

Friday, May 12, 2017

Future Pre-AP English 10 student,

Congratulations on enrolling in Pre-AP English 10! The English course you take next year will be rigorous, stimulating, and rewarding. The work load for this course will be intense; however, this course will thoroughly prepare you for future work in AP classes.

All students enrolled in Pre-AP English 10 are expected to complete a summer reading assignment. Students are expected to read, annotate, and take notes on their reading. Furthermore, the books you will read require deep consideration and ample reflection, so resist the temptation to put off the assignment until just before school starts. You are responsible for obtaining these books on your own; you can pick up copies from a bookstore, or you can purchase the books from an online retailer like Amazon. Please see the back of this sheet for your specific assignment.

This course will require extensive reading throughout the year as well. Pre-AP students will be required to purchase several of the books read in class. You are advised to prepare for the potential cost that taking a Pre-AP class entails.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns. Welcome to the Pre-AP/AP program; I look forward to working with you next year!

Sincerely,

Ms. Ashley Sudar
Highland High School
Pre-AP English 10 Teacher

asudar@highland.k12.in.us

Pre-AP English 10 Summer Reading Assignment

Your assignment is to read *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time* by Mark Haddon and *The Glass Castle* by Jeannette Walls. You will annotate each book and complete a dialectical journal as you read. Be prepared to turn in your dialectical journal on the first day of school. Commentary copied from the Internet or other students will result in a failing grade for the assignment.

Annotations

Annotating means reading with a pen or pencil in hand and marking the text in a helpful, meaningful way. Here are some suggestions:

- Write comments in the margin — especially to ask questions, jot down main ideas/events, make connections, etc.
- Star any passages you think are very important
- Underline any sentences that you found appealing or that made you think
- Circle or highlight words that are unfamiliar to you — try to define them by way of context clues or a dictionary
- Bracket areas that confused you or that you did not fully understand

Dialectical Journal

A dialectical journal is a written log that you keep representing a conversation that you have with a text. Your dialectical journal should be broken into two columns: 1) quotes from the text and 2) commentary.

Choose meaningful, powerful, or thought-provoking quotations from the text to include in the left column, and be sure to include page numbers. In the right column, write down your reflections on the quoted passages. You should also use this column to make predictions, ask questions, make connections, and analyze the text for literary devices (tone, structure, style, imagery, etc.)

You should include at least 15 entries for each book. See to it that your entries are distributed evenly throughout the text (in other words, make sure that you don't just include quotations from the first few chapters of the book). Be sure to include page numbers with your quotes. Look at the example below for help.

Quotes from the Text	Commentary
"I got Siobhan to draw lots of these faces and then write down next to them exactly what they meant. I kept the piece of paper in my pocket and took it out when I didn't understand what someone was saying. But it was very difficult to decide which of the diagrams was most like the face they were making because people's faces move very quickly." (3).	Christopher's autism affects his daily live in a profound way. He has difficulty empathizing with people because he has a hard time reading their feelings through their facial expressions. That's something that I might take for granted: that others can read my feelings just as easily as I can read theirs. I wonder if that daily struggle has taken a toll on Christopher's relationships with others?

If you have any questions, contact me, Ms. Sudar, at asudar@highland.k12.in.us