

## 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](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. Moments of conformity and the outcomes
- b. Moments of nonconformity and the outcomes

#### **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 Jeanette 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 argumentative essay in which you the following question: Is it better to conform to societal expectations or to practice nonconformity? This will need to be in MLA format.

FOLLOW THE FORMAL RULES OF WRITING: NO 1<sup>ST</sup> PERSON, 2<sup>ND</sup> 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](mailto:kmorgan@mail.kana.k12.wv.us) which I will be checking at least once a week throughout the summer. Have a fabulous summer!