

Summer Reading for Incoming English II Honors Students

Teacher: D. Winslow or TBA teacher

The assignment is due THE FIRST DAY OF CLASS, AUGUST 2012. No excuses, please. If you are entering an English II Honors class (whether or not your assigned teacher is Ms. Winslow), YOU MUST COMPLETE THIS ASSIGNMENT.

The focus of the assignment is the novel *THE CATCHER IN THE RYE* by J. D. SALINGER.

Warning: This book was published in the 1940s, but some people, even yet today, find some of his “cursing” offensive. If the language offends you, skip it but grab the gist of what Holden is saying. IF YOU OR YOUR PARENTS VIOLENTLY OBJECT TO THE READING OF THIS NOVEL, please substitute with *THE PEARL* by John Steinbeck, BUT FOLLOW THE SAME OUTLINE OF DIRECTIONS.

1. **Read** the novel in its entirety.

2. Keep the following list of **vocabulary** words nearby and define them by context clues as you encounter them. If you choose to read *The Pearl*, keep a list of defined vocabulary words to hand in, 20 words minimum.

Catcher words: (Chapters 1-5) aggravate, chiffonier, ostracize, rostrum; (Chapters 6-10) burlesque, Canasta, linoleum, intoxicating; (Chapters 11-15) bourgeois, convent, galoshes, nonchalant; (Chapters 16-20) blasé, boisterous, sacrilegious; (Chapters 21-26) carousel, digression, pedagogical, Sagittarius, spontaneous,

3. **Quotes** that are listed below SHOULD BE EXPLAINED, EACH IN ONE PARAGRAPH OF 8 LINES, MINIMUM. If you choose *The Pearl*, please list 6 minimum “quotes” from the book that are integral (basic) to the plot or story line of the novel. Explain each in a paragraph of eight lines, minimum.

√ “I don’t even know what I was running for—I guess I just felt like it.”

CHAPTER 1

√ “People always think something’s all true.” CHAPTER 2

√ “I’m the most terrific liar you ever saw in your life. It’s awful.”

CHAPTER 3

√ “All morons hate it when you call them a moron.” CHAPTER 6

√ “It’s really too bad that so much crumbly stuff is a lot of fun sometimes.” CHAPTER 9

√ “I mean most girls are so dumb and all. After you neck with them for awhile, you can really watch them losing their brains.”

4. **Write** a **500-800-word ESSAY** that discusses either the main **THEME** of initiation into adulthood **or** **SYMBOLS** that convey Holden’s ideas on life or progression of life. If you choose *The Pearl* your topic is the discussion of how the expectation of wealth ruined the Kino and Juana’s family in the novel. **EVEN IF YOUR INSISTENCE IS THAT YOU DON’T UNDERSTAND THE ESSAY TOPICS, YOU, STILL, MUST HAND IN AN ENTIRE ESSAY THAT MAKES AN EDUCATED ATTEMPT AT ANSWERING THE ESSAY QUESTIONS THOROUGHLY.**

Essays must be **typed** according to **MLA standards**. If you’re unaware of MLA (Modern Language Association) standards, simply Google “MLA standards,” and the MLA website will appear with a model paper for you to study format and follow accordingly. The final SUMMMER READING ASSIGNMENT, then, WILL CONSIST OF THE FOLLOWING:

FIRST page of VOCABULARY

SECOND page of QUOTES

THIRD and following pages of ESSAY. Type the heading just on the first page of the essay. Thank you.

*PLEASE have the MLA heading at the top of each section, left hand side. The header is not needed on this paper.

*Your name

Teacher name

English II Honors

(date) August 2012

HANDWRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

ASSIGNMENT IS DUE ON THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL.