

Honors English I
Summer Reading Assignment 2017

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Please note: Assignment is due on the first day of school, even if you have Honors English I second semester!

***Questions: If you have any questions over the summer pertaining to the assignment, please email either of us. We will get back with you as soon as we can.
Good luck, and see you in August!***

Please do not use your school Google account to complete this assignment, you will lose access to it over the summer.

1. *Tuesdays with Morrie* by Mitch Albom

You must purchase this book, as PCHS does not provide it for students.

This year, Honors English I is required to read *Tuesdays with Morrie* for the summer reading assignment. We will begin our semester focused on this book, so I am asking you to read and reflect on it over the summer. Part of the reason we read is to learn more about others and ourselves. Many of the stories we read tell about individuals who have transformed their lives due to the impact of a special person. *Tuesdays with Morrie* is a nonfiction book, written by Mitch Albom, a columnist and radio host in Michigan. Albom tells the story of a professor, Morrie Schwartz, who taught Mitch and impacted his life through their “classes” together. It was in the last class that the author learns how to live. This book will give you an opportunity to learn what Morrie had to teach while also giving you an opportunity to reflect on your own life. You may shed tears and laugh, but this is not a depressing story because Morrie teaches us how to live. He helps us to see that it is what we do without life that is important.

2. Assignment Requirements

As you finish the summer reading, please complete the following assignments.

- I. Reader Response Journal
- II. Aphorism Assignment

***All summer reading assignments should be completed in full, and TURNED IN ON THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL. Any student, who fails to turn in his or her summer reading assignments, will earn zeroes for the assignments.**

Tuesdays with Morrie

Reader Response Journals

Directions: Answer each of the following prompts on a separate sheet of paper. Each answer should be at least one well-written paragraph long. This means you should have about 4-5 sentences minimum including:

- a topic sentence,
- at least two to three comment sentences for each detail,
- a concluding sentence.

Note: You must label and type each response in 12pt, Times New Roman font, and make sure each paragraph is double-spaced.

1. Morrie says, "There's a big confusion in this country over what we want versus what we need...you know what really gives you satisfaction? Offering others what you have to give." (p. 126) Morrie is quite critical of the cultural emphasis on consumption and wealth. How do you respond to his thoughts about our culture? **25 points**
2. "Devote yourself to loving others, devote yourself to your community, and devote yourself to creating something that gives you meaning and purpose." Morrie repeats these concepts multiple times during his conversations with Mitch. Reflect on how you are already, or could be, fulfilling this mandate. **25 points**
3. Shortly before he died, Morrie described for Mitch his perfect day. What would a perfect day look like for you? **25 points**
4. The relationship between Mitch and Morrie was important to both of them. In many ways, Morrie was a mentor – someone Mitch looked up to and respected, someone who was willing to help Mitch think about his own life, values, and purpose. Who is a mentor for you? What are some life issues facing you now? How might a mentor be helpful to you with those issues? **25 points**

Tuesdays with Morrie

Aphorism Assignment

Directions: Make a list of **ten** aphorisms (a succinct statement expressing an opinion or a general truth about life) that Morrie gives to Mitch over the course of their meetings. In a Google document, create a chart like the one below, after listing each aphorism, briefly describe what the aphorism means in a well-written sentence. **10 points each!**

APHORISMS with their meanings

| |
|---------|
| 1. |
| Meaning |
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