

ENGLISH 11 HONORS: *THE GLASS CASTLE* SUMMER PROJECT

Honors English 11 Summer Reading Assignment 2021 Goals:

- Demonstrate your understanding and critical thinking about texts, specifically *The Glass Castle*.
- Demonstrate your ability to select evidence to support your analysis of a big idea.
- Demonstrate your ability to connect parts of the novel to your own life and analyze the significance, opening your mind toward others' views and to challenge your own perceptions.
- Familiarize yourself with the types of assignments, content, and skills covered in Honors English 11 so that you can make an informed decision about whether this class is the right fit for you.

Since we use this assignment as a baseline assessment of your abilities, please be sure that this assignment represents your best work.

PART 1: LITERARY TERMS

There is a list of terms attached to this assignment. If you had me for Honors 10 you should already have this list completed. It will need to come back with you to class. If you didn't have me for 10 Honors, you will need to work to look up the words in the packet as we will use the packet throughout the school year.

PART 2: READING AND ANNOTATING THE NOVEL

Directions:

1. Please acquire the memoir *The Glass Castle* by Jeannette Walls. You may come see me for a copy for utilize the following website:

https://www.houstonisd.org/cms/lib2/TX01001591/Centricity/Domain/17638/The_Glass_Castle.pdf

Otherwise, you may check it out from a library or purchase from an online store such as Amazon.

2. Please purchase 3x3" post it notes to use for annotations, or you can download the book online and use highlights.

3. As you carefully read the memoir, complete the following annotations:

a. Text to World: Students analyze the connection between ideas and conflicts in the text and current or historic events. How is the text relevant to current or historical events? How is the text relevant to humanity? How does this text make you think about the big ideas of goals and education? You may annotate using sticky notes or you may write directly in the book (if you own it). On each sticky note, write the idea as well as analysis about why that quote or passage is significant (see above for ideas).

Quality annotations should look like this:

Jeanette's interest in going to college as a way to get out of Welch makes me think of "Operation Varsity Blues." The students whose families buy their way into good schools robbing students like Jeannette of the chance to change her life, which she desperately needs.

Poor Quality annotations look like this:

WOW! This is important. What does this mean? Education. That is messed up.

I WILL NOT GIVE YOU A SPECIFIC MINIMUM NUMBER OF ANNOTATIONS BECAUSE I DO NOT WANT TO ENCOURAGE YOU TO DO THE BARE MINIMUM. As you read the text, annotations should be insightful and original, not summary or Sparknotes.

PART 3: Essay

Write an essay in which you analyze the connection between ideas and conflicts in the text and current or historic events. How is the text relevant to current or historical events? How is the text relevant to humanity? How does this text make you think about the big ideas of goals and education? This will need to be in MLA format.

FOLLOW THE FORMAL RULES OF WRITING: NO 1ST PERSON, 2ND PERSON, AND NO CONTRACTIONS.

FINAL THOUGHTS:

As with any long-term project, please pace yourself to complete the reading and prior to the beginning of school in August. All summer assignments are due the first day of school; assignments will not be accepted after the due date. Keep in mind, the summer project is worth a high number of points. While it may be tempting to only utilize Sparknotes or another review site, I caution you about relying on the interpretation presented as it is just that—someone's interpretation of the literature, themes, etc. You are better served by reading the novel and completing the tasks on your own with the integrity of your ideas and thoughts. We will refer to this work throughout the school year.

If you have any questions regarding the summer assignment, please feel free to email me at kmorgan@mail.kana.k12.wv.us which I will be checking throughout the summer. Have a fabulous summer!