

Summer Reading
Pre-IB/AP English Language and Composition
D. Winslow, Room 249

The entire summer reading assignment consists of just two books and related activities:

The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy by Douglas Adams

Fast Food Nation by Eric Schlosser

The Hitchhiker's Guide provides a source of language study, British style, and the study of humor, a major theme in so many analytical papers in this course, especially related to sources that include Mark Twain, Henry James, *The Onion* writers, Garrison Keillor, and Barbara Ehrenreich.

Fast Food Nation provides a source of journalistic language, and it provides a source that presents an opportunity for the analysis of non-fiction prose.

First, READ both books!

Then, write a paper of 800-1,000 words that uses the following thesis: ***The humor in The Hitchhiker's Guide originates from a variety of diction choices, rhetorical devices, and descriptions of ironic or unlikely situations.***

You may re-word the thesis in any way you like, just as long as you discuss the three main areas of diction, rhetoric, and descriptives.

YOU MUST INCLUDE MANY EXCERPTS FROM THE TEXT TO SUPPORT YOUR DISCUSSION.

YOU MUST INCLUDE A TOPIC SENTENCE IN EACH PARAGRAPH.

PLEASE PLACE THE THESIS AT THE END OF THE FIRST PARAGRAPH.

PLEASE USE THE FOLLOWING STRUCTURE FOR THE LAST PARAGRAPH: RE-STATEMENT OF THESIS (DO NOT SAY THE SAME WORDS AGAIN, PLEASE!); SUMMARY OF DETAILS; "CLINCHER" OR SETTLED ENDING SENTENCE.

****IMPORTANT! YOU MUST USE MLA STYLE, SHOWING 1" MARGINS LEFT, RIGHT, BOTTOM; A HEADER (TOP, RIGHT-HAND SIDE OF PAPER) WITH YOUR LAST NAME, SPACE, SEQUENTIAL PAGE NUMBER; A HEADING (TOP, LEFT-HAND SIDE OF PAPER) WITH YOUR NAME, TEACHER NAME (Ms. Winslow), COURSE NAME (AP English Language and Composition), and DUE DATE (first day of school in August 2012). THE ENTIRE PAPER MUST BE DOUBLE SPACED. PLEASE ELIMINATE EXTRA SPACING AROUND THE TITLE OR AT THE BOTTOM OF THE PAGE. PAPERS THAT DO NOT MEET MINIMUM MLA REQUIREMENTS WILL BE RETURNED SO THAT YOU CAN FIX THE ERRORS AND RE-SUBMIT THE PAPER; HOWEVER, FIVE POINTS ARE DEDUCTED FOR EACH RE-SUBMISSION! PLEASE FOLLOW MLA STANDARDS THE FIRST TIME. HANDWRITTEN PAPERS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. FLASHDRIVES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. PLEASE HAVE THE ACTUAL PAPER READY FOR DELIVERY ON THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL.***

The second part of the assignment is the reading of ***Fast Food Nation***. Read the book, annotate it, and bring it with you the first day of school, along with your typed *Hitchhiker's* analytical essay. Then, bring the book along on the second day of school, too (it's in your bookbag now, right?), and we will write a timed writing on a prompt related to the book and the annotation you completed.

Any questions? Contact Ms. Winslow at Gulf High School. Thank you.