

# Honors English I Summer Reading 2018

## Required Texts:

- *Of Mice and Men* by John Steinbeck
- *Things Fall Apart* by Chinua Achebe

*\*\* I suggest you purchase your own copies of these works so that you may make marginal notes and highlight important passages\*\**

## You will be required to turn in **FOUR** different tasks on the first day of school:

1. For each literary work, you must take notes in a double entry notebook (see attached). These notes can be specific quotes, vocabulary, setting, chapters, themes, symbols, etc. Write down your own personal reactions or connections with the plot or characters. You can also add any questions you have. Make sure to include page numbers for reference. Journals will be collected on the first day of school.
2. Along with the journal, you are required to write **TWO ESSAYS**, one essay per text. The prompts are below. All essays need an introduction with an attention-getter and a linking statement connecting the author and title to the thesis statement.

### **Essay Prompts:**

- *Things Fall Apart* Essay Prompt

Everyone must make decisions. They can be good or bad, and they may affect our own lives and those of people we know. Identify a character that makes decisions that impacts his or her life and others'. Explain why the decision is a good or bad decision, and the consequences of that decision. Use direct quotes and specific examples from the text to support your views.

- *Of Mice and Men* Essay Prompt

“Hopes and dreams help people to survive, even if they can never become real.”  
How is this quote true for the characters in the novel? Use direct quotes and specific examples from the text to support your views.

## Essay Requirements:

Main body paragraphs must include specific quotes and examples taken from the novel. Make sure the quotes you select are the most significant in the novel. Always explain and interpret the significance of the quotes you use. Your main body paragraphs should be approximately 75% commentary or analysis. Remember, you are NOT summarizing the novel; you are analyzing the topic and supporting your points.

All essays must show a significant amount of time, effort, and thought invested. Ideas and language used must reflect a high degree of sophistication and a mastery of expression. Obviously, all essays must be correct—spelling, punctuation, and grammar do count. Essays must be typed in Times New Roman 12-point font, double-spaced, on white paper with black ink. All citations, in-text and works cited, should be done in MLA format.

I do not accept computer disks or storage devices in lieu of hard copies. All essays must be printed out on time. Don't wait until the last minute to write and print your essays. These are due on the first day of school; failure to do so will result in a grade of zero.

## Double-Entry Journal

One of the best ways to engage with a literary text (story, novel, poem, play) is to have a conversation with it or its author. The DOUBLE-ENTRY JOURNAL allows you to do just that, and it can be used for many purposes, from getting more deeply into the text or passages from it for class discussion or short assignments all the way to generating ideas for analytical papers.

You can format your journal by drawing a line down the center of a page (though it's better to use facing pages, which will give you more room to write) or, on computer, as below, creating a table with one row and two columns.

Below are several, but by no means all, ways to use a DOUBLE-ENTRY JOURNAL.

Left Hand Side	Right Hand Side
Quote from the text	Visual commentary (drawings, visual analogies, doodles)
Quote from the text	Reactions (“This bugs, annoys, moves . . . me because . . .”), reflections (“I wonder if. . .”), musings (“Hmmm...”), questions (“I wonder why...”) with possible answers (“Maybe because . . .”)

Quote from the text	Connections <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Text to other text(s)—print, visual, aural</li> <li>▪ Text to self</li> <li>▪ Text to world</li> </ul>
Quote from the text	Significance in relation to piece as a whole; relating part to whole.
Quote from the text	Social Questions (Race, class, gender issues)
Quote from the text	Naming Literary Techniques
Quote from the text	Imitations or parodies of text’s content or style.
Quote from the text	In generating ideas for a paper, relating passages to your thesis.

### **Academic Honesty**

You are expected to do your own thinking and writing on these tasks. Do not include anything from outside sources. Do not access any on-line essays or study guide resources (i.e. Sparks Notes, Cliff’s Notes, etc.) Do not share your essay with a classmate or “help” someone else. To quote Hawthorne, “Be true! Be true! Be true!” If an essay, or parts of an essay, are taken from the internet or copied from another source it will result in a grade of zero and you may be removed from the Honors Program. Please refer to the Carteret Board of Education Plagiarism Policy for any further questions.