

**Chapel Hill High School**  
**Honors 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Literature and Composition**  
**Summer Reading Assignment**

Dear Students and Parents:

Congratulations on qualifying for an Honors English course for the next school year. We are communicating with you in an attempt to be sure all students and their parents/guardians are aware of the higher expectations for these classes. All Honors courses in the Douglas County School System are challenging yet rewarding, with a focus on fostering students who will be ready to meet the challenges of AP and college courses. Honors courses are rigorous, for they are meant to prepare students for AP English courses, but be advised that honors courses do not offer students the possibility of earning college credit. When students enroll in an Honors or AP English course, they will be required to participate in summer reading. The texts that are assigned are considered a part of the curriculum. They are texts of recognized literary merit. Students will be assessed over their summer reading within the first two weeks of school and the summer reading will count: 5% for freshmen and 10% for sophomores, juniors, and seniors. Students enrolled in these classes will be expected to read the assigned texts and complete any related assignments. Summer reading is not optional.

- For Honors Ninth Grade Literature and Composition at CHHS, you are required to read both Ray Bradbury's *Fahrenheit 451* **AND** George Orwell's *Animal Farm*.

**Fahrenheit 451**: Although Ray Bradbury's work is referred to as science fiction, this novel has plenty to say about the world as it is, not as it could be. **As you read the book consider, what does the novel say about the world today? What did Ray Bradbury, the writer, want to caution us about? What role do people play in how the world evolves and changes over time? Does this book reflect any aspect of our current lives? In other words, to what extent was Ray Bradbury's prediction for the future accurate?**

**Animal Farm**: *Animal Farm* is a story with a political purpose. In Russell Baker's preface to the book, he states that "Orwell left us a lesson about the human contribution to political terror that will always be as up-to-date as next year's election." **As you read the book, consider what the novel says about the political world, yesterday and today. What does Orwell want to caution us about? What role do people play in government and the evolution of powerful leaders? To what extent does Orwell's cautionary message apply to American politics and daily life today?**

Assignment: Attached you will find instructions for a culminating project. After you read the two books, you must complete the three pieces of the attached portfolio. Your assignment should be turned in to your teacher on the first day of class in a folder with your name on it.

Additionally, we will be working with these two texts throughout our first two units in the fall. Therefore, in the first few weeks of school you will be required use both of these texts as companion pieces for what we will be reading in class. It is imperative that you are diligent in completing this assignment so that you don't fall behind!

Please let us know if you have any questions. The English department can be reached through CHHS at (770)651-6200.

Have a great summer and happy reading!

## SUMMER READING PORTFOLIO PROJECT

### *Meet in the Middle*

**Guidelines and Instructions:**

- This project will be worth 5% of your final grade in Honors Ninth Grade Literature. The various pieces of your portfolio will be ascribed a point value which is listed below. Please note that you will not earn a passing grade on this assignment if you do not complete all three pieces of the portfolio.
- From the chart below, you will complete three assignments that will be turned in together as one cohesive portfolio. One of the items focuses on *Animal Farm*, one focuses on *Fahrenheit 451* and the other will focus on both texts together.
- Detailed instructions for each of the assignments can be found below along with a rubric. Take note of the pieces of the rubric such as table of contents and cover page.

<p><b>Chronicles of Barn-ia</b></p> <p>(25 Points)</p> <p>Write a series of diary entries from the point of view of one of the characters in <i>Animal Farm</i>.</p>	<p><b>Theme Me Up, Scotty</b></p> <p>(35 Points)</p> <p>Create a visual aid that demonstrates a shared theme from both <i>Fahrenheit 451</i> and <i>Animal Farm</i>.</p>	<p><b>Fahrenheit 45...Whaaa?</b></p> <p>(25 Points)</p> <p>Write an epilogue (or an additional chapter) for <i>Fahrenheit 451</i></p>
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**Chronicles of Barn-ia** - Write a packet of five diary entries of at least 150 words each, all written from the point of view of one of the animals in *Animal Farm*. Each entry should use language appropriate to the character, with thoughts that are consistent with the way the character is portrayed in the novel. The entries should reflect on events from that are presented in the novel. Be sure to write all five diary entries from the point of view of the *same* character, and include them in your portfolio in chronological order.

**Fahrenheit 45...Whaaa?** – Write an additional chapter or an epilogue for *Fahrenheit 451*. This chapter or epilogue should be written in the same tone and style as Ray Bradbury, and should be a minimum of 750 words. This new writing should cover an event or occurrence not included in the novel already; it can be an extension of a scene, or something entirely new.

**Theme Me Up, Scotty** – A theme is a lesson that can be learned from a novel. Consider the themes presented in both *Fahrenheit 451* and *Animal Farm*. In the final piece of your portfolio you will create a visual aid that shows ONE SHARED THEME that is present in both *Animal Farm* and *Fahrenheit 451*. You will need to fill a piece of 8 ½” x 11” paper with images and/or words that portray a single theme that the novels share. You can either hand draw this visual or create it on the computer. Make sure that the final product is colorful, accurate, and fills the entire piece of paper.

Portfolio Requirements	Exemplary	Proficient	Developing	Insufficient	Unacceptable
<b>1. Cover:</b> creative and colorful; includes name and title of the assignment	5	4	3	2	1
<b>2. Table of Contents:</b> lists the sections of the portfolio by title; organized in the order in which the sections appear	10	6	4	2	1
<b>3. Two Writing Electives:</b> written in the appropriate style, including purpose, tone, and use of language; neatly hand-written in blue or black ink, or typed using 12 point Times New Roman font; meet length requirements; demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English (when applicable); meet all elective-specific requirements	25 / 25	20 / 20	15 / 15	10 / 10	5 / 5
<b>4. One Visual Elective:</b> colorful, creative, neat, and organized; meets all elective-specific requirements, including size	35	28	21	14	7
<b>Totals</b>					
<b>Miscellaneous deductions</b>					

**ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:** Actions such as cheating, comparing answers, copying assignments, and plagiarism will result in a zero and disciplinary action. **ALL PROJECTS WILL BE EXAMINED USING A PLAGIARISM PROGRAM.**