

# **BLOOMINGTON HIGH SCHOOL**

COLTON JOINT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

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*“STEPPING INTO THEIR NEW MILLENNIUM OF SUCCESS”*

## **Honors Literature (10<sup>th</sup> grade) Required Summer Work 2013**

Dear Student:

Welcome to Honors English II at Bloomington High School. If you were successful in Honors English I or are willing to take on a new academic challenge, this is most likely the class in which you belong. Please read and strongly consider whether you are willing and able to devote the time and energy this class requires. We take an in-depth approach to the study of literature, analysis, poetry, and writing.

- ❖ *We expect you to be interested in the way that language is written from different perspectives and what it implies about the context in which it is written.*
- ❖ *We expect you to be serious about applying grammar, mechanics, usage and syntax in your writing and speaking.*
- ❖ *We expect you to follow directions so that you do not waste your time.*
- ❖ *We expect you to put in time not only completing the work that is due, but in studying the material to mastery.*
- ❖ *We expect you to be willing to take risks and to participate in class discussions.*
- ❖ *We expect that you ask many questions, do more than what is asked of you and work together with your peers, teachers, and others to gain better understanding of the world through literature.*
- ❖ *We expect you to be willing to work up to high standards; we know you are not experts in these areas.*

***“It’s not good enough that we do our best; sometimes we have to do what’s required. “***

***-Winston Churchill***

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To help you prepare for the year, we have given you a summer reading assignment. **There is required work that goes with the readings, which will be due the first DAY of school.**

Your first step is to access the summer reading assignment at [www.Edmodo.com](http://www.Edmodo.com). The class group number is **pwL8hb**. Select English Honors 2 and you will be able to set up your own student account. Please get familiar with accessing assignments through edmodo. Much of the class will be conducted on the ‘board’.

The summer reading assignment consists of a novel, poetry, and art analysis. You must secure your own copy of the novel either by purchasing it or checking it out from the public library.

**The book you will need to read is A Tree Grows in Brooklyn by Betty Smith. ISBN-10: 0061652768**

**ISBN-13: 978-0061652769**

You should read the book carefully as you complete the required reading assignments. The assignments are meant to enrich and deepen your understanding of the novel. Copies are in most libraries and general bookstores. You can also search online Amazon.com or half.com. (Owning your own copies of the books we read throughout this year is beneficial to you, as you will be able to underline, highlight and use your book reading experience to the fullest.)

If you do a portion of the reading a day, the assignments will not seem so long. Pace yourself and stay on top of this. If you have questions, PLEASE e-mail me and I will be happy to help!

***“The only man who makes no mistakes is the man who never does anything.”***

Theodore Roosevelt

**How will reading or not reading this book and handout affect to my placement or grade in Honors English?**

- *Failure to read the text and completing the assignment may result in your being placed in a non-honors class or having mandatory tutoring after school.*
- *You will be tested on the texts during the first week of school and be completing an in-class project.*
- *You will also be given a grade for the assignments which will be a portion of your quarter grade.*
- *We will be using the novel, poetry, and art as a part of many discussions and assignments throughout the first quarter. If you haven't read them, you'll be at a definite disadvantage.*

**A Note about Plagiarism:** *Plagiarism is not acceptable. While you may (and are even encouraged to) consult outside sources and references to deepen your understanding of the works that you read, the work that you submit must be your own – your own thoughts and interpretations, in your own words. Any phrases from other sources should be properly cited in MLA form. No credit will be given for work that is plagiarized and any student who plagiarizes will be referred for removal from the course.*

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Please remember that the classes in the honors program prepare students to take and pass the Advanced Placement literature and language exams. Students need a solid grasp of details and facts from the works in order to make inferences to analyze the literature. We cover core works from the standard Freshman English course of study in addition to other works for in-depth study. Also remember you will have reading assignments over winter and spring breaks, so please come to class with a strong work ethic and a hunger for learning.

If this course of study does not meet your needs, please enroll in an alternate class. Honors II is challenging, but it is interesting and fun when students come prepared to contribute and to learn.

If you have ANY questions or concerns, I am more than happy to help you. That is what I am here for!

Sincerely,

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