

WW South English Department Freshman Summer Reading Assignment

We hope you enjoyed the work you selected to read over the summer as your required summer reading title. As promised, you will find instructions on the four assignment choices listed in the summer reading letter. **Remember that *each choice must include the following 6 topics*:**

- **Plot summary**--provide a brief summary of the plot of the book that catches the reader's attention—not simply what's on the back of the book.
- **Character description**—describe the main characters including a brief physical description and a description of personality traits.
- **Themes or messages**—in one or more paragraphs, explain the author's main point or points. What is the author's primary message? Why did he or she write the book?
- **Personal connection to the work**—explain how the author captured and kept your interest and how you could relate to the major ideas, plot, or characters of the book.
- **Recommendations to others**—Why would you recommend this book? Who would like this book?
- **3 important quotes**—include 3 meaningful quotes (text or dialogue) that support the themes or messages or character analysis. Do not include quotes that are simply important plot events. They need to serve a purpose. Be sure to cite the quotes and explain why you chose them in a sentence or two.

This assignment is due the Tuesday after Labor Day.

Choice 1—A Tri-fold Brochure

- The cover of your brochure should be colorful and eye-catching and include the title and author of the book and your name, teacher, and class period.
- The inside of the brochure should include plot summary, character description, and an explanation of themes or messages.
- The inside flap should include three important quotes.
- The back should include your recommendation to others and a personal connection to the work.

Make sure you have a clean, professional layout. Graphics may be included, but make sure the focus is on content.

Choice 2—A Book Jacket

- The cover of your book jacket should include the title and author of your book and a picture either drawn, scanned, or downloaded.
- The inside of the back of the jacket should include an explanation of themes or messages, three important quotes, character description, and plot summary.
- The back of the book jacket should include your recommendations to others and your personal connection to the work.

The cover of the jacket should catch our attention while the inside and back should provide the required information.

Choice 3—A Poster

On a standard sized poster board please include the 6 required topics: plot summary, character description, an explanation of themes or messages, a personal connection to the work, your recommendation to others, and three important quotes. These topics can be hand-printed on the poster if your handwriting is very good, or they may be typed and attached to the poster. Include pictures, graphics, color, and anything else that will make your poster informative and eye-catching. Neatness, creativity, and completeness are the key.

(more choices) 

Choice 4—The Book Review

A good book review is both informative and evaluative. Readers want to know both what the book is about in plot, character, and theme and how good it is (personal connection, recommendation to others). Make sure to include your three quotes somewhere in this review of the book. You should address the book's strengths as well as weaknesses. *Make sure to support your feelings with thoughtful explanations and specific references to the book itself.* Your writing should present a lively, personal analysis of the book while including the 6 required topics. This book review should be approximately 2-3 typewritten pages.

We hope you enjoyed your summer reading. You will have an opportunity to evaluate the summer reading program, choices, and projects at a later date. We urge you to spend some time on this project as it will count as half of a major grade in your English class. Start your high school experience right—do a **GREAT JOB!!**

