

Portland High School Freshman Honors English Summer Reading Assignment

Incoming freshman enrolled in Honors English 9 are required to purchase and read *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee (Grand Central Publishing edition) and *Animal Farm* by George Orwell (Signet Classic edition). Students will complete separate written assignments for each novel. All work, written in your own words, must be word processed in Times New Roman font, size 12, and double spaced. **Work that is copied word for word or cut and pasted is considered plagiarism, a serious offense at Portland High School, which will result in a zero for the assignment and a meeting with your parents, teacher, and administrator.**

To Kill a Mockingbird Assignments

1. Background Building: Before reading *To Kill a Mockingbird*, read background information about Harper Lee and the novel. Click on the links below to access the Glencoe Literature Library Study Guide for *To Kill a Mockingbird*. Read “Meet Harper Lee” and “Introducing the Novel” on pages 7-9. Also, read to learn important information about the mockingbird.

http://www.glencoe.com/sec/literature/litlibrary/pdf/to_kill_mockingbird.pdf

2. Quotations Log and Book Marking: Students will choose important quotations and explain how each quote relates to the theme concepts of the novel. Students should consider but are not limited to the following: racism, prejudice, ageism, sexism/roles of men and women in society, learning and education, religion/Christianity, community, and growing up/coming of age. While reading the novel, book mark the ten quotations to use in the log.

Compile the chosen quotations in a log which must contain the following:

- a minimum of ten (10) quotations
- the page number on which the quotation is found
- an explanation of each quotation's importance. *Discuss how the quote reveals positive or negative aspects of society, how it relates to the novel as a whole, and/or connects to the themes and central ideas of the novel.*
- Explanations, written in paragraph form, should be at least 6-8 sentences.
- Use the proper format for quotations. See the example below.

“What Mister Radley did might seem peculiar to us, but it did not seem peculiar to him” (49).
(Put the page number in parentheses after the quotation mark. The period to end the sentence is placed outside the parentheses.)

3. Literary Elements Log: Choose **three** of the literary elements below and track how each is used throughout the novel. Book mark the examples you will use in your log.

setting characterization foreshadowing symbol conflict

For each chosen literary term, provide the following:

- the term and its complete literary definition (cite source)
- a minimum of three examples that support the element's use. Include a page number for each example.
- a detailed explanation of how the element is used and how it aids in the reader's understanding of the novel
- Explanations, written in paragraph form, should be at least 6-8 sentences.

4. Vocabulary: Students will be expected to know the definitions for the words below:

- | | | | | |
|---------------|----------------|-----------------|-------------|---------------|
| 1. apoplectic | 4. fraught | 7. acquiescence | 10. haughty | 13. invective |
| 2. assuage | 5. myopic | 8. obstreperous | 11. elude | |
| 3. auspicious | 6. acrimonious | 9. volition | 12. benign | |

Animal Farm Assignments

- 1. Terms:** Students should look up and provide three pieces of information for the following terms and people. This information must be *written in your own words*.

- | | | |
|--------------------|-----------------|-----------|
| 1. communism | 4. Karl Marx | 7. fable |
| 2. Joseph Stalin | 5. propaganda | 8. satire |
| 3. Totalitarianism | 6. Leon Trotsky | |

Book Marking: While reading the novel, underline or highlight important passages that show Napoleon's rise to power. Students should have several passages from which to choose to use to address the essay prompt.

Prompt: Analyze three ways Napoleon rises to power and ultimately becomes the dictator of Animal Farm.

5 Paragraph Essay: Using the prompt above, the format below, and high quality work, write a five paragraph essay.

- **Introductory Paragraph:** Include the author, title, brief summary of the book, and a thesis statement that identifies the purpose of the essay.
- **3 Body Paragraphs:** For each paragraph, include a topic sentence, a specific quote with page number (one of the highlighted quotes), and explanation/analysis of the quote.
- **Conclusion:** Restate the thesis, briefly summarize the three body paragraphs, and discuss what can be learned about the abuse of power.

Important!

- **All written assignments will be collected on the first day of school, September 7, 2010, also known as "Freshman Day."**
- **A book test will be given on each novel on the first full day of school.**
September 8, 2010 Blue Day Blocks 1,2,3,4
September 9, 2010 White Day Blocks 1,2,3,4