**Lakeview Fort Oglethorpe High School**

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May 14, 2018

Students:

You have registered for 9th Grade Honors English for the 2018-2019 school year. I sincerely hope you are looking forward to this year as much as I am. Please read these three novels:

***A Separate Peace* by John Knowles**

***Lord of the Flies* byWilliam Golding**

***To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee**

For each novel please complete the Reader Response assignment, which is attached. Make sure ALL ASSIGNMENTS are completed and ready to turn in by the first day of school. I will give you a tentative reading list for the year with your syllabus in August. **Do not take honors English if you aren’t willing to read outside of class.**

**Reader Response Assignment (sticky-notes)--As you read:**

Using the attached “Reader Response Starters,” record your responses to what you are reading **as you read the work.** These responses will be written on sticky-notes attached to the page that prompted the response from you. **You must also highlight the passage that prompted the response in some way.** You may note the specific passage on the sticky-note or highlight or underline the passage (depending on how you choose to treat your book). While you are taking your tests on these books, I will be looking through and grading your comments, so these are due the first week of school. You will be graded on a rubric that evaluates the quantity, quality, and variety of notes. Make sure the notes are clearly visible. The books and your notes will be returned to you.

**Requirements:**

* 30 minimum notes with corresponding text highlighted in some way
* Cover the book—all notes should not be in one section. There should be more at the beginning and end of the novel.
* Use at least eight categories (see attached “Reader Response Starters”)
* All sticky-notes should be standard 3x3 size or larger and of a light color (dark colors are very difficult to read). Multiple notes may be attached to one section if more space is needed.
* Do not write summary. Do not count your “definition” notes; you can include these if necessary.
* Label notes by category; you don’t have to use the exact phrases on the Reader Response Starters—just use your best judgment as to which category fits your comments
* Visible notes (not sticking out all the way—keep it neat, please)

I am truly looking forward to working with you next year. Please call the school or e-mail if you have any questions concerning your summer assignments.

Sincerely,

Traci McCracken

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**Reader Response Starters**

*Tapping Prior Knowledge*

• I already know that…

• This reminds me of...

• This relates to...

*Forming Interpretations*

• What this means to me is...

• I think this represents...

• The idea I’m getting is...

*Asking Questions*

• I wonder why...

• What if...

• How come...

\*NOTE: If you ask a question, it should be about something you truly do not understand OR it should be about themes, elements, or style. If you are going to ask a question, you should also ATTEMPT an answer; use a “Maybe…” statement. And, certainly, if the answer becomes evident later in your reading, make a note of that, as well.

*Monitoring*

• I got lost here because…

• I need to reread the part where...

• I know I’m on the right track because…

*Predicting*

• I’ll bet that...

• I think...

• If, then...

*Revising Meaning*

• At first I thought, but now I...

• My latest thought about this is...

• I’m getting a different picture here because…

*Visualizing*

• I can picture...

• In my mind I see...

• If this were a movie...

• This word/phrase makes me see just how…

*Analyzing the Author’s Craft*

• A golden line for me is...

• This word/phrase stands out for me because...

• I like how the author uses\_\_\_\_\_\_ to show…

• These specific words seem important to

illustrate the meaning because…

*Making Connections*

• This reminds me of...

• I experienced this once when...

• I can relate to this because...

*Reflecting and Relating*

• So, the big idea is...

• A conclusion I’m drawing is...

• This is relevant to my life because...

• So this is why…

*Adopting an Alignment*

• The character I most identify with is...

• I really got into the story when...

• I can relate to this author because...

*Evaluating*

• I like/don’t like because...

• This could be more effective if...

• The most important message is...

All of your responses do *not* have to start with these phrases, but as you read, you should be thinking in terms of these types of comments. DO NOT try to go back through the book after you have read and complete this assignment. This should be done WHILE YOU READ in order for you to get the full effect of the assignment. Everyone will have different notes and different comments, but generic comments that could be simply “stuck” anywhere throughout the novel will not be counted—such as “EW!” or “I wonder why he did that.” Sticky-notes should show you’re THINKING about what you’re reading.

**Examples from former 9th graders:**

*Tapping Prior Knowledge*

This relates to today’s time because a man wanting to seek a woman’s hand in marriage should still ask her father’s permission out of respect. Also, sometimes the father doesn’t approve of the guy just like Egeus doesn’t approve of Lysander for Hermia.

*Asking Questions*

I wonder why the narrator is so upset about returning home. Is this foreshadowing something bad? I’m thinking that someone in Antonio’s family might die or his father might leave them.

Why does the author put asterisks after random words? I don’t get it. Are all of these words extremely important to the novel???

*Predicting*

I already know that Godfrey has a wife that he is trying to keep secret. I assume she is trying to come to Raveloe to try to reveal the truth about herself to the people of the town.

*Visualizing*

If this were a movie, this scene would be very dramatic and music would be playing in th

background and it would come to a crescendo at this point.

I can picture Silas’s face when he walked outside and found the baby outside on his

doorstep.

*Making Connections*

I experienced this once when my Mother and I disagreed about my choice in friends (she

hated my BFF). We were both so angry and we couldn’t/wouldn’t see the other’s side. It

was horrible but we got over it; maybe these characters will too.

*Adopting an Alignment*

I really got into the story when Curley’s dog was killed because I could tell that its death

was foreshadowing something even worse.

*Forming Interpretations*

The yellow book represents the influence any kind of media or other humans can have on the behavior and thinking patterns of people.

The barbed wires are symbolic of the way each of his “fathers” were. It was hard to get into their hearts. It’s also ironic that these are the types of people Bolden cares for and loves.

*Monitoring*

I know I’m on the right track because Oberon just handed Puck a phial to change Lysander back to how he was. I just hope that Hermia will forgive him and Dimetrius won’t want to fight still.

Oh, no!!! I figured this would happen and now Lucie will know that Charles has a secret.

*Revising Meaning*

At first I thought that Chief Bromden was crazy, but now I realize that he is probably more in touch with reality than Nurse Ratched.

*Analyzing the Author’s Craft*

The conclusion I drew after this chapter is that the author purposely used Leper’s name as a means of symbolism. After enlisting in the army, Leper’s mind “falls apart”, like the skin of a person with leprosy.

I like how the author used this to describe the rich people because the birds weren’t afraid of the scarecrows and always stood on top of them just like the rich weren’t afraid of the poor and always “stood” above them.

I wonder why the author changes point-of-view so much. Maybe it helps the story progress, but it doesn’t help me understand it.

*Reflecting and Relating*

This relates to my older brother and me because we are often out somewhere and he makes me mad and I don’t want to be around him.

This scene actually reminds me of a part in the Bible where Jesus is praying before his crucifixion. His disciples were with him too. It makes me wonder if something as bad will happen to Brutus.

*Evaluating*

I enjoyed the ending of this novel because Dorian got what he deserved. By the end, Dorian was very self-absorbed and uncaring of others. He did whatever it took to get what he wanted and never received punishment for any of it. His death definitely brought him to justice.

The most important message (or the theme) of this novel is “true love is eternal.”

News Flash: This is KEY! This is probably the 2nd biggest, or maybe the 1st biggest, part of the book. They’re all family and this is what it is all about!