

## English 11 Honors: Summer Reading Assignment

To introduce you to British literature, your assignment is to read two novels: ***About A Boy*** by Nick Hornby and ***King Solomon's Mines*** by H. Rider Haggard.

*King Solomon's Mines* is available for free online because its copyright has expired (<http://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/2166>), but this is not the case for *About A Boy*.\*

For both novels, take notes in the form illustrated below to keep your critical thinking skills sharp. You must have at least 20 entries for each novel, and at least 10 should be why or how questions.

page	your question	your response
1	Why can't Marcus understand that people "often thought [he] was being funny when he wasn't"?	Maybe Marcus is on the autism spectrum and thinks more literally, as humor is hard for him to understand. The label doesn't matter though - he's clearly smart and empathetic.

\*Note that there are 36 chapters in *About A Boy*. There is a simplified ESL version online that has 11 chapters - do not substitute the original with this. Also note that the film adaptation has a very different ending from the original novel.