

Honors Sophomore English Summer Homework Assignment

“We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, then, is not an act, but a habit.” ~Aristotle

Welcome to Honors Sophomore English. Congratulations on making the decision to challenge and reward yourself by taking this class. In this class you will study World Literature with an emphasis on reading, writing, speaking and research skills. This course is organized around essential questions which will shape how you read a text and help you learn to think more critically. Genuine learning is active, not passive, and it requires that you think, not just remember. You must question, inquire, discuss, practice, construct responses, and present your ideas and conclusions to your peers and sometimes community members.

Complete the summer homework listed below before the first day of school so that we have a basis for discussion and a tool to learn new concepts for analyzing what we read and how we read. We will discuss the novel *Lord of the Flies* for the first two weeks of class and you will be required to take a test and do another writing assignment about the text.

If you do not complete the assignment over the summer, you will be given an opportunity to complete it during the first two weeks of class but you will be doing double homework and it may be difficult for you to catch up. You will also not be able to participate fully with the class discussions that we will have regarding the text. We strongly advise you to do the **Summer Homework for English 2 Honors before the first day of school** if you want to get off to a strong start for your Sophomore year.

Please contact us if you have any questions regarding this summer homework assignment or if you have any questions about the English 2 Honors class. We look forward to meeting you on the first day of school. Thank you for your time.

Mrs. Kurth
English Instructor and Reading Specialist
kkurth@smjuhsd.org

Mrs. Robinson
English Instructor
erobinson@smjuhsd.org

Read the novel *Lord of the Flies* by William Golding
Ebook link: http://colleronline.weebly.com/uploads/2/8/2/0/2820270/lotf_text.pdf

Watch the 1963 movie *Lord of the Flies* directed by Peter Brook
[Lord of the Flies movie from YouTube](#)

Honors Sophomore English Summer Homework Assignment

On the first day of school, you will be required to submit the following three documents via Canvas.

1. A formal **typed** essay that answers the following prompt: Which of the versions of *Lord of the Flies* - the novel or the film - is superior? Support your claim with an analysis of which form of the story better displays five of the themes listed below and include passages from the text to support your position.
2. Lord of the Flies Theme Assignment (**typed**).
3. The novel vs. movie notes assignment (**can be handwritten or typed**).

To prepare for the formal typed essay, you will first complete the ***Lord of the Flies* Theme Assignment (typed)**:

To prepare to write a well-supported and cohesive formal essay, it is **essential** that you take notes while you are reading. You will look for and identify important passages from the novel that reveal the character/s and the essential themes that arise in the novel. To do this, you will choose five of the themes below to focus on, and under each theme, you will:

1. Record at least two significant passages (with their page numbers cited) that exemplify the theme you are recording under.
2. Record your responses to those passages.

Guidelines for selecting significant passages from *Lord of the Flies*:

Find passages in the text that show how characters grow and change over the course of the novel, both in their attitudes and outlook on life. What do these changes illustrate about human tendencies (these would be related to those themes)? How does the author use symbolism and conflict to reveal larger ideas about human nature? How do the topics and themes mentioned above connect to the characters? Look for opportunities in the novel to expand on and analyze character actions, events, and ideas as they relate to the themes identified above. How do character actions, events, and ideas provide insight into larger truths about how people tend to act?

Themes to choose from:

- Loss of innocence and coming of age
- Fear of the unknown
- Social evils and the pain of war
- Civilization versus savagery
- People's inner conflicts
- Individualism versus Community
- The destructive power of jealousy and insecurity
- The nature of evil
- The primitive brutality of humans
- the idea that too much power can corrupt.

Honors Sophomore English Summer Homework Assignment

The next step is to watch the movie and complete the **Novel Versus Movie Notes Assignment**:

In preparation for the essay, it is essential to understand the different ways the movie and the novel portray the various themes you have chosen to explore. For this assignment, you will take notes relating to significant differences between the novel and the film in the following three areas and how they contribute to and detract from the portrayal of the themes:

1. How the characters are portrayed and developed.
2. How the conflicts between the boys on the island are portrayed.
3. How the setting and descriptions are different.

The final step is to write your formal **typed** essay:

Answer the following prompt: Which of the versions of *Lord of the Flies* - the novel or the film - is superior? Support your claim with an analysis of which form of the story better displays five of the themes listed and include passages from the text to support your position. The most common way to organize this formal essay is by theme and because there are five themes, that would mean that a seven-paragraph essay is recommended.