

## English IV and English IV Honors Summer Assignments

Summer is a time for vacations, ice-cream, roller coasters, and relaxation. None of us want you to miss out on your hard-earned break. However, statistically, most students lose about three months of knowledge and skills every summer break due to little or no intellectual engagement. Since we care as much about your ability to retain the intellectual skills that you have acquired this past year, here are your Summer Reading Assignments.

### Assignment #1

Newspaper Article Log- Identify and clip 5 Newspaper articles, either from an online Newspaper or a physical newspaper, about the actions or deeds of a person or persons that you would deem heroic or valiant. Write (*or type using 12pt font, Times New Roman, double spaced*) a ONE page reflection of each article. All articles must have been published anytime between the months of May and July. Each reflection MUST include a one paragraph summary of the article (including the location) and an explanation of the emotion the article evoked. Each article must ALSO include responses to the following:

- 1) This article is about...
- 2) This article is significant because it sheds light on...
- 3) I think the deeds of this person/people are heroic because...
- 4) I wholeheartedly...
- 5) I hope that...

NOTE: *All article reflections must be typed or written on a new page. Each reflection must have the article attached. If articles are found online, use EasyBib.org to create a proper MLA citation.*

### Assignment #2

Each of you will write personal essays when you begin applying to College in September—and periodically afterwards as you apply for jobs and enter the workplace. These essays are meant to help potential schools or employers probe beneath the surface and see whether you have the qualities a particular college or company is looking for. What do you want the readers of your application to know about you apart from courses, grades, and test scores? Select **TWO** from the following options and write or type two essays of no more than 650 words each, using the prompts to inspire your response. Remember: 650 words is your limit, not your goal.

1. Some students have a background, identity, interest, or talent that is so meaningful they believe their application would be incomplete without it. If this sounds like you, then please share your story.
2. The lessons we take from obstacles we encounter can be fundamental to later success. Recount a time when you faced a challenge, setback, or failure. How did it affect you, and what did you learn from the experience?
3. Reflect on a time when you questioned or challenged a belief or idea. What prompted your thinking? What was the outcome?
4. Describe a problem you've solved or a problem you'd like to solve. It can be an intellectual challenge, a research query, an ethical dilemma - anything that is of personal importance, no matter the scale. Explain its significance to you and what steps you took or could be taken to identify a solution.
5. Discuss an accomplishment, event, or realization that sparked a period of personal growth and a new understanding of yourself or others.
6. Describe a topic, idea, or concept you find so engaging that it makes you lose all track of time. Why does it captivate you? What or who do you turn to when you want to learn more?
7. Share an essay on any topic of your choice. It can be one you've already written, one that responds to a different prompt, or one of your own design.

BOTH ASSIGNMENTS WILL BE COLLECTED DURING THE FIRST WEEK OF SCHOOL AND ASSIGNED A GRADE FOR CYCLE ONE. LET'S START THE YEAR OFF STRONG. HAVE AN AWESOME AND PRODUCTIVE SUMMER!