

English 12 Honors -- Summer Assignment

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Greetings, O Gifted Ones!

I'm so glad that you have chosen to challenge yourselves through Honors English. Hopefully, you will find the effort worthwhile. To aid you in stepping into senior year with all its extra responsibilities, I have chosen the following assignments for you to complete. The themes and ideas presented in the assigned reading will be ones that we revisit in other works throughout the year, particularly in our study of *Beowulf*, stories of King Arthur, and *Hamlet*. A NEW contemporary novel that is incredibly engrossing, the summer reading should be easily digestible between now and August. The writing assignments will help you and your teachers prepare for college applications and letters of recommendation. Remember: I have chosen all the assignments with care and with your best interests as seniors in mind. Have a blessed summer!

NOTE: ASSIGNMENTS ARE DUE ON THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

1. Reading

The Testing by Joelle Charbonneau. A relatively new offering in young adult literature, it provides a fresh but still exciting twist on the popular dystopian genre. I think you will enjoy this book and, no doubt, find it just as difficult to put down as its predecessors, *The Hunger Games*, *Divergent*, and *The Maze Runner* – I did. Even if you're a reluctant reader, I think you will be surprised at how easy the story is to read and how quickly you turn the pages! Remember: Your *detailed* knowledge of this work will be assessed at the beginning of the school year. Annotating your copy of the novel and/or taking notes is not required; however, the most successful readers recognize the benefit of both.

2. College Essay

Assignment: Choose one of the topics from the Common Application OR a specific topic from the application of one of the colleges/universities to which you are actually applying (if they do not use the Common App). Write an essay in response to the selected prompt. **Note: DO NOT USE SHORT ESSAY RESPONSES (200 WORDS OR LESS) FOR THIS ASSIGNMENT -- if you are participating in "Camp College" this summer, you may use one of the essays for this assignment that you complete for Mrs. Perryman.**

Length: approximately 500 words (unless instructions suggest otherwise)

Style Criteria: Adherence to the rules of Standard English grammar; catchy introduction and use of transitions between paragraphs/thoughts; strong/memorable conclusion; appropriate tone for the topic and the audience; keep in mind that factual information has already been included on an application – this is the place to showcase your personality (within reason) and your non-quantifiable achievements

Format: Typed, double-spaced, Times New Roman, 12 pt. font. Type the essay prompt, the min/max word count required, and your essay's word count at the top of your essay.

3. Questionnaire

Complete the questions on the attached pages for Mrs. Perryman. The answers you provide will be used by the teachers writing your letters of recommendation for college and scholarship opportunities; therefore, it would behoove you to answer thoughtfully and fully, providing as much detail and/or explanation as possible. You may type or write your responses.

Senior Questionnaire -- Page 1

Name: _____

The following questions, along with your resume, will be used by teachers as they write letters of recommendations for you. Complete each question thoroughly with as much detail as possible.

What activity, event, or community service activity listed on your resume has impacted you the most? What have you learned from the opportunity?

What do you want to study in college? What strengths do you have that will help you achieve your goal? What skills do you need to continue to improve to help you achieve your goal?

Senior Questionnaire -- Page 2

Name: _____

The following questions, along with your resume, will be used by teachers as they write letters of recommendations for you. Complete each question thoroughly with as much detail as possible.

How have you changed through high school and how has this prepared you for college? What has caused this change?

What is something unique about you that will help you succeed in college?