

English II PreAP/GT Independent Reading Assignment

Due Date: **Monday, JANUARY 26, 2015**

Title of Book: \_\_\_\_\_

Author: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher Initials: \_\_\_\_\_

Instructions:

- Select a book for independent reading and have it approved. My initials must appear on this page when you turn in your assignment.
- Read your book, being careful to consider the aspects you need to address in your paper.
- Create a typed, double-spaced paper using 12 point, Times New Roman font.
- Your essay **MUST** follow MLA guidelines (refer to the notes we took together in class).
- In order to effectively address each element of the paper, **you must have at least 3 full pages written**

Your paper should include the following elements:

- Give a **brief overview** (2-3 paragraphs) of the book's plot and plot development. Include characters, conflicts, the climax, and resolution. Go ahead and spoil the ending. **(10 points)** – This must be your own. I will check to make sure that it is not copied from SparkNotes or any other online resource.
- Discuss **themes** as they apply to the characters in the book *and as they apply to current-day events*. **(30 points)**
- Discuss the author's use of literary elements, including symbolism, tone, and imagery. Cite specific examples of **each – this means quotes with page numbers!** **(30 points)**
- A brief review of the book, including whether or not you would recommend this book for other people your age and why or why not. This does not mean you will spend an entire paragraph complaining about your book if you didn't like it. Also, you will need to include more than just your opinion. Should others read it? Why or why not? **(30 points)**

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**In addition to writing a paper, you will need to select TWO of the following additional assignments for a Formative grade:**

1. Write a letter to the author. (1-2 FULL pages)
2. Research and write a report on the author. (1-2 FULL pages)
3. Q & A - Pretend you're interviewing a person from the book. Write your interview in question and answer format. (At least 20 questions)
4. Design a time-line for events in the book. (Must be **VERY** detailed)
5. Write a letter to one of the characters in the book. (1-2 FULL pages)
6. As a literary agent, write a letter to the publishing company designed to persuade them to publish this book. (1-2 FULL pages)
7. Create a glossary of unfamiliar words and phrases. (At least 20; include part of speech and definition)
8. Top 10 List - list ten things you learned from this book. (In complete sentences)

**OR, Select ONE of the following for a Formative grade**

9. Write your own test - a combination of matching, multiple choice, true/false, 2 short answer, and essay. (At least 30 questions w/answer choices and an answer key)
10. Journal as you go - As you're reading the book, keep a two-sided reading journal. The left side should have quotes from the book and page numbers. The right side should have your questions, thoughts, observations, revelations, etc. (At least 30 entries)