

Selecting your Books

- **9th Grade College-Prep ELA** students must choose **ONE** of the following books: *Night*, *The Outsiders*, *The Five People You Meet in Heaven*, or *The Book Thief*.
- **9th Grade HONORS ELA** students will read **TWO** books this summer. Choose one set option below. I have paired books for you. Choose options 1, 2, or 3.

#1

Non-Fiction

***Do Hard Things* by Alex and Brett Harris**

Do Hard Things encourages teens to go the extra mile - refusing to be satisfied with meeting the low expectations of our culture. This book is challenging, convicting, and motivating, as it tells the stories of 15 and 16 year olds who reach out to the homeless, speak out against slavery, and much more. Overturning the myth that young people shouldn't shoulder responsibility, *Do Hard Things* is a book that every teenager should read.

Fiction

***The Outsiders* by S.E. Hinton**

The Outsiders has been one of the most popular book among teens and preteens since it came out in 1967. Ponyboy and his Greaser gang fight rival gang the Socs (short for "Socials," the wealthier, more preppie kids) and try to make a place for themselves in the world. The juvenile delinquent characters are fully and humanely developed in this realistic look at life, death, and growing up, told from a teen's point of view.

#2

Non-Fiction

***I Am Malala: The Girl Who Stood Up for Education and Was Shot by the Taliban* by Malala Yousafzai and Christina Lamb**

When the Taliban took control of the Swat Valley, one girl spoke out. **Malala** Yousafzai refused to be silenced and fought for her right to an education. ... I Am **Malala** will make you believe in the power of one person's voice to inspire change in the world."

Fiction

***The 5 People You Meet in Heaven* by Mitch Albom**

Eddie has been feeling lonely and as though he did not accomplish much throughout his long life. But after Eddie is killed in an accident, he not only learns how people touched his life, but how he touched others.

#3

Non-Fiction

***Night* by Elie Wiesel**

Night is a terrifying account of the Nazi death-camp horror that turns a young Jewish boy into an agonized witness to the death of his family, his innocence, and his god. Penetrating and powerful, as personal as *The Diary of Anne Frank*, *Night* awakens the shocking memory of evil at its absolute and carries with it the unforgettable message that this horror must never be allowed to happen again.

Fiction

***The Book Thief* by Markus Zusak**

It is 1939. Nazi Germany. The country is holding its breath. Death has never been busier, and will become busier still. Liesel Meminger is a foster child living outside of Munich, who scratches out a meager existence for herself by stealing when she encounters something she can't resist— books. With the help of her accordion-playing foster father, she learns to read and shares her stolen books with her neighbors during bombing raids as well as with the Jewish man hidden in her basement.

Read your books as soon as possible!

* I am focusing on specific details for you to analyze so you can complete NOTEBOOK Assignments A, B, C, D and E successfully.

THIS WILL BE COMPLETED FOR the FICTION BOOKS ONLY!

As you read you **MUST** follow the **RULES** below:

1. Circle terms and words on the page that you've never heard before. 20 of these will be used for the **"Vocabulary Assignment"**.
*Students who are unable to write in the book will use **Post-It Notes**. You will post them on the pages and draw an arrow to the term you will define later. (Don't forget to write down the page #)
2. **Underline ALL** character's names as they are introduced.
*Students who are unable to write in the book will use **Post-It Notes**. You will post them on the pages and draw an arrow to the **Character's names** whom you will describe later.
3. With a **highlighter**, underline any moments within the plot that showed *tension, a struggle, a character's emotional moments, a battle, an escape...* You will be on the hunt for **"Conflict"**. Later you will be describing what was occurring as well as identifying what kind of conflict it represents.
*Students who are unable to write in the book will use **Post-It Notes**. you will post them on the pages and draw an arrow to any conflicts.
4. Once in a while you will read a phrase or expressions that moves you. It could be sad, shocking, exciting, daring. Words can be so powerful! Throughout your reading I want you to identify these moments. These will be necessary for your **"Words of Wisdom"** Assignment. In the margin of the books pages you may draw a star...★ OR *Students who are unable to write in the book will use **Post-It Notes**. You will post them on the pages and draw an arrow to the page numbers as well as jot down any phrase/phrases that you found intriguing on the post it. You will type this information into a table and place it in your folder.

Materials needed to complete the summer reading assignments:

- **1 Summer Reading book** (for College-Prep) **OR 2 books** (for the Honors class)
 - **Glue-stick** (used for **Symbolism Assignment**)
 - **Cardboard Folder** (simple 2-pocket folder)
 - **Highlighters**: pink, yellow, green, blue
 - **Post-it Notes** (for students who do not wish to write on the pages of their books)
 - **A Composition Notebook** in which you must create 5 sections. NOTEBOOKS are completed for the following stories: *Night, The Outsiders, The Five People You Meet in Heaven, or The Book Thief*.
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NOTEBOOK Assignments:

A. Notebook "Vocabulary" Assignment- while you read you must circle words that you are unfamiliar with.

Directions- Begin your notebook with a section for **20 vocabulary terms**. **Be sure to label it "Vocabulary"**.

*You **must** list a **term** you have never heard before along with the **part of speech**, the **page number**, the **definition of the word**, and the **sentence** from the story where you found the word.

Example 1. **PENURY**- *Noun* [page 11] - a state of extreme poverty or destitution
The homeless man was very poor, and lived in **penury** for the remainder of his life.

B. Notebook "Character List" Assignment- Each character must be listed in this "CHARACTER" section of your notebook. I expect you to spell their names correctly. *Remember- **All** first and last name begins with a **capital letter!**

Directions- Along with the names, I expect a very clear and accurate depiction of them. Tell me what role they play in the main character's story.

*You may be able to describe them physically, emotionally, or describe their strengths or weaknesses. You must tell me if they are a **major** or **minor** character. If they are a major character I expect you to describe them in detail.

*I challenge you to carefully consider which adjectives you use to describe them. I would hope you would **NOT** use low-level words like: bad guy, mean person, sad lady... **BE SPECIFIC!**

C. Notebook "Conflict" Assignment- this section of your notebook will contain 10 conflicts.

Directions- Students must be able to identify types of **CONFLICTS**. You must choose 2 strong examples from the book for each one below. In detail you will describe the scenes that demonstrate the conflict. ***DO NOT FORGET** to specifically tell me what type of conflict it represents. The following lists contain **Conflicts**.

***Internal Conflict-** a character who is battling something within themselves. * There is **ONLY ONE** type of internal conflict. It is called “man vs. self”.

1. **Man vs. Himself / Herself**

Examples: loneliness, humility, embarrassment, fear, worry....

***External Conflicts-** battles against another character, a natural event or a societal issue. There are 3 types.

1. **Man vs. Man**- when a character battles another character.

Examples: This can be a physical fight or simply a dispute between 2 characters.

2. **Man vs. Nature**- when a character is battling against a force of nature.

Examples: a character is in a sinking ship...or, a character is facing death as the engine in the plane he is traveling in has failed.

3. **Man vs. Society**- when a character is being affected by an organization, a team, a law, a community, or has an issue with a specific way of life. *Example:* a character that has been kidnapped by pirates would be battling pirates.

For the “**CONFLICT** Section” of your notebook you must provide:

- 2 examples of **EACH External Conflict**
- 4 examples of **Internal Conflicts** from the story.

*Provide a specific reference to how the conflict/issue was portrayed in the story. Explain what makes it an internal or external conflict.

D.) Notebook “Symbolism” Assignment- This will involve decorating and covering your 2 pocket cardboard folder with 15-20 images of “**Symbols**” chosen for your particular book. *You may choose images from magazines, print images from the internet, or if you are an artist, I would love to see your own hand-drawn drawings. Make these folders colorful while creatively depicting the **symbolism** in the story.

*When we begin the school year together, you will have a writing assignment based on the images you selected for your folder.

*Be sure that the images are carefully cut out and glued in place well. *You *may choose* to laminate the covers in clear contact paper for durability.

E.) Notebook “Words of Wisdom” Assignment- You must choose 5 “strong quotes” or “wise words” from the story and explain how you related to or understood the meaning.

*This will be **typed, printed and placed in your left folder pocket.**

*You will create a digital TABLE using Microsoft Word or a similar program for typing documents. (SEE BELOW)

The left column of your table should have the following:

- A quote that interested you, caught your attention, said something that captured a main idea of the novel, or made you think. (Keep in mind this can either be a passage from the book or an interesting statement from a character’s dialogue.)
- After the quote, you should **identify the speaker** (either the narrator or the name of the character) and **the page number from which you found the quote.**
- You **MUST** provide parenthetical page citations for your quotes (see sample below).

In the right column of your split table, you need to do the following:

- Briefly give the context of each quote by answering 3 of the questions from the list below (i.e., what is happening at this point in the novel or to what is the passage referring) *Your explanations should be at least 3 sentences for each quote.

What should you type in the right column?

-What strikes you about this quote?

-What was your first thought when you read this? How did you interpret it after some thought?

-What does this passage/idea make you think of or remember?

-Do you want to challenge or qualify this author’s claim? In what ways do you agree with it? Disagree?

-What else have you read/heard/experienced that connects with this idea?

- Does something confuse you or lead to further questions?
- How do you feel about this quote?

EXAMPLE from "Speak" by Laurie Halse Anderson:

| QUOTE | OPINION |
|---|--|
| "I can't believe we have to keep play-acting until I graduate." – Narrator (Anderson 70) | Melinda is talking about her family here and how they are always pretending to be something that they're not. I could look at a million families and think they are all happy when, in reality, half of them aren't. And some people have to hide what goes on in their family and no one would ever guess. It makes me think of all the unhappy families out there. |
| "You don't like anything – you are the most depressed person I've ever met, and excuse me for saying this, but you are no fun to be around and I think you need professional help." – Heather to Melinda (Anderson 105) | I feel bad for Melinda as Heather "dumps" her as a friend. She is having so many problems and now none of her friends are there for her, even the girl she just met. None of her friends know anything, and I feel bad that she has no one to talk to about that. |
| "You missed the bus again." – Mom (Anderson 96) | If I were Melinda right now, I would go nuts! Yet again, I find that we are two different people with two different goals. I want and need to go to school, am worried about getting in trouble, and try as hard as I can to get to class on time, even if that means running to class. On the other hand, Melinda doesn't care about school, doesn't care about getting in trouble, and gets to class when she gets to class. I never noticed how different we are until this moment. |

How to set up your typed table for the "Words of Wisdom" sheet

Using a computer,

1. Create a Table. Choose Insert- "Table" (with 2 columns)
2. Choose Edit- "Select All"
3. Choose Layout- "Margins". Change Margins to 0.5"
4. Be sure you are typing in "12 font", "Times New Roman"
5. Title the Left column- "Quotes"
6. Title the Right column- "Analysis"

How you will be graded:

1. You will be graded on the quality of the quotes you choose, but more importantly your commentary. Select quotes that you feel are important to the novel or really meant something to you. If you select randomly, you may not be able to give a meaningful response.
2. The thoughtfulness of your opinions and explanations. I will be looking to see that you truly tried to make connections between your quote and the rest of the novel and/or yourself. DO NOT just simply type a summary of the quote! Instead, explain how this moment in the book made you think and/or how it connected to you. Share your thoughts, ideas and your own opinions of the quote. This gives me a chance to see how you think or relate to characters.

Honor's Freshmen:

1. READ the Fiction book and complete the notebook assignments
 2. READ the Non-Fiction Book + type your 5 paragraph essay (Place essay in the right pocket of your folder.)
- After reading **BOTH** books, you must write a (1 page) detailed (5 paragraph) essay to make 3 connections. This essay should focus on the non-fiction book more than the fiction book.
- For your **Introduction**, I anticipate reading a paper that begins with the appropriate mood for the themes of the books. *I am your audience. You could use a quote or a symbol to relate the two stories and get the essay started. For the **Thesis sentence**, (last paragraph of the 1st paragraph) I expect a strong statement that tells me what 3 topics you feel needs to be discussed that both books strongly focus on.
 - **Body Paragraph 1, 2, and 3** must fully describe and explain each of those similar connections you have made.
 - For your **Conclusion**, be sure to restate the original thesis sentence. This restated thesis must be the 1st sentence of the last paragraph (paragraph 5). To end the essay, provide me with advice, or words of wisdom that will make me truly understand the strong connections that you so clearly organized in your body paragraphs.