

Summer Reading Requirements for Grade 9 Honors English

Books:

Acceleration
Life as We Knew It
Speak

Something Rotten
All Quiet on the Western Front
Fahrenheit 451

The Red Badge of Courage
A long Way Gone

Summer Reading Plans: Students wishing to take Honors English 9 must select and read one book from the above list. In addition to reading the chosen book, students will also complete a writing assignment and a project. The writing assignment must be turned in to Mrs. Paulette in the library on Student Registration Day. Additionally, on Registration Day, students will be expected to take the AR quiz on their summer reading book. Please make arrangements to come by the library to take the quiz and to turn in the written assignment. If circumstances (such as family vacation, illness, etc.) prevent you from stopping by school on Registration Day, please call Mrs. Paulette at 352-7146 (ext. 236) or email her at acpaulette@appomattox.k12.va.us to make other arrangements.

Even if students are enrolled in a second semester English class, ALL AR tests and written assignments on summer reading MUST be taken and turned in to Mrs. Paulette by August 24th. Please be aware that *all* students will be accountable for completing the summer reading assignments. In other words, if you decide to change your schedule on August 24th to include an honors-level English class, you will still be expected to turn in the summer reading assignments by August 28th. Please prepare for your honors-level English course by reading the book, completing the written assignment, and preparing a project.

Writing Assignment

Honors English students are required to write a five-paragraph essay based upon their summer reading book. The essay will include an **introduction** and **conclusion** as well as three well-developed **body paragraphs**. The last sentence of the introduction will be the **thesis statement** which will inform the reader of the three things that will be discussed in the body paragraphs.

You may write about any three things that relate to the book. For instance, you might want to discuss three literary terms such as setting, theme, and conflict. You could also choose one topic like theme and discuss how it relates to three characters. You will want to have at least five sentences in each paragraph.

See the reverse side of this instruction sheet for essay set-up instructions and the grading rubric.

Project

In addition to the essay, students are expected to submit a book-related project on the first day of the semester, and it will be presented to the class during the first week. Suggestions for the projects: Plot, character or thematic map; movie poster; puppet show; talk show skit; student-made video; dramatic performance of a scene; collage; creative/artistic interpretive object, etc.

See the reverse side of this instruction sheet for the grading rubric.

Rubrics

Five-Paragraph Essay

	Potential Points
Introduction	10
Thesis Statement	10
Topic Sentences	15
Body Paragraphs	30
Conclusion	10
Grammar	25
Total	100

Book Project and Presentation

	Potential Points
Gives Title	10
Gives Author	5
Thoroughness	30
Presentation	15
Creativity/Effort	40
Total	100

Final Grade

The final grade for the summer reading assignment will be an average of the essay, project, and AR quiz grades. The final grade will be considered a test grade.

Essay Set-up

Essay Title

Paragraph	Paragraph description
1	Introduction You might want to include when the book was published. You could also give a brief (1-2 sentences) overview of the book. The last sentence of the paragraph is the thesis statement that states the three topics to discuss. For example: Plot progression in <u>The Giver</u> is supported by its futuristic setting, character development, and element of suspense.
2	Topic #1 <u>Topic Sentence</u> example: The futuristic setting of <u>The Giver</u> enables an otherwise unbelievable plot to make sense. Be sure to provide at least one event from the story to support your topic sentence.
3	Topic #2 <u>Topic Sentence</u> example: Through direct and indirect characterization, the reader has a clear understanding of why Jonas makes certain decisions.
4	Topic #3 <u>Topic Sentence</u> example: Throughout the novel, an element of suspense propels the reader towards the conclusion.
5	Conclusion Reiterate the important aspects of the book. You could also state how the book does or does not relate to today's society or why it is considered a significant work of literature.