



PERRY HIGH SCHOOL
ENGLISH 9 HONORS SUMMER READING 2019



Dear Students and Parents,

Welcome to Perry High School's Honors English Program. In order to provide our students with an opportunity to complete their reading during the summer and not be too overwhelmed when school resumes, we have outlined below specific reading activities that will be due early in August. If you have any questions during the summer about the assignment, please contact Lindsay Bryner, English 9 Honors level lead, by email: Bryner.Lindsay@cusd80.com This assignment can also be found on the Perry High School website.

During your high school years in English classes, you will read a variety of classical and modern literary works. One novel, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, is a Pulitzer Prize-winning novel by Harper Lee published in 1960. It was instantly successful and has become a classic of modern American fiction. The novel is loosely based on the author's observations of her family and neighbors, as well as on an event that occurred near her hometown in 1936, when she was 10 years old. The novel is renowned for its warmth and humor, despite dealing with the serious issue of racial inequality. The narrator's father, Atticus Finch, has served as a moral hero for many readers and as a model of integrity for lawyers.

This assignment is meant to introduce you to the general experience of English honors students at Perry High School. It is a three part assignment with due dates beginning in August.

It is not required that the student complete this project over the summer, as more specific details about the assignment will be added once school begins. However, students can begin drafts of these assignments. Students will have time to ask their teacher clarification questions after the instructions have been reviewed in detail as a class.

Thank you for your interest in English 9 Honors. We look forward to working with you next year!
The English 9 Honors Team

Please follow the instructions below to begin your literary exploration

Part A – Research Historical Background Information
Use the internet to find information about historical events of the time period.

To better understand the implications of this novel and its themes, we ask you conduct internet research regarding historical topics related to this novel. The following four topics must be researched:

- The Great Depression
- Harper Lee (author)
- The Scottsboro Trial
- Jim Crow Laws

Follow these steps to research each of the above topics.

1. Find a reliable source related to that topic. Blog entries and Wikipedia are not acceptable.
2. Create a MLA 8 citation as if it was for a Works Cited page. Review Purdue OWL at <https://owl.purdue.edu/> if you need help.
3. Type a five sentence summary of what the source is about.
4. Print out a hardcopy of your work. Include the topic as the title, MLA 8 citation, and your five sentence explanation. Check the box on the side as an example. Each topic needs to begin on a new page.

<p>Topic</p> <p>Author's Last name, First name. "Title of the Article or Individual Page." <i>Title of the website</i>, Name of the publisher, Date of publication, URL.</p> <p>Five sentence summary of the source.</p>
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Part B – Read *To Kill a Mockingbird* and Complete a Dialectical Journal

You will keep a dialectical journal during the reading of this novel. As you read each chapter of the novel, find one quote or sentence that you can analyze for a deeper meaning (including: figurative language, how the text connects to your life, how the text connects to another book/play/movie etc.) These comments could discuss character motivation, stylistic patterns, or how the book ties in the internet research you conducted earlier. Please go beyond emotional responses such as “This made me feel happy.”

Furthermore, we will be focusing on the theme of “Coming of age” throughout first quarter. Therefore, **10 of your quotes should relate to this theme** (“coming of age” can be observed when there is a change in a character’s psychological or moral perspectives that typically occurs from youth to adulthood).

An example of an entry is shown below to help you understand what we will look for in grading your journal. Be sure to include thoughtful, well-written comments of the quote or sentence(s) you choose for your journal.

Please duplicate the format of this journal on your own computer.

The box below is an example of the analysis of one chapter. Remember to find one quote or sentence per chapter.

Chapter/Page	Quote or Sentence	Thoughts/Observations
Chapter 1 Page #1	“When he was nearly thirteen, my brother Jem got his arm badly broken at the elbow... I maintain that the Ewells started it all, but Jem... said it started long before that.”	This first sentence in the novel hooks the reader in. They now want to know why and how Jem broke his arm. It also foreshadows what comes later in the book. It makes the reader start to question the Ewells from the first time their name appears in the story.

Part C -Take a Test on *To Kill a Mockingbird*

The test will be a mixture of comprehension and analysis questions about *To Kill a Mockingbird*. It is comprised of a variety of types of questions, and will be completed in class.