

12th Grade Summer Book Report Assignment

The Hobbit by JRR Tolkien

Assignment One:

- The Hobbit by JRR Tolkien
 - **Choose one of the following prompts:** Essay should be typed 12 size font, times new roman, doubled spaced and **AT LEAST 3 PAGES LONG.**
- Prompt A:
 - Analyze the motif of the hero's journey in *The Hobbit*. In what ways does Bilbo Baggins experience the steps of an archetypal hero journey? Does Bilbo fit the description of an archetypal hero? Compare this story to another classical or modern quest narrative. How is Bilbo similar to other heroes in literature? How is he different?
- Prompt B:
 - Examine the treatment of race in *The Hobbit*. Is it fair to suggest that all members of a certain group (dwarves, trolls, goblins, elves, etc.) share the same characteristics? How does this treatment of ethnic groups reflect the cultural perspective of the first half of the twentieth century? How might the book be different if it were written today?
- Prompt C:
 - Elaborate on the themes that you noticed throughout the book and how the conclusion/ending of this story emphasized any of those themes. Why didn't Tolkien just end the book after the battle? What is the purpose of devoting two chapters to Bilbo's return? How do these chapters help develop the character and/or important themes?
- Prompt D:
 - Tolkien includes traditional creatures such as elves, dwarves, dragons, trolls, goblins, and wizards in his story. Choose one of these creatures and research its appearance in world myths, legends, and folktales. Compare your research to the book and give examples of where you think specific tales inspired Tolkien when he created his creatures. In what ways did he transform the source material (your research) of the traditional stories and legends? What characteristics of the creatures did Tolkien emphasize and what did he omit? What do his changes reveal about his values and his purpose in creating Middle-earth?
 - Rules:
 - Times new roman font size 12
 - Double spaced
 - Remember to always indent before the next paragraph

Essay Rubric

	3	2	1
Organization	A proper flow of an introduction, body, and conclusion in your essay	Somewhat of an introduction, body, and conclusion in your essay	No flow and/or no introduction, body, or conclusion in your essay.
Spelling and Grammar	No mistakes in spelling and grammar	Some mistakes in spelling and grammar	A lot of mistakes in spelling and grammar
Vocabulary	Used a lot of vocabulary words that you learned from the book	Used some vocabulary words that you learned in class or from the book	Used little to no vocabulary words that you learned from the book
Usage of Text	Was able to find proper examples from the book and reference and relate them to their points	Used an example from the book but didn't completely succeed at relating it to the point / Wasn't able to properly reference the example.	Used little to no examples from the book or used an example but it did not fit what the essay prompt was asking you to look for