

HONORS ENGLISH SUMMER READING PACKET

10th Grade

Statement of Purpose

“Why do we have this required summer reading?”

This question is often asked. The answers are multiple but begin with the nature of our school – a college preparatory high school. One of our academic goals is to prepare students to succeed beyond the walls of Ridgecroft.

Colleges and universities expect students to arrive having already read a significant amount and variety of literary works. That goal cannot be achieved exclusively during the school year.

Additionally, we believe that a summer reading program will:

1. Maintain and improve reading proficiency. Educational studies have shown that student reading skills deteriorate when they do not read over the summer months.
2. Increase fluency and vocabulary skills as students are introduced to new themes and vocabulary in their selected books.
3. Develop a wider range of reading interests as students are exposed to subjects and authors outside of their usual choices

Some Strategies for Planning Your Summer Reading

The first and most important tip is:

DON'T LEAVE IT ALL UNTIL THE WEEK BEFORE SCHOOL!

This may be obvious, but it needs to be said.

1. Buy your book early.
2. Once you have your book, the following system seems to work well for some people:
 - a. Add up all the pages that need to be read.
 - b. Add up all the days of summer vacation.
 - c. Subtract days you will need for writing assignments and days that it will not be possible for you to read.
 - d. The total number of days you have left are “reading days.”
 - e. Divide the total reading days by the total number of pages. That is how much you need to read each day to stay on track. Find a system that works for you.

Required summer work for all students entering Honors English II

Note: No outside sources, such as Spark Notes or Internet sites, (such as shmoop), may be used. This also includes classmates and former students. Honors English is designed to prepare you for the rigorous analysis and writing that are required on the AP exam. Get used to coming up with and supporting your own ideas.

1. **Glory Over Everything by Kathleen Grissom**

The wait is OVER!!!!!! Jamie Pyke, son of both a slave and master of Tall Oakes, has a deadly secret that compels him to take a treacherous journey through the Underground Railroad. While you are reading this novel you will be expected to complete several journal assignments. This is due August 17. This assignment is designed to encourage good reading habits . Because this is a journal assignment, less emphasis is place on whether your responses are “right” or “wrong,” and more emphasis is placed on how much you authentically engage with the text.

The procedure is as follows:

Complete an entry after every 25 pages, give or take a page or two. (Stop at a logical place.) Each entry should be thoughtful and should be at least one page in length. Take your time. Start early.

TURNING IN WORK

ALL ASSIGNMENTS and your pledge statements ARE DUE ON THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL (AUGUST 15).

STUDENTS WHO DO NOT HAVE THEIR SUMMER WORK COMPLETED AND TURNED IN BY AUGUST 15 WILL BE RESCHEDULED INTO A REGULAR LITERATURE CLASS.

Summer Reading Pledge Statement

I have read the following assignments in their entirety and have not consulted any outside sources. All the opinions in the written material are solely my own.

Glory Over Everything by Kathleen Grissom

Signature

Date

