

## English 10 Honors Summer Assignments

Welcome to English 10 Honors! I am looking forward to meeting you and having a great year! The following assignments will be due the first day of class in August.

### ***To Kill a Mockingbird* Reader's Response Journal and Synthesis Essay**

Obtain a copy of the novel *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee. You can buy your own copy or check out a copy from a local or city library. You may want to purchase your own copy, so you can annotate in the margins and/or use sticky notes (two great reading strategies).

#### **Response Journal**

As you read the novel, keep a reader's response journal. Title your journal entries and include a 50-75 word (no longer) response after every two chapters, which will total **15** responses (30 chapters). Type your journal entries using Times New Roman, 12 point font, double-spaced lines, and paragraph form.

**Avoid summarizing** the chapters; rather, respond to what you have read. A response journal requires you to make connections to your reading. Question, analyze, relate, connect, and think as you read. For example, can you make a personal connection to something you read? Is there a character that you admire or despise? Is there something that confuses you? Is there a recurring theme that you notice in the chapters? How do you feel about certain events in the book? Does the author use strong imagery or other literary devices that make an event more memorable? Again, **this is not a summary**; it is your personal response to the reading. Think of it this way - read, react, respond!

#### **Synthesis Essay**

Find a reliable nonfiction article (two to three pages) that addresses the Jim Crow Laws of the South or the Civil Rights Movement of the 1960s. First, read and annotate your nonfiction article and second, in a five paragraph essay written in MLA format, show the connection between your article and the novel *To Kill a Mockingbird*. Provide textual evidence and page numbers to support your points. Type your essay using Times New Roman, 12 point font, double-spaced lines, and paragraph form. Staple your article to the back of your essay.

**Remember, your response journal and synthesis essay are due the first day of class in August. Late work will not be accepted.** There will be a **TEST** on the novel as well as a class discussion the first class day. Summer swiftly slips away, so do not procrastinate.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Davis ([peggy.davis@jordandistrict.org](mailto:peggy.davis@jordandistrict.org))

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