



May 24, 2017

Dear Prospective Honors English Students and Parents:

On behalf of the Warner Christian Academy English Department, I would like to introduce you to our English **Honors Required Summer Reading List and Project** for summer 2017. The program's intent is to challenge, motivate, and entertain students in order to encourage life-long reading habits. Listed on the back of this letter are the titles of the books to be read by students at each grade level along with a list of projects and writing assignments from which to choose.

Please note that all prospective Honors English students will read one book from the list at his/her grade level and complete one project from the list. Bookstores, libraries, and websites will have all of these novels available. The purpose of this program is first to encourage students to read during the less hectic summer months, but it is also intended to ensure that the students make a more firm commitment to the Honors English program throughout the coming school year.

Students are not required to take notes, but doing so will help them because they will be better prepared for the test that will occur in each course when school resumes in August. Within the first 3 days of the new school year, students who wish to participate in Honors English will be tested on their selected novels. They must attain 70% or higher on the test in order to be admitted to the Honors English program. Students who do not meet this requirement will not be able to enter the Honors English program until the following semester and will still be required to complete the reading and pass the test with a score of 70% or higher prior to the start of the second semester. In addition, **the selected project and written paper must be turned in on the first day of school, August 14, 2017.** All other existing Honors English requirements at each grade level will continue to be part of the program.

A student who enrolls after July 21, 2017, will be informed of these requirements and will be given a two-week period from the start of school to complete the reading, take the test, and complete the project in order to enter Honors English. However, if a student enrolls prior to July 21, 2017, that student will fall under the same guidelines as returning students, since this information is made available on the school's website.

In order to continue to enhance critical thinking and reading skills, research tells us those books that are read and that are most effectively understood are those which are discussed during the reading. Thus, we encourage parents to read these novels with their children and engage in lively discussions. Students in the same family but at different grade levels will be required to read from their own individual grade levels. We encourage students to meet with and talk to peers of their own grade level who are reading the same novels, whenever possible, in order to facilitate discussions and to share interpretations so that the books come alive!

In addition, students who want to be a part of the Honors English program are expected to go beyond the required readings and escape into a multitude of fine works over the summer. Bookstores and libraries often display a variety of classic and award-winning books of high interest for students to read over the summer. Studies show that students who are "well read" do better on the SAT and ACT exams. In addition, they are often more successful in college. So much can be gained through summer reading! Enjoy this opportunity to read at a more leisurely pace, as you become familiar with some very fine authors and some real food for thought.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Kim Elliott

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Secondary English Department Chair

English IV, British Literature

Robinson Crusoe, D. Defoe
20,000 Leagues Under the Sea, J. Verne
Jane Eyre, C. Bronte
Pride and Prejudice, J. Austen

English III, American Literature

The House of Seven Gables, Hawthorne
The Jungle, U. Sinclair
The Great Gatsby, F.S. Fitzgerald
Moby Dick, H. Melville

English II, English 10

To Kill a Mockingbird, Lee
Cyrano de Bergerac, Rostand
Anne Frank: Diary of a Young Girl, Frank
Lord of the Flies, Golding

English I, English 9

The Old Man and the Sea, E. Hemingway
Great Expectations, C. Dickens
The Iliad, Homer
Giants in the Earth, Rolvagg

PROJECT LIST

Create one of the projects below related to the novel you have selected to read. Write the assigned portion along with the created project. Both pieces will be due on the first day of school, August 14, 2017.

1. **Create a drawing** (detailed pen or pencil with shading, artistic effects, etc. on art paper, not poster board) **or painting** (water color, oil, or acrylic on hard surface, watercolor paper or canvas, not poster board) of one of the major scenes from the novel. Write and type a **paper of 500 or more words** describing the significance of the scene from the created art along with a description of the characters and their involvement with the scene. Both parts are due on August 14, 2017.
2. **Create a Minecraft video** from your own creation of one of the scenes from the novel. Write and type a **paper of 500 or more words** describing the significance of the scene created for the video along with a description of the characters and their involvement with the scene from the novel. The video (on USB drive) and paper are due on August 14, 2017. (Video must be formatted to be shown on PC/Windows 7).
3. **Create a PowerPoint presentation** of twelve or more slides depicting people or places from the novel you have selected. Each slide must have a headline, but no other words. Write and type a short paragraph for each slide on a separate report (**100 words minimum per slide/1200+ words total**), in which you give a description of the slide explaining its significance to the novel. The presentation and separate paper are due on August 14, 2017 (PowerPoint 2010 or older formatting required for PC/Windows 7 on USB drive)
4. **Create a model** (diorama or shadow box) of a scene from the novel. Write and type a **paper of 500 or more words** describing the significance of the scene in the model to the novel. Include information about the characters and their involvement in the created scene. The model and paper are due on August 14, 2017.

NOTE: Pictures may be used from the Internet; however, none of the writing should come from any sources in print or online. The writing is to be the original writing of the prospective honors student. **Plagiarism of any type with regard to the written work will automatically exempt the student from Honors English for the year.** All work will be checked by Mrs. Elliott for plagiarism.