

Summer Reading for English 9 Honors 2011-2012 School Year

Dear parents of English 9 Honors freshmen and students:

Congratulations! Your acceptance into the Honors English program at Plainfield North High School means you are ready to challenge yourself beyond the rigorous curriculum in the English 9 course. As part of our goal to expand reading opportunities for students, the English Department is requiring that all incoming English 9 Honors students read a novel over the summer. The purpose of this summer reading is to help promote the critical thinking and reading analysis skills needed for success in the honors program.

The following selections have been chosen for the English 9 Honors students. Please choose one of the following:

A Separate Peace by J. Knowles
Fahrenheit 451 by R. Bradbury
The Hunger Games by S. Collins

All English 9 Honors students will be expected to have read this novel by the start of first semester as well as completed the attached assignment. The completion of this assignment will enable students to participate in the discussions and assessments that will occur within the first weeks of school. **Honors students need to bring a copy of their novel and the completed assignment on the first day of class.**

Common Inquiries Concerning Summer Reading:

- When should you read your novel and complete the assignment? We suggest you complete the novel / assignment in August.
- Why? Beginning the novel in August provides ample time for completion as well as questions, and the novel will still be fresh in your mind when you return to school.
- Who can I contact if I have questions?
Email: Diane Higgins (dhiggin2@psd202.org)
You also can consult a friend, a parent, or even the World Wide Web. Talking about and discussing your novel with someone else will greatly accelerate your understanding and comprehension of the novel.
- Where can I get a copy of the novel? Any of the local bookstores will carry a variety of editions of each novel. It does not matter which edition you read or who the publisher is as long as it is not an abridged edition. You also can order any of the novels (new or used copies) from Amazon.com or most bookstores found online. Also, many novels in full text can be found online. We will do our best to post these for you on the school website.

Please support this endeavor and encourage your freshman to complete this reading requirement. If you have any general questions, please call Plainfield North Student Services at 815 - 609 - 8506 or Lara Hannemann at 815 - 230 - 4500 extension 835955.

Course Change:

From February 18th through July 31st of 2011, **no** course changes will be made as the 2011-12 master schedule will be in the development stage.

From August 1st through the last day before school starts, students may make changes to their 2011-12 course requests **IF** there is available space in the course they are requesting. **A parent signature is REQUIRED for ANY change to a student's course requests to ensure parent knowledge. Please contact Student Services for course change request form.**

Summer Written Response

Due Date: *First* Day of School for full credit

Basic Requirements: Complete each of the following parts listed below for your chosen novel:

1. All responses should be typed in Times New Roman, size 12 font.
2. Be sure to save an electronic copy of your work.
3. Please make sure that your entire assignment is double spaced and has the appropriate heading. (Your Name, Course, and Date in the left hand corner).
4. Make sure the assignment is original and in your own words.
5. Assignment will be submitted to turnitin.com during the first week of school. Directions will be given in class.

Part I: Short Answer Section

1. List the title, author, and main characters (protagonist and/or antagonist) of the novel.
2. Based on the title of the novel, what predictions can be made about the story?
3. Provide a short (3-5 sentences) description of the central character.

Part II: Paragraph Responses

Support your answers to both of the following questions using specific details from the novel. Each response should be a separate paragraph (minimum 8-10 sentences).

Paragraph 1: What were your feelings after reading the opening chapter(s) of this novel? Why?

Paragraph 2: Do you like the way the novel ended? Why or why not? What do you think might happen next or what else would you like to learn?

Part III: Analysis Paragraph

Choose ONE of the following ideas (all responses should be in paragraph form and be at least eight (8) sentences in length):

1. **DEVELOPING INTERPRETATION:** Describe the situation of the main character at the end of the novel. Explain the changes that have taken place in him / her and include attitudes and feelings of this character. How has the main character changed because of the action of the novel?
2. **CRITICAL ANALYSIS:** Describe the narrator of the novel by examining his/her role in the narrative, and evaluate the narrator's importance.
3. **GLOBAL UNDERSTANDING:** Select one character from the story. Describe the character's quest or journey. Consider what goals and dreams drive the character's actions, what obstacles the character faces in seeking this goal, and the outcomes of the quest or journey.

Part IV: Quotation Analysis

Select three quotations/passages from the novel (one from the beginning of the novel, one from the middle, and one from the end). Create a response (minimum of 6 sentences) for each of the three quotations. Follow these directions for each quotation:

1. Find a part of the novel (a quotation/passage –this does not have to be dialogue) that you find interesting or significant
2. Copy the entire quotation/passage and cite the page number in parentheses. Example: (234).
3. **EXPLAIN**, in detail, what is happening at this point in the novel, why you found this particular passage interesting, the deeper meaning it holds, and what kind of connections to real life or to other pieces of literature you can make.