

Summer Reading English I Honors

Novel: *To Kill a Mockingbird* – Harper Lee

In order to be prepared for the fun adventures of English and to reinforce important concepts and analytical skills, you will be reading one novels – Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird*. This is the only Honors class with one summer reading book, but it is a lengthy read.

****Remember that your reading assignment should be completed and posted into your Google Classroom prior to the first day of school. This counts as the first test grade of the year. When you return to school you will have an in-class written assignment on *To Kill a Mockingbird* to further check your understanding of the novel.**

As you read the novel you will keep a journal that shows how you are interacting with the text. This journal should be posted into the GoogleDoc template that you will have in your Google Classroom. Assignment is due BEFORE the first day of school.

Instructions:

- For every **quarter-section** of reading, you will write four journal entries of between **7-10 sentences**. You will choose a direct quote/passage from the text and write about its overall significance, deeper meaning, and/or how you relate to it. (Your passage does not count as part of your sentences)
- You should have a **total of 12** journal entries
- Ideas you may choose to include:
 - Literary Analysis
 - *Metaphors, allegory, similes, allusions, morals etc.
- Ideas for experiences you may choose to relate:
 - Memories
 - Other works/ pop-culture
 - Real-life scenarios
 - Ethical/ social dilemmas

**** Your entry should have:**

1. A date
2. A citation/passage that is part of a quote sandwich.
3. Make sure you are introducing the quote AND explaining its significance.
4. An analytical response of 7 to 10 sentences
5. Writing should be in MLA format (Times New Roman, 12 pt font, double spaced).

Should you have questions please reach out: michaelpettine@andersonchristian.net

Friendly word of advice- Don't wait until the last minute to start reading, and enjoy your summer!

***** HONOR PLEDGE: At the end of the journal, type the following honor pledge: I pledge that I your name read (not skimmed) all of *To Kill a Mockingbird*. I pledge that I did not plagiarize (copy, use online source, or AI-generate) any part of my assignment.

Sample Journal Response:

First Last Name

Mr. Pettine

English I H

Due Date

5th July, 2024

Sample Response:

As the story progresses, we see the difficulty that some of the characters have in accepting the situation that they are in. It is as though they need to choose between their basic humanity and the animalistic instinct that is triggered when faced with the need to survive. Hunting, death and struggle become the norm in which they all find themselves. Some of the boys take things to an extreme. At one point we see Jack donning a mask which “was a thing on its own, behind which [he] hid, liberated from shame and self-consciousness” (Golding 64). It is wild how much people are willing to do and say when they hide behind a facade. We see it in life today: People killing others in the name of their religions, their political agendas and mass hysteria that takes over an entire group of people. When Jack hides his face, he ultimately hides his humanity which leads to a newfound sense of freedom. It isn't the freedom to live to his utmost potential as a human being so much as the freedom to do barbaric things and not live with the shame and regret that encompasses such evil deeds.

