

Summer Reading Project - 9th Honors
Bordentown Regional High School
318 Ward Avenue, Bordentown, NJ 08505

Summer, 2018

Dear English 9 Honors Student,

The days might seem longer, but time is flying and summer reading is quickly approaching. I am pleased to introduce myself as your 9th grade Honors English teacher. It is my job to bring you on a literary journey this next school year. However, I need you to properly prepare yourselves by completing the project that is attached.

You are required to read **one award winning novel** that you have not previously read (do **not** read *To Kill a Mockingbird*). You must read this novel completely and thoroughly. You will then prepare a speech to share your novel with the class. This is important because you will begin your class participation and discussion through this first task. In an honors level class, much of the focus lies on student participation. This however could be a problem if you just browse through your novel.

I understand that many of you will attempt to explore various short cuts (i.e., Uncle Cliff and movies). These sources may help you understand the basic plot of the novels but will fail to provide you with the reading experience that I assume you will undergo. Any student who uses someone else's work without providing proper documentation will receive a zero for the assignment and will be removed from the honors class.

All work is due on the first day of school regardless of which semester you have English. Late work will **NOT** be accepted. Most likely your class will be scheduled for the second semester, therefore, you may find me in room 260 or you may place your work in my mailbox in the front office on the first day of school. Again, I remind you, late work will not be accepted – the work is due on the first day of school for all students. If I do not receive your summer reading assignments (both the written speech and outline) on the first day of school, you will be removed from honors.

If you have any questions, please contact me at mfecher@bordentown.k12.nj.us through the school's e-mail until June 30th. I will check my email again at the end of August.

Good luck and happy reading!

Your teacher,

Mrs. Fecher

Bordentown Regional High School
Summer Reading Project - 9th Honors
Speech for Award-Winning Choice Novel

After you complete your award-winning choice novel you need to prepare a speech that you will deliver to the class the first week of the semester. **You must turn in an outline of your speech on the first day of school. You will speak from this outline.** (Please see attached sample of an outline.) **You must also turn in the written out speech that you will deliver to the class. Failure to turn in both the outline and written out speech will cause removal from the honors classes.** All written work must be typed, Times New Roman, 12 pt., and double-spaced. When you deliver your speech you may use your outline; however, you will not read the written out work. Remember, if I do not receive all of your completed summer reading work (a typed outline and a typed written out speech) on the first day of school, you will be removed from the honors class. **Reminder: Do not read *To Kill a Mockingbird*, we will read this during the school year.**

Speech:

I know speaking in front of your peers can be a frightening thought; however, it is a necessary skill that you need in your educational career. Seeing that most of you will be choosing different award-winning novels, we will be interested in hearing about the novel that you have chosen. This speech is a perfect forum for you to express factual information about the plot and characters as well as your opinion of the book.

It is necessary that you meet the following requirements for your evaluation: (FYI: The rubric is built from the following information. Additionally, your outline is part of the rubric.)

Content:

- ◆ State the title and author of the book
- ◆ State and explain the award that the book won (i.e. The Pen Faulkner Award is for excellence in writing.)
- ◆ Describe the setting of the novel with detail
- ◆ **Briefly** describe the characters and plot without revealing the ending
- ◆ Read a passage that you have chosen that is significant to the book and explain its importance to the book, elaborate with details (do not choose a quote that is on the back of the book)
- ◆ Explain why you liked or disliked the book you read, elaborate with details

Delivery:

- ◆ Maintain a clear focus on your book
- ◆ Include an “attention getting” opening (Do not begin with, “I read...”)
- ◆ Include a memorable closing (Do not end with, “...and that’s it.”)
- ◆ Clearly attend to audience through good eye contact and gestures
- ◆ Speak audibly with expression; use pacing and intonation effectively
- ◆ Overall confidence and enthusiasm
- ◆ 3-4 minutes in length

Be sure to meet all aspects listed to earn the grade you desire. Additionally, when the proper outline and requirements are not met your grade will reflect up to a 20% deduction.

Summer Reading - Choice Novels
English 9 Honors
Mrs. Fecher

Find an award-winning choice novel to read for your English 9 Honors Class.

How do I find an award-winning novel?

One suggestion is to go to a bookstore or library and browse the shelves. You may want to ask a teacher, parent, or friend for a recommendation about one of their favorite award winners.

Another suggestion is to search on line at Barnes and Noble www.bn.com

***You may also find this website helpful:

www.ala.org/yalsa/booklists

(This is the American Library Association's site)

How do I choose a novel?

Read the summaries of the award-winning novels and choose one that seems to capture your interest. I look forward to seeing your various choices. You do not need to read classic literature. I have created this choice option so that you can read books where you truly have an interest.

May I read a children's book award winner?

Yes. However, you may **not** read a children's picture book. Some teen literature will be found in this category; you may read one of those novels.

Does the book have to be an award winner from this year?

No. The book may be an award-winner from any year.

Once I choose a novel to read, how do I find the book I want?

Once you find an award-winning novel that you are interested in reading, write down the title, author and ISBN number. (This number is listed with the book description/summary.) Go to your public library and check the novel out OR purchase the novel. Remember the more information you write down about your novel, the easier it will be to locate. Ask librarians or booksellers for assistance.

I read my book, now what do I have to complete?

You must prepare a speech to correlate with your book. Refer to your letter for all guidelines for the speech.

Your First and Last Name

Mrs. Fecher

English 9 Honors

Date

Use a Creative Title

- I. Include an “attention getting” opening (Do not begin with, “I read...”)
 - A. State the title and author of the book
 - B. State and explain the award that the book won (i.e. The Pen Faulkner Award is for excellence in writing.)

- II. Describe the setting of the novel
 - A. Time
 1. Year
 2. Season
 - B. Place
 1. city, state, country
 2. high school, museum, woods

- III. Briefly describe the characters and plot without revealing the ending
 - A. Character One (you may use more than one character who would become point B)
 1. interesting information about character one
 2. more interesting information about character one
 - B. Plot Points
 1. aspect of plot
 - a. more information about that plot point
 - b. more information
 2. another aspect of the plot
 - C. Read a passage that you have chosen that is significant to the book and explain its importance to the book, elaborate with details (do not choose a quote that is on the back of the book). You may write the quote out or mark the page in the book. You cite the quote by stating the author’s last name and the page number in parenthesis. (Fecher 21)

- IV. Explain why you liked or disliked the book you read
 - A. Details about what you liked or disliked

- V. Memorable closing

PLEASE RECOGNIZE THAT THIS IS A SAMPLE!

You can change the order of topics. You may have more detail in some areas. This is a guide to remind you how to write an outline. Do NOT write a list, or bulleted points, that is not an outline. Remember to use fragments and phrases not sentences or paragraphs. Your quote may be written out (cite it too).

English 9 Honors Summer Reading Speech Rubric

Content x2 (possible 30)	3	2	1
Title, Author & Award	Clearly stated title, author, & award of the novel	Either the title or the author or award was included but not both.	Did not state the title or the author or award of the novel.
Setting	Clearly described the setting of the novel so that the audience has strong imagery	Described the setting of the novel so that the audience has some imagery	Described the setting of the novel; however, imagery was lacking.
Problem/Person	Clearly described the problem/person of the novel so well that the audience has a strong sense of the novel.	Described the problem/person of the novel so well that the audience has a sense of the novel.	Described the problem/person of the novel; however, detail was lacking.
Passage & Importance	Clearly read a passage & explained the importance so well that the audience too feels a connection to the novel.	Read a passage & explained the importance well enough that the audience understands the connection to the novel.	Read a passage & explained the importance; however, it was not explained well. There is no connection felt to the novel.
Like/Dislike Novel	Clearly expressed personal opinion about the novel. Reasons were valid and expressed “professionally”.	Expressed personal opinion about the novel. Reasons were valid and expressed fairly well.	Expressed personal opinion about the novel; however, reasons were not valid and not expressed fairly.
Delivery (possible 20)	2	1	0
Clear Focus	Maintained clear focus throughout speech.	Maintained clear focus with only 1-2 distractions.	Did not maintain focus or focus was not clear.
Opening	Grabbed the audiences attention immediately with a creative opening	Grabbed the attention of the audience; however, opening lacked creativity	Audience was not engaged
Closing	Closing was memorable and well done	Closing was well done	Closing was ineffective
Quote Incorporation	Quote was smoothly incorporated.	Quote was incorporated with only a slight distraction.	Quote was not smoothly incorporated. Distractions occurred.
Eye Contact	Establishes and maintains strong eye contact.	Loses eye contact for sustained periods of time.	Very little to no eye contact.
Handles (uh, so, and, like, etc.)	Avoids using handles.	Handles are used, but are not distracting.	Handles become a distraction.
Voice (audible, expression, intonation)	Volume and inflection contribute to speech.	Somewhat monotone or uses inappropriate volume.	Monotone and inaudible speech.
Overall confidence & enthusiasm	Physical presence is appropriate.	Some unnecessary movement or slouching.	Physical presence becomes distracting.
Pacing	Constant and appropriate.	At times, rate is too slow or too fast.	Inappropriate rate diminishes speaker’s effectiveness.
Time	3-4 minutes in length	Within ten seconds (either over or under) of 3-4 minute requirement	Within 20 seconds (either over or under) of 3-4 minute requirement

	5-4	3-2	1-0
Written Speech	Written out speech fully developed and included. Quote is properly cited.	Written out speech included. Citation for quote is attempted.	Written out speech lacks development or is missing. Quote is missing or not cited.
Typed Work	Times New Roman 12 point Double Spaced (speech DS outline DS or SS)		Work is not typed or does not follow directions

***Note: There will be up to a 20% deduction for incomplete work as well as work that does not follow the proper outline format. This format was provided to you for you to follow a template over the summer. Failure to follow guidelines set forth will be reflected in your grade.