

10th Honors Summer Reading Assignment

Directions: For this summer reading assignment, you are tasked with choosing a book from the following list and then creating an interactive Google Slides notebook detailing your notes about each chapter. After concluding this pre-writing step, you will write an essay that interprets the larger meaning of the book (what is the book really about? What is the author really trying to say about the theme?) This essay will be no more than five pages long and will include an introduction with a thesis statement at the end, body paragraphs, a conclusion, and a Works Cited page.

Journal Entry Directions: For each chapter, choose one of the appropriate prompts above—find a quote that represents your chosen prompt. Type this out with a page number of where you found it. After that identification, you are to write an entry that fully discusses the prompt and your own personal reflection of it. These entries are to be a minimum of five sentences—no exceptions.

Journal Entry Notes: The notes you take will include:

- Key character names and descriptions
 - Whether they are static or dynamic characters and why
- Setting
 - Descriptions and reflection of what role it plays in the plot's actions, or significance of the setting itself.
- Plot: Exposition, Rising Action, Climax, Falling Action, Resolution.
 - How the plot progresses, what specific event falls within each category and hoe.
- Theme of your choosing
 - A theme is a universal experience, thought, or idea: love, hate, individuality, etc.
- Writing techniques such as metaphor, simile and their meaning.
- Symbolism
 - How an object or other item may represent a larger meaning, such as an image of a skull repeatedly may mean death.
- Important Dialogue
 - Dialogue that is important to the overall meaning of the book, the plot, or the characterization.

Please note that you may not repeat the same entry again and again, you must rotate these entries according to what is appropriate for the chapter you are reading. For instance, if setting is not described in a chapter, then it would not be appropriate for you to discuss the setting for that journal entries.

Essay Directions: After completing your “notebook,” you will begin writing your analysis essay. This essay should include a thesis that could follow this format:

“Ultimately, AUTHOR’S LAST NAME uses THEME to discuss MESSAGE.

Note: a theme is a universal idea, often abstract (say, love, for instance). Meanwhile, an author’s message is what they are trying to say about the theme

ex.: Woods uses the theme of love to discuss the importance (and unfortunate lack) of human compassion.

The rest of your essay will be supporting your interpretation of the author's message with passages, summaries, and paraphrasing from the book. You will cite all referenced or quoted information with MLA in-text citations. You will begin each body paragraph with a transition word and topic sentence.

The conclusion should begin with a rewording of your thesis statement. Following that sentence, you should summarize your main points of the essay. After each point, you should remind the reader why that evidence supports the thesis statement. After this summary, you should extend your conversation—why is this important? What does it show readers? What does it add to the overall meaning of the text, or to society in general?

For more information regarding message and theme, please look here: [What's The Difference Between A Message And A Theme? \(rumie.org\)](http://www.rumie.org/what-s-the-difference-between-a-message-and-a-theme/)

For a refresher on MLA format, please look here: [MLA In-Text Citations: The Basics // Purdue Writing Lab](http://www.purdue.edu/academic-writing/1-mla-citations-the-basics/)

Book List:

The Alchemist—Paul Coelho

Far From the Tree—Robin Benway

Don't Get Caught—Kurt Dinan

The Dead List—Jennifer Armentrout

Barely Missing Everything—Matt Mendez

I was Their American Dream—Malaka Gharib

Persepolis—Marjane Satrapli

With the Fire on High—Elizabeth Acevedo

Wilder Girls—Rory Power

Far Away Brothers—Lauren Makkham

Lesson Before Dying—Ernest Gaines

The Book Thief—Markus Zusak

The Boy in the Striped Pajamas—John Boyne

Eleanor & Park—Rainbow Powell

Speak—Laurie Halse Anderson

The Lord of the Flies—William Golding

