

Hello Honors Juniors,

Welcome to 2020-2021 Honors English III! We have a great year lined up with an in-depth look at American classics and modern US literature. We will also focus on becoming better readers, writers, thinkers, and people.

That said, our course will be a great time to build a little community inside of our larger school. I require your best each day, and you can expect the same from me. Hopefully by the end of the year, you will have had a great time, read and analyzed great literature, grown as a writer, and feel prepared for senior year literature and beyond. More than that, I hope that you take the ideas and skills of our course and utilize them to serve the Lord in your chosen paths.

This document has the summer reading and assignments listed. You will be reading and completing a “novel to events” connection for *House of the Scorpion* on three separate news articles, and you will be choosing American literature classic to read and complete a dialectical journal for this summer. Prepare for novel MC tests on *HOTS* and an essay on your choice novel when you return to school over the first few weeks. All summer materials are due by the first day of class, and please contact Mrs. Cooper if you have any questions in the meantime! Have a great summer and take some time to enjoy these works.

Onward and Upward,
Mrs. Cooper
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Cell: 9197600737 (can text or call)

House of the Scorpion by Nancy Farmer
Novel-to-Life Connection

Though fiction is imaginative literature, authors often use inspirations from their modern circumstances when creating their novels. Even though the setting may be a different time or location, the elements of the story can help readers learn something about their current time. One *genre* that does this especially well is *dystopian* literature. In many ways, a dystopia is much more than just the opposite of a *utopia*. It often takes a modern issue and imagines what the world would like if this issue were to spiral out of control. However, other literary genres can show this as well. Your challenge is to connect how a *motif* in your novel might relate to a current event. Then, you will think about why the author might have utilized this in his or her story.

Words to define: please watch the following video links before reading

- [Dystopia\(n\)](#)
- [Utopia\(n\)](#)
- [Motif](#); more [examples](#)



Examples of Motifs in other popular literature:

- Plastic Surgery in *The Hunger Games* by Suzanne Collins
- Climate Change in *Legend* by Marie Lu
- Technology Addiction in *Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury
- Euthanasia in *The Giver* by Lois Lowry

Assignment:

- Choose three different modern-day motifs that are reflected in the novel
- Find one current news article that centers on each motif
 - ◆ ***Three articles TOTAL...**one** article per motif)
- Cite the articles in MLA format
- Write a short summary of the news articles
- Write a paragraph which connects each article to the novel
- Think about WHY the author might have chosen this
- Be ready to share the connections with the class during the first weeks of class :)

[Student example for one entry](#)

2020-2021: Honors English III
American Literature---[Dialectical Journal Assignment](#)

For this assignment, you will do these things:

- ❑ Choose an [American Literature classic](#) to read and study
 - ❑ *We will read The Great Gatsby, Fahrenheit 451, The Crucible, and To Kill a Mockingbird as whole class reads this year, so choose any but those four :)*
 - ❑ *If you have a different 'classic' book by an American author that is not on this list, then email me!*
- ❑ Sign up with your choice on [this Google Sheet](#)
- ❑ Complete a reader response (dialectical journal) of 15 entries---instructions on next page
- ❑ Submit your journal on Canvas the first day of class

Dialectical Journal Instructions


A dialectical journal is just a fancy name for a reader's response journal. It shows your thinking as you read, and it helps you make stronger connections with the text.

This can be done in a digital Google Doc or you can handwrite on notebook/printer paper.

On the LEFT side, you type/write an important quote from the assigned chapter. On the right side, you include a detailed response of your reaction to what was happening in the book and why this quote is important. Your response can include things like memes, songs, movies, other books, etc. in addition to your written explanation (not in place of it :).

You should have 15 entries for your reading and reflection of your book. Please note that your teacher will NOT award full credit for quotes/analysis taken from study websites like SparkNotes, Shmoop, etc. Do your own thinking---you're an Honors student! :)

[Rubric criteria \(thank you Bishop Walsh HS\)](#)

Quote (Page #)	Response
<p>Sample: "Whenever you feel like criticizing any one," he told me, "just remember that all the people in this world haven't had the advantages that you've had" (1)</p> <p>Example from <i>The Great Gatsby</i></p>	 <p>Nick begins the book with advice from good old dad. Unlike poor internet Karen, who complains about everything and everyone, Nick's dad advised him to look for the good and not find fault in others. It makes me think that Nick might be an okay guy...or at least from an okay family. Though they are wealthy ("advantages that you've had"), the Carraways recognize that not everyone else has that same wealth. Basically, his dad is telling him to give other people a chance (unlike Karen)</p>
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