

Honors 9 Summer Reading Expectations

Mrs. Burke (dburke@palmerton.org)

These journals (5 per novel) will be worth a total of 50 points (25 points / novel). They may be used to complete the in-class essay that will be assigned in the first 2 weeks of school.

➤ This will be posted on the school's website.

SUMMER READING JOURNAL ASSIGNMENT

❖ Format:

- The first page of the collection of entries for each novel should be in MLA format.
- Use page breaks to separate each entry.
- Include the prompt to which you are responding at the top of each page.
- **You will lose points overall for poor formatting.**

❖ Content

- Respond to at least **five different prompts for EACH NOVEL.**
- Fully develop each entry with examples and explanations of the examples.
- Each response must include **textual evidence cited with the page number.** Make sure to use quotation marks for direct quotes.
- **DO NOT SUMMARIZE the novel. Summaries will not be accepted for credit.**

❖ Length:

- **Each response will require a minimum of 1 paragraph of at least 7-10 sentences.**

❖ Grading:

- 5** - Responses are specific and richly developed; each refers to strong examples from the text; response provides documentation (page number)
- 4** - Responses are fully developed; each refers to appropriate examples from the text; response provides documentation (page number)
- 3** - Responses are partially developed; each cites an example from the text, but the example may not connect completely to the question; provides documentation
- 2** - Responses lack specific examples from the text; responses are general; no documentation
- 1** - Shows little or no evidence that the student read the text thoughtfully OR student did not respond to the prompts
- 0** - No attempt at a journal response

50 total points possible (25 / novel)

❖ Due date:

- **Journals will be due to Mrs. Burke during the first week of school.**
- **You may drop off the printed assignment (or share the document) and the novels in my room, B-127, anytime that week.**

PROMPTS ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE

❖ **Prompts:**

1. How are the characters developing? Do you dislike certain characters? Are some characters dynamic? Are some flat? Do the characters change over the course of the story? How are the events or other characters influencing or motivating the characters?
2. Are there recurring themes, ideas, images, and symbols? Why do you think the author is repeating them? What do you think of the author's decision to repeat them?
3. What are the conflicts in the book? Why are these conflicts developing? Are these conflicts internal (within the characters) or external (from outside sources)?
4. Can you relate to any of the characters? Do parts of the book remind you of yourself or others? Why? Can you feel what any of the characters are feeling?
5. Who is the narrator of the book? From what point of view is the story told? Why do you think the author selected this perspective and what effect does it have? Would a different narrator or different narration improve the book?
6. Write a letter to one of the characters. Include three specific events of which the character was a part. Comment on the character's response to events or offer advice. Ask questions.
7. Evaluate the writing style of the author. What are the sentences, word choice, descriptions like? Does the style help the story line? Could the style be improved? How
8. What is the author's tone towards his or her subject? What two words best define the tone of this book? What scenes, episodes, or examples are good examples of the author's tone?
9. What is the mood created in the reader by this book? What examples best reveal the mood of this book?
10. If you could be one of the characters for one day, who would you be and why? Who would you definitely not be and why? Explain your choices.
11. What would you change in the story? How would you improve it?

Created for the 22/23 academic year

SAMPLE MLA FORMAT ON FOLLOWING PAGE

Name

Mrs. Burke

Honors 9 Summer Reading Journals

Date

Novel Title / Journal # (1-5)

Journal prompt goes here.

Begin the text of your response here in paragraph form.