**Summer Reading Assignment 2021**

Honors English II

Welcome to Honors English II World Literature! I am so excited about this year with you! Together, we will hone our writing skills, develop our critical thinking, explore new countries and cultures and focus on reading comprehension through literature. This means we set the bar high in Honors English. Consider this assignment your first step in this process; these assignments and novels lay the foundation for your grade and your work ethic in this class, so I expect you are not putting your assignment off until August.

A word on late work in my class: Late work is not accepted in my class, even for partial credit. This means you have an excellent opportunity to be prompt with submitting your first assignment in Honors English! (Assignments submitted even later in the day will not be accepted.)

The goal of this assignment is to keep your brain active during the summer, and I really believe you’re going to love this novel. Below, you will find all the specific details for your assignment. If you have any questions at all, please don’t hesitate to contact me.

Have a great summer! I look forward to meeting you!

Ms. Russell/Mrs. Bebout  
[hrussell@lexingtonchristian.org](mailto:hrussell@lexingtonchristian.org)  
[hbebout@lexingtonchristian.org](mailto:hbebout@lexingtonchristian.org)

**SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENTS**

**Part I**

Read and Annotate *Night* by Elie Wiesel

This novel will set the tone for our reading and understanding of other cultures through world literature. Through this, our goal will always be to lead our thinking with integrity and empathy. As you read, please annotate your novel. When you annotate, consider:

* Questions
* Sections you enjoyed
* Connections to other texts (songs, films, novels, poems, etc.)
* Literary devices
* Themes
* Motifs

I will not collect these notes, but they will make your life easier when completing your assignments, studying your quiz and writing your diagnostic essay during the first week of class.

A Note on the Text

Elie Wiesel’s retelling of his experiences as a Jew during the Holocaust can feel extremely heavy and dense. I suggest you read this novel in chunks and work through your major works data sheet in a way that makes sense to you. When we return to class, we’ll discuss the overall themes of the book, why it’s important to read, and how Christians can find hope, even in the direst of circumstances. Below, I’ve included a few resources to help you grapple with some of these difficult topics.

* [Elie Wiesel on Hope, Compassion, and the Power of Youth](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=keLT6bp7wok)
* James 1:2-4
* Romans 8:18
* John 16:20
* [“Hope” is the thing with feathers by Emily Dickinson](https://www.commonlit.org/en/texts/hope-is-the-thing-with-feathers)
* [Elie Wiesel’s “The Peril’s of Indifference” Speech](https://www.commonlit.org/en/texts/elie-wiesel-s-the-perils-of-indifference-speech)

**Part II**

Complete a Major Works Data Sheet

For this portion of the assignment, you will examine each part of the novel you chose in order to better understand its themes and content. The link to access the assignment and rubric is here.

Some reminders:

* Cite each source used in MLA format
* Do not use outside sources for summaries or textual support
* Literary device help can be found here
* Read all directions
* Themes are not one word

Expectations:

Below, you will find a list of my expectations for your major works data sheets. The goal of this assignment, remember, is to ensure you have a firm working knowledge of the novel’s content, but also higher level information like literary devices, themes, etc.

Basic MWDS

* Use basic language
* Does not analyze, but merely regurgitates
* Writes what you think or feel about a passage’s meaning
* Uses minimal examples
* Uses summary rather than analysis

Higher Level MWDS

* Analyzes the text specific to the literary device, theme, character, etc., demonstrating a greater understanding of the novel
* Makes insightful connections
* Makes connections to different texts (previous novels read, poems, films, songs, etc.)
* Considers the purpose behind the author’s use of the devices
* Uses complex language and sentence structures
* Uses several sentences of explanation

A Word on Academic Integrity

Throughout this process, there is to be NO collaboration with other students. Any assistance from the Internet, movies, or secondary sources such as Sparknotes, Shmoop, eNotes or BookRags will be viewed as cheating and you will receive a zero. If you have questions on this or formatting, email me at [hrussell@lexingtonchristian.org](mailto:hrussell@lexingtonchristian.org).

**Part III**

Timed Writing

During the first week of school, we will complete a timed writing that serves as a diagnostic tool. I will provide you with a prompt and you will be able to use your novel, annotations, and major works data sheets. This assignment is to help me gauge where you are individually with writing and provide a few areas of opportunity for growth in your writing.

**FINAL COMMENTS & CHECK LIST**

In order to effectively prepare us for the next step into Advanced Placement and other high-level courses, Honors English II is a rigorous course. If you are unsure about this level of rigor, I suggest speaking with your counselor and switching your schedule. Ideally, taking Honors English II means you enjoy reading and writing and look forward to in-depth class discussions.

As a reminder, I am extremely serious when it comes to academic integrity. Please review LCA’s policy on cheating and plagiarism. If you have used your friends’ notes, Sparknotes, or other online summaries, you will receive a zero. There will be no exceptions.

Your assignments are due on the first day of class. I do not take late work, so it is a good idea to pace yourself throughout the summer and complete these assignments early. Please do not expect good grades for work thrown together the night before the due date.

My goal is to support you in any way I can. Throughout the summer, if you find you have questions over the assignments given, please do not hesitate to reach out to me (hrussell@lexingtonchristian.org). This is a great time to advocate for yourself and take ownership of your education! Below is a final check list and points associated with each assignment.

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Assignment** | **Point Value** | **Due Date** |
| Read and annotate *Night* | N/A | August 11, 2021, at the beginning of class |
| Complete Major Works Data Sheet | 50 | August 11, 2021, at the beginning of class |
| Timed Writing (diagnostic) | 50 | August 11, 2021, during class |
| **Total** | **100** |  |