of reference.

Write a short composition on one of the themes for the book. For example, if one of the themes is love, you might write a composition about how love promotes the plot, character development, and conflict. Use specific examples from the book.

Write a poem, song, or story about a theme, symbol, metaphor, or motif of the book. Provide a brief analytical explanation of how your poem, song, or story illustrates your selected rhetorical element.

Create a book jacket based on the book. Your jacket should include a front cover graphic, front flap with enough information to entice someone to purchase the book, the back cover with review, and back flap with author biography.

Create a video interview (think "Actor's Studio" with James Lipton) with one of the characters from the story. The interviewer should ask questions about the story, the character's reaction or emotional response to other characters or plot points, etc. The character should respond in the character's persona and voice.

Create CD liner notes for the book. What 10 to 14 songs best illustrate the characters, plot, themes, conflicts, or emotional symbolism of the book? List the songs and artists who recorded the songs, include excerpts of the lyrics to illustrate your assertion, and design the CD cover.

Select a key scene from the book. Create a dramatization of the key scene set in a different time period or genre. You may create a video or be prepared to perform in front of the class. Costumes are essential but scenery is optional.

Design a final examination for your book. The exam must contain 5-10 T/F, 10 multiple choice, 5 short answer, and 1 essay. Supply a completed answer sheet.