

## *Summer Reading Points of Interest and Importance – Sophomores*

**Summer reading is not optional. There will be a test over the summer material within the first week of your return to classes. There will not be a review of the summer titles during class time; therefore, it is imperative that you complete the directives below. The exam over the summer reading titles will definitely impact your grade for Marking Period #1.**

The last point on this page concerns a written assignment in response to the summer reading. **This will be collected on the first day of school and will be factored into your grade for summer reading.**

- ✓ As you enjoy your Summer Reading selections, please challenge yourself to identify the authors' message(s) behind the reading.
- ✓ Practice using your knowledge of the literary elements:
  - i.e. plot, symbolism, foreshadowing, irony, characterization, theme, etc. If you have forgotten or are unfamiliar with any of these elements, be sure to research them to further your understanding.
- ✓ Know the characters, how they relate to one another, their circumstances/dilemma, and their resolution or solution to their conflict(s).
- ✓ Look up any vocabulary within the text that seems unclear to you. It may turn up on your summer reading test.
- ✓ Note a scene or two of significance to each of the stories, and be prepared to explain why you cited these particular scenes as being important to you personally and the overall story.
- ✓ Remain aware of the descriptions of and changes to setting(s). Note why these changes are necessary and how they move the story forward.
- ✓ It would also be a good idea to briefly research the author of each story and read their on-line biographies and, if included, thoughts on the titles you have been assigned. ***Be sure to use a credible source for your research.***

- ✓ **Respond to the following essay questions with an original answer – do not use outside sources.**

Prepare **two separate one page** (minimum) responses for each of the following questions. Your documents are to be double-spaced and prepared using a size 12, Times New Roman font. No handwritten responses will be accepted.

Use one-inch margins: right, left, top, and bottom. Place your name at the top one-inch right hand margin. You may identify each essay by the name of the work. Be sure that each essay includes an introduction, body, and conclusion.

Also, at the conclusion of your reading, jot down what you liked or disliked most about each of the titles. Likewise, are you more or less inclined to read something else by these authors? Be prepared to explain why or why not. You may include these remarks in your one page response paper to each of the titles.

***Night:* The author of this story faces extreme hardships throughout his ordeal. Choose one aspect of his suffering in relation to a particular incident and identify how his reaction to his circumstances suggest elements of personal character, foreshadowing of additional suffering, an irony of life, and unique symbolic meaning.**

***Between Shades of Gray:* Based on the stories that unfold during this narrative, what is said about humanity in the face of such inhumane conditions? Does it fold and reduce itself to survival at all costs or is it able to redeem itself despite the destitute circumstances? Provide several examples to support your opinion.**

### *Summer Reading Points of Interest and Important - Juniors*

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The last point on this page concerns a written assignment in response to the summer reading. **This will be collected on the first day of school** and will be factored into your grade for summer reading.

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- ✓ Note a scene or two of significance to each of the stories, and be prepared to explain why you cited these particular scenes as being important to you personally and the overall story.
  
- ✓ Remain aware of the descriptions of and changes to setting(s). Note why these changes are necessary and how they move the story forward.
  
- ✓ It would also be a good idea to briefly research the author of each story and read their on-line biographies and, if included, thoughts on the titles you have been assigned. ***Be sure to use a creditable source for your research.***
  
- ✓ At the conclusion of your reading, jot down what you liked or disliked most about each of the titles. Likewise, are you more or less inclined to read something else by these authors? Be prepared to explain why or why not. You may include these remarks in your one page response paper to each of the titles. (Two separate papers)

- ✓ \*Respond to the following essay question with an original answer – do not use outside sources. Use one-inch margins top to bottom, left to right. Place your name at the top right hand one-inch margin.

***Salt to the Sea:***

***This story is told using alternating points of view. Does this writing technique, in your opinion, move the story forward in an interesting fashion, or does it merely work to confuse the reader? Explain your answer and support your stance, as you choose one of the characters' points of view and the story he or she tells. How does "seeing" the situation through this character's eyes affect the overall novel?***

***Setting Free the Kites***

***Throughout the novel the reader finds an essential weave of unlikely or unexpected relationships. Choose one of these pairings, and after explain what influenced your choice, focus on what formed the bond between these two characters, what maintained it, and why it was necessary to the story.***

***Note: Look beyond the obvious friendship between Robert and Nathen when making your selection.***