

Instructions for Honors English I Students

The summer reading assignment for Honors English I students is designed to reinforce the appreciation of reading and allow students time during the summer to practice and maintain their reading skills.

Step 1: Choosing the Texts Students should work with their parents to choose a pair from options below.

- Students should be reading the chosen works for the FIRST time.
- Students MUST keep the pair together.

CHOOSE ONE LETTER OPTION ONLY

Option	Informational/Nonfiction		Fiction
A.	* <i>Just Mercy</i> by Bryan Stevenson	AND	<i>The Help</i> by Kathryn Stockett
B.	* <i>I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings</i> by Maya Angelou	AND	* <i>The Color Purple</i> by Alice Walker
C.	<i>Women of the Raj</i> by Margaret Macmillan	AND	<i>Climbing the Stairs</i> by Padma Vankatraman
D.	<i>Son of Hamas</i> by Mosab Hassan Yousef	AND	<i>The Kite Runner</i> by Khaled Hosseini
E.	<i>The Resistance: The French Fight Against the Nazis</i> by Matthew Cobb	AND	<i>The Nightingale</i> by Kristin Hannah
F.	<i>Trujillo: Death of a Dictator</i> by Bernard Diederich	AND	<i>In the Time of Butterflies</i> by Julia Alvarez
G.	<i>Bound Feet and Western Dress</i> by Pang-Mei Chang	AND	* <i>The Joy Luck Club</i> by Amy Tan
H.	* <i>Farewell to Manzanar</i> by Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston	AND	* <i>Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet</i> by Jamie Ford
I.	<i>Boy Erased</i> by Gerrard Conley	AND	<i>The Miseducation of Cameron Post</i> by Emily Danforth
J.	* <i>Mythology</i> by Edith Hamilton	AND	* <i>The Iliad</i> by Homer

An asterisk (*) denotes that a text is officially approved by the Hillsborough Township Board of Education. Books without an asterisk (*) may contain content not suitable for every student. Parents are responsible for reviewing information about the texts prior to approving the student's choice.

Step 2: Reading and OPTIONAL Assignment Students need to read both texts from the option chosen above while *thinking about* the following questions: **What topic(s) do the texts have in common? How does the informational text influence your understanding of the fictional work?**

*HIGHLY RECOMMENDED Optional Assignment:

OPTION 1: Use the graphic organizer that follows this letter to organize your thoughts about the texts.

OR

OPTION 2: Take notes on major characters, themes, biographical / historical information relevant to each text.

Step 3: September During the first month of school, you will write an essay that incorporates your understanding of both texts. YOU DO NOT NEED TO WRITE AN ESSAY OVER THE SUMMER. In fact, you are not REQUIRED to write down anything; however, utilizing the graphic organizers or taking notes is **HIGHLY recommended**.

**Please note: This reading assignment is in addition to the book you choose for the whole school choice reading. Please see the district website for more details on the whole school reading choices and assignments.

The Honors English I Teachers

OPTIONAL ASSIGNMENT: Use the following graphic organizer to keep track of your thoughts on each story. You will use the notes from this graphic organizer for your first writing assignment of the year. You SHOULD expand the boxes/ add sheets of paper as needed.

FICTION Title: _____ Author: _____

Reader's Thoughts	Noteworthy Text References (with page number)
<p>What was your first impression of the novel?</p> <p>Explain what contributed to that impression.</p>	
<p>Briefly summarize the plot of the novel:</p>	
<p>What social / historical / cultural conflict is highlighted in this novel?</p>	
<p>How well does the author portray the social / historical / cultural conflict through this fictitious work?</p> <p>You may want to consider the author's</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● character development ● word choice ● imagery ● plot elements / organization ● suspense or lack thereof ● tone/ attitude towards the subject ● mood 	

NON FICTION Title: _____ Author: _____

Reader's Thoughts	Noteworthy Text References (with page number)
What was your first impression of this work? Explain what contributed to that impression.	
Briefly summarize the work:	
What social / historical / cultural conflict is presented in this work?	
How well does the author portray the social / historical / cultural conflict? You may want to consider <ul style="list-style-type: none">● How does the author organize events / chapters?● How "attached" did you, the reader, become to the people [person] and their [his / her] story?● What does the author do to create this relationship between the reader and the work itself?● Is the perspective of this story limited or broad?	