English Department Summer Reading Assignments (Honors and AP students only)
Summer 2016

Please note: Students in either Honors or AP level classes have additional summer reading responsibilities beyond the One Book/One Community selection.

## FRESHMEN:

# **Honors Literary Arts (011)**

In addition to *Tattoos on the Heart*, you are to read and do the following:

The Odyssey (translated by Robert Fitzgerald) You must read the Fitzgerald translation.

A Separate Peace Robert Knowles

Please staple all of your work together when you are finished. Do not put your pages into any kind of binder or folder.

Your assignment should be completed by the first full day of classes.

Please follow these directions as you prepare your summer reading response journal for *The Odyssey*:

- Divide your text into five sections.
- ▲ After you finish reading each section, write a memo to Odysseus. In this memo address at least three of these topics: congratulate him on what you believe he has done well and indicate why he has been successful; offer advice to help him solve a problem; warn him of problems he has yet to encounter; make a prediction about what you think his future holds based on his actions.
- In each memo, quote the specific passages which have informed your comments to Odysseus.
- **≤** Each memo should be at least one typed page (double spaced, Times New Roman, 12 point font).

Please follow the following directions as you prepare your summer reading response journal for *A Separate Peace*:

In a well-constructed essay offer your explanation of why we have paired *A Separate Peace* with *The Odyssey*. What do these books have in common? Does one book help you to understand the other? Are there any similarities among the characters and their actions?

Your essay should be an example of your best writing. Length: at least one full typed page (double spaced, Times New Roman, 12 point font).

Please e-mail Mrs. Regan at <a href="mailto:regane@echs.com">regane@echs.com</a> if you have any questions. Have a wonderful summer!

# **SOPHOMORES**

# **Honors American Literature (061)**

In addition to *Tattoos on the Heart*, you are to read *The Glass Menagerie* by Tennessee Williams. Available on iBooks.

(2.99) Check out this book on the iBooks Store: <a href="https://itun.es/us/gv2d-.l">https://itun.es/us/gv2d-.l</a>

Read the play several times. As you read, take notes about each character, the relationships between the characters, important items/actions. You will submit these notes along with the assignments listed below.

From the text and your notes, write a 1-2 page response on THREE of the following topics:

- 1. Evaluate the methods and effectiveness of the escape strategies employed by ONE of the Wingfields.
- 2. Analyze the influence of dreams and plans for future on one of the characters.
- 3. Compare and contrast Amanda's relationships with Tom and with Laura.
- 4. Evaluate the effect Tom's dual role of character/narrator has on the play as a whole.
- 5. Explain how one item or one action helps to convey a significant theme in the play.

In addition, select five quotations from the play. Write out each quotation, paraphrase it, analyze its importance to the play as a whole, and explain your rationale for choosing it.

Journals are to be in your own handwriting. Typed journals will not be accepted.

If you have any questions please contact me at mennert@echsmail.org

Have a great summer! Mr. Menner

#### **JUNIORS**

AP Language and Composition (030)

Besides *Tattoos on the Heart*, you are to read *Man's Search for Meaning* by Viktor Frankl and maintain a response journal.

As you read through each section of *Man's Search for Meaning*, respond thoughtfully to the following questions in your summer reading journal. For each of the four parts listed below, write 2-3 pages and incorporate direct quotes/citations from each section of the text.

Part One: Consider Nietzsche's quote, "He who has a WHY to live can bear almost any HOW." How do Frankl's experiences in Part One illustrate this quote? How does Frankl find "a WHY to live" in Part One?

Part Two: How does Frankl explain the purpose of love? of suffering? Do you agree or disagree with his perspective? Explain and provide personal experiences to reinforce your argument.

Part Three: What does Frankl mean by "tragic optimism" and how does he "make a case" for it as a life perspective? Do you agree or disagree with his perspective? Explain and provide personal experiences to reinforce your argument.

Text as a Whole: Based on your reading of this text, explain and justify your answer to the question: Are human beings, by nature, good?

#### **Honors World Literature (031)**

In addition to *Tattoos on the Heart*, you are to read *Life of Pi* by Yann Martel and address the text in a response journal.

You must complete at 12 journal entries that address the topics that are listed below. Each entry should be at least 2-3 paragraphs, incorporating textual support. Every topic must be addressed, but you may fill the remaining entries with the topic of your choice.

#### Entry topics:

- 1. The role of religion in Pi's life
- 2. The role of the animals, specifically Richard Parker
- 3. Factors (both seen and unseen) that allow Pi to coexist peacefully with Richard Parker on the lifeboat
- 4. Pi's motivation to reach land
- 5. The importance of Pi's interpretation of the concept of a story (ch. 99)
- 6. Your reaction to Part 3 (ch. 95-100)
- 7. In your opinion, is Pi a hero? Why or why not?

## **SENIORS**

#### AP English (040)

In addition to *Tattoos on the Heart*, please read *Atonement* by Ian McEwan.

When you get back to school you will be writing a paper on the novel, after a week-long discussion. Make sure you do a careful reading of the book and be prepared for this week of discussion. Taking notes on the

book as you read is not required but will be helpful for when we start because there is a good chance that I will be grading class discussions (so I expect substantial contributions from you).

Any questions? Dr. Dowe will check his school email (<u>dowed@echs.com</u>) from time to time over the summer vacation. Happy reading!

### **Honors Senior English (041)**

**Section 01 (Regan):** In addition to *Tattoos on the Heart*, please read *On Writing: A Memoir of The Craft* by Stephen King.

Please come to the first class with your reading completed. There is no written assignment over the summer. We will use King's book as the basis for your first semester composition work

Section 02 (Dowe): In addition to Tattoos on the Heart, please read The Namesake by Jhumpa Lahiri.

Be prepared for a paper and class discussions when you come back to school (taking notes as you read is not required but probably a good idea—since there is a good chance that I will grade class discussions).