

Honors English III Summer Reading

West Feliciana High School

Students should select two of the books below for summer reading. Each student must complete one fiction and one nonfiction selection. Assignments for each are below.

Fiction (Select One)

- Their Eyes Were Watching God* by Zora Neale Hurston
- Slaughter-House Five* by Kurt Vonnegut
- A Farewell to Arms* by Ernest Hemingway
- *The Crucible* by Arthur Miller
(This is a play.)
- *The Bean Trees* by Barbara Kingsolver

Nonfiction (Select One)

- *Hiroshima* by John Hersey
- *Mountains Beyond Mountains* by Tracy Kidder
- *Fast Food Nation* by Eric Schlosser
- *The Autobiography of Malcolm X* by Alex Haley
- Seven Habits of Highly Effective Teens* by Sean Covey

Assignments:

Fiction: After reading one of the selections above, complete one of the assignments below. If you type, double space; if you write by hand, do not skip lines.

- A. Imagine that you are a journalist. Write about **three significant events** in the novel as articles for the local newspaper. Use the questions Who? What? When? Where? Why? and How? to focus on each event. Each story should be about one page long and show your recognition of crucial points in the novel's action.
- B. Imagine that you are a character in the novel or play. Write a journal that the person might keep, recording his/her thoughts throughout the entire sequence of the novel. Include at least 6 journal entries, altogether about three pages long. You may **not** use the narrators of *The Bean Trees* or *A Farewell to Arms* for this assignment.
- C. Imagine that you are a book reviewer for a teen magazine. Write your critique of the book by explaining to readers whether you think the novel offers any new experiences or ideas for teens and why (or why not). You must support your opinion with at least six specific examples of the book's conflicts, events and ending. (Yes, it is required to "give away" the ending!) Be sure to explain for your readers the time period and context of the story. Your article should be about three pages long.

OVER

Nonfiction: After reading one of the selections above, complete one of the assignments below. If you type it, double space; if you write by hand, do not skip lines.

- A. Outline the book in a two-columned journal page that includes the ideas and events of each (and every) chapter in the left hand column and your own reactions to these on the right hand side. Try to respond honestly and specifically, and in complete sentences.
- B. In an essay directed towards other members of your class and at least three pages long, explain why this book might be important for people to read today. You must support your opinion with at least eight specific, quoted and explained, examples of events or facts from all parts of the book.
- C. Write a letter, at least two pages long, to either the author or one of the subjects in the book, telling him or her your reaction to the book and including at least eight specific, quoted sections that effected you a certain way. Be sure to explain why you were effected as you were, and be sure to include an analysis that considers the end as well as the beginning of the book. You may ask further questions if they were not answered in your reading.

Please proofread and correct your summer reading responses before bringing them to class to share and turn in. Having all summer does not constitute an excuse for late or sloppy work!

Remember: Your goal is to read and enjoy something different. Show your complete understanding of the books you read.