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English 2 Honors Required Summer Assignments 2009-10

Congratulations on your decision to enroll in the rigorous honors program. As you know, the honors program is an intensive setting where you will be challenged by the pace of the class, the critical thinking required, and the scope of the materials. In order to prepare for the coming school year we are requiring that you complete the following work before the start of class. Please understand, the summer work **is mandatory** as explained in both the course catalogue and the honors contract you were required to sign upon enrollment in this class.

"In 1970, Americans spent about \$6 billion on fast food; in 2000, they spent more than \$110 billion. Americans now spend more money on fast food than on higher education, personal computers, computer software, or new cars. They spend more on fast food than on movies, books, magazines, newspapers, videos, and recorded music — combined." (Fast Food Nation)

The summer assignments have been chosen to introduce the concepts of the politics and marketing behind much of the food industry in our country and others. The lessons to come will prepare students to analyze expository texts, extrapolate information, and apply these concepts to the core literature. Significant writing will be assigned to further students skills in expository, argumentative, and response to literature writing styles.

Assignment #1: Turnitin.com

1. Register for a turnitin.com account at www.turnitin.com. Directions on how to do this, as well as the class ID code & password are attached.
2. Add **English 2H 09-10 summer** as a class in preparation for submitting your summer assignment.

Assignment #2: Schoolloop

1. Register for a student account at www.prospect.schoolloop.com. Many of you already have an account, you do not need to create a new account.
2. Find the "English 2 Honors 09-10" group listed under the icon "Groups". Add yourself to this group. You will find a variety of important information for the class posted here.

Assignment #3: *First They Killed My Father: A Daughter of Cambodia Remembers* **OR** *A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy Soldier*

1. Read *First They Killed My Father: A Daughter of Cambodia Remembers* by Loung Ung **OR** *A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy Soldier* by Ishmael Beah
2. Complete the Analysis Assignment for one of the novels. (attached)
3. Submit the Analysis Assignment to turnitin.com. Submissions are due by August 25 at 10:00 p.m. If you have uploading problems – you must see Ms. Feucht or Ms. Potts before or after school (before 3 p.m.) on the 25th. Bring your work on a flash-drive or CD. *Failure to upload your analysis to turnitin.com will result in a loss of all points on the essay.*
4. Bring a printed-out (hard copy) of your analysis to the first day of English class.

Assignment #4: *Fast Food Nation*

1. Read *Fast Food Nation* by Eric Schlosser. **Do not** watch the fictionalized R-rated movie. While reading the novel, please consider the following essential questions. We want you to think about these questions; you do not need to answer them in writing at this time. You should also consider these questions in connection with *First They Killed My Father*, *A Long Way Gone*, and *Super Size Me*.

Essential Questions:

**To what extent do the following entities have a responsibility towards people's health?*

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| a. The Individual | f. Madison Ave.
(Marketing/ Advertising) |
| b. Parents | g. The Government |
| c. School | |
| d. Fast Food Industry | |
| e. Food Industry | |

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**When looking at our choices of the food we grow and consume, how do social issues, economic concerns, environmental factors, and political structures influence our choices?*

2. For each of the ten chapters of this book, find three quotations that you find interesting and/or informative. Mark these quotes in some way that will make them easy to find (e.g. highlight them if the book is your own; use post-it notes or book flags). You will have a total of 30 quotes from the book when you are done.

3. You will have an exam on this novel during the first week of class.

Assignment #5: *Super Size Me* (PG-13) or *King Corn* (Unrated)

1a. Watch *Super Size Me* (PG-13). *Super Size Me* is a documentary film by Morgan Spurlock who asks the intriguing and topical question: What would happen to a normal 33-year-old man in perfect health who stands six feet two and weighs 185 pounds if he ate nothing but McDonald's fast food for thirty days?

or

1b. Watch *King Corn* (UR). *King Corn* is a feature documentary about two friends, one acre of corn, and the subsidized crop that drives our fast-food nation. In *King Corn*, Ian Cheney and Curt Ellis, best friends from college on the east coast, move to the heartland to learn where their food comes from. With the help of friendly neighbors, genetically modified seeds, and powerful herbicides, they plant and grow a bumper crop of America's most-productive, most-subsidized grain on one acre of Iowa soil. But when they try to follow their pile of corn into the food system, what they find raises troubling questions about how we eat-and how we farm (*King Corn*)

2. Take notes that address the essential questions listed under assignment #4. You will be using these notes as support for several in-class and out-of-class writing assignments in the fall.

*** During the month of August, Ms. Feucht will be showing the films in her classroom (room 53) on at least two different days. For students who cannot or do not wish to rent the film or check it out from the library, you will need to attend one of these meetings. Check the schoolloop group for dates and times in early August.*

Note:

Both the summer novels are available for purchase at your local retailer or they may be checked out at your local library. We recommend that students purchase their own copies, when financially feasible, so that students may annotate (write in) the novels. The following is a list of books we recommend you purchase for class use:

- 1) *Fast Food Nation* by Eric Schlosser
- 2) *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers* (7th edition) **ISBN-10:** 1603290249
- 3) *The Joy Luck Club* by Amy Tan (to be read in September)

Although we know you are most eager to begin your preparation for next year's course, you might be wise to wait until the end of July or the first of August before getting started. You will remember more of the details in your literary work and be more prepared for an energetic and insightful discussion in September. So, take a breather, enjoy your summer, prepare, and we look forward to a great year together next fall.



First They Killed My Father or A Long Way Gone Analysis Paper

Format:

Please follow the standard MLA formatting guidelines. Additionally, your paper should be subdivided into four sections, marked by a bolded sub-heading. There will be a sample "analysis paper" located in the Schoolloop: English 2 Honors 09-10 group for those looking for an example. Please note, the sample analysis paper will **not** be on the same novels as currently assigned to you.

Content:

Part 1: Thematic Development

Theme is the author's observation about life or about human behavior. Theme is stated in a sentence, not a word. (e.g. friendship = a topic; friendship is necessary to surviving life's challenges = theme). There can be more than one theme present in a novel.

For this section, you will need to provide a theme for the novel and explain how the theme is developed by providing three incidents in the novel where the author is illustrating the theme. First, state the theme of the novel. Next, describe the first incident in the novel where the theme is present. Tell me what actually happens and how this incident is an example of thematic development. Next, describe the second incident in the novel where the theme is present. Tell me what actually happens and how this incident is an example of thematic development. Finally, describe the third incident in the novel where theme is present. Tell me what actually happens and how this incident is an example of thematic development. You should incorporate three quotes from the novel during your analysis of the thematic development. Be sure to include page numbers for your quotes.

Part 2: Character Development

Choose the main character of the novel.

First, describe your character, the conflict he is facing, and how he acts at the beginning of the novel (or when we first meet him). Next provide a specific quote from the novel that illustrates the behavior of your chosen character at this point. Be sure to include the page number of your quote. Now, explain what this quote shows about the character.

Next, describe how your character acts at the end of the novel (or when he is no longer present in the story). Next provide a specific quote from the novel that illustrates the behavior of your chosen character at this point. Be sure to include the page number of your quote. Now, explain what this quote shows about the character.

Finally, focus on three events that cause growth (mental, emotional, psychological, spiritual) and/or change (mental, emotional, psychological, spiritual) in the character. First, describe one specific incident that causes a change in the character. You may choose to use a quote to help in your description (but your quote should not be the only description). Next, explain what change the incident produces in the character (this change may not be immediate) and how it produces this change. Repeat this process of description and explanation for the second and third events.

Part 3: Writing Style

Choose two quotes from the novel that you feel best shows the author's style of writing. Provide the first quote and page number. Next, in three to four sentences, explain what the quote illustrates about her writing style. Rinse and repeat (i.e. do the same thing for the second quote). Conclude your analysis of the writing style by reflecting on what the author's style of writing contributed to your experience of reading the novel.

Part 4: Personal Critique

In ten sentences, describe your personal reaction to the novel. Be specific and detailed.

Turnitin.com Directions

To register:

1. go to www.turnitin.com
2. click on “new users” in the upper right hand side of screen
3. use the drop down menu to select “student”
4. click “next”
5. enter the “Turnitin Class ID” code : 2746196
6. enter the “Turnitin Class enrollment password”: pricklypear
7. enter your email address
*BE SURE TO WRITE DOWN WHICH EMAIL ADDRESS YOU HAVE CHOSEN TO USE
8. click “next”
9. enter your personal password
*BE SURE TO WRITE DOWN WHICH EMAIL ADDRESS YOU HAVE CHOSEN TO USE
10. click “next”
11. choose a secret question and type in your answer
12. enter your first and last name
13. click “next”
14. click “I agree”
15. click “end wizard & log in”

To add English 2H 09-10 summer

1. log in to your turn it in account.
2. click on “add a class”
3. follow the directions from there...

To submit your paper:

1. click the name of your class “**English 2H 09-10 summer**”
2. click on the “submit” tab
3. enter a submission title (the name of this assignment”
4. browse to attach your paper (as if you were attaching something to an email)
5. click “submit”
6. you will now see the version of your paper that is being uploaded to turnitin.com.
Please make sure this is your final, correct version. There is no going back after you click “yes, submit”
7. click “yes, submit”
8. print out the digital receipt for your records.
9. attach digital receipt to the back of the hard copy of your essay.