

# HONORS ENGLISH SUMMER ASSIGNMENT, 2021

Congratulations! You have enrolled in one of the English Advanced Placement track classes for the 2021-2022 school year. Advanced Placement and Honors classes are designed for students who are committed to the challenge of rigorous coursework. This is an exciting commitment, one for which all concerned must be aware of the opportunities and rewards.

As part of the curriculum for Honors English, students are required to complete a summer reading assignment. It is required that you purchase your own copy of the book for personal note taking as you read. The book can be obtained at any bookstore (Barnes & Noble in Camp Hill will stock it) and is to be read in its entirety during the summer. Movies, *Cliff's Notes*, *Spark Notes*, and other "study aides" should be used only as such and not as replacements for the complete work. **You will be tested on the reading during the first week of school.** The test grade will be reflected as a significant part of your first marking period grade. It is **STRONGLY SUGGESTED** that if you read the book early in the summer, you write a reading log to refresh your memory for the test in August. **Such a log will not be collected for credit, but you may use it in class when the novel is studied and discussed.**

The coursework for 10th Grade Honors English begins with the summer assignment. This year's assignment involves reading a novel and completing an activity in conjunction with the reading.

## **Supplies you will need for your summer work and the 2020-21 school year:**

- A 3-subject spiral notebook with dividers and pockets. A majority of your work will be done in this notebook throughout the coming school year. Please invest wisely.
- Sticky notes (Post-Its), highlighters, and pens/pencils.
- A copy of *The Book Thief* by Markus Zusak. The book can be purchased online at Amazon.com or at any major bookstore.

## **Summer Work Assignments:**

### **Activity 1: Pre-Reading**

1. Do some research about the author, Markus Zusak.

\* Write down 10 interesting things about him in your notebook.

\* Be sure to include the source you used to find the information for the facts.

2. Read the following information about the book:

Liesel Meminger is only nine years old when she is taken to live with the Hubermanns, a foster family, on Himmel Street in Molching, Germany, in the late 1930s. She arrives with few possessions, but among them is *The Gravedigger's Handbook*, a book she stole from her brother's burial place. During the years that Liesel lives with the Hubermanns, Hitler becomes more powerful, life on Himmel Street becomes more fearful, and Liesel becomes a full-fledged book thief. She rescues books from Nazi book burnings and steals from the library of the mayor. Liesel is illiterate when she steals her first book, but Hans Hubermann uses her prized books to teach her to read. This is a story of courage, friendship, love, survival, death, and grief. This is Liesel's life on Himmel Street, told from Death's point of view.

## **Activity 2: Read *The Book Thief* by Markus Zusak**

*\*\*Note: The book is lengthy but very engaging. Please plan enough time to read the book and complete the assignment before you return to school in August.*

- \* While reading the book, **actively read**. This means you should be underlining/highlighting/using sticky notes to mark significant elements of the book's plot, character development, symbolism, or other areas of significance.
- \* At the end of each chapter/section, list 3-4 bullet points of events that happened. You will have a test for *The Book Thief* in August, so it would be beneficial for you to have something to review.
- \* On the first day of school, you must have your own copy of the book and it must be marked. I will be checking for highlighting/notes in the book as part of your grade.

## **Activity 3: Summary Project**

After you have finished reading, you will create a summary of the book using only quotes.

- \* Choose **15** quotes from the entire book that you believe are significant and that fully tell the story of *The Book Thief*.
- \* For each piece of textual evidence, you must cite the page number.
- \* Be sure you are using **direct textual evidence** from the book, and remember that this is **honors-level work**.
- \* Create a digital project that displays your chosen quotes/descriptions.

- \* The project should include a title with your name.
- \* You need to display each quote that you have chosen. Create a visual representation of each quote (hand-drawn, computer generated, clip art, copyright-friendly image, etc.).
- \* The project should be original and creative.
- \* Some examples include a slide presentation, a movie project, a vodcast, a digital book, a web page, etc.

**\*\*\*Tell the entire story through direct textual evidence.\*\*\***

#### **Activity 4: Post-Reading Reflection**

**Write a short response to the following question using paragraph format.**

Does the author's use of Death's point of view positively or negatively affect *The Book Thief*?

- \* Explain/support your thoughts with two examples from the book.
- \* You will type this response, print it, and give it to me on the first day of school.
- \* Be sure to include your name at the top of the assignment.

**For any questions about the summer assignment, please email Mrs. Hyde at [lhyde@wssd.k12.pa.us](mailto:lhyde@wssd.k12.pa.us)**

Note that this email is not checked daily during the summer. Please allow several days for a reply.