

Summer Reading Assignment 2018
English I Honors

Honors English I is an advanced English course. This course, along with English III and IV are designed to prepare the student for Advanced Placement English. This is an accelerated course includes the average ninth grade curriculum in addition to enrichment assignments and activities. Students entering the honors program are expected to be self-motivated. Success in this course depends not only on aptitude, but also on attitude.

In preparation for honors English courses, students are expected to complete a summer reading assignment. This assignment is a prerequisite for the English I Honors class and must be completed and submitted the first week of class.

Reading Assignment:

Read: *The Great Train Robbery* by Michael Crichton. Lavish wealth and appalling poverty live side by side in Victorian London -- and Edward Pierce easily navigates both worlds. Rich, handsome, and ingenious, he charms the city's most prominent citizens even as he plots the crime of his century -- the daring theft of a fortune in gold. But even Pierce could not predict the consequences of an extraordinary robbery that targets the pride of England's industrial era: the mighty steam locomotive.

Writing Assignment

Students will keep a reader's response log as they read the novels.

Format:

- Write your full name and date in the upper left corner of first page
- Number each paragraph 1-5
- NO artwork, graphics, folders, or report covers – just the pages stapled together
- If typing, *italicize* titles
- If typing, double space, use black ink, size 12 font, Times New Roman or similar font
- If writing by hand, skip lines, use blue or black ink, and write legibly
- If writing by hand, underline book titles.
- Write on only one side of the paper

Content:

- Paragraphs should continue the response starter (see below) without summarizing plot
- Specific examples should be used for support of ideas. Please site page numbers when using examples from the story ex. (265)
- Paragraphs must be at least seven sentences in length. I am looking for well-developed, well-thought out sentences.
- Five reader's response starters must be used.
- Use Standard English and proper grammar. (Points will be deducted for errors in grammar and spelling)

Reader's Response Starters:

Students must use **Five** of the following response starters (Remember that a reader's response is not a plot summary.)

- The most well developed, interesting character is...because...

- I am confused by...because
- I like the way the writer...because...
- Some events in this book are very realistic (unrealistic) because...
- One thing I notice about the author's style is... (for example)...
- The title of this book is good (bad) because... (if bad suggest a new name)
- (Character name) reminds me of (name of someone I know) because (Give specific examples for the character and the person to whom you are comparing them.)
- The main thing the writer is saying is...
- My favorite chapter so far is...because
- One ironic event is...(explain irony)
- The setting (time and place) makes the book interesting because...
- The main character is in conflict with (name character or force). The conflict is resolved when... (Explain how the conflict develops and is then resolved.)
- I would (not) recommend this book to a friend because...

General Guidelines:

- Do your own work! While I encourage you to discuss the novels with your friends, I want the responses to be YOURS.
- You can contact me through schoology or email me at: sandyhall@pickens.k12.sc.us
- Keep a copy of everything you turn in.

This is your first major grade of the first nine weeks. Please take it seriously. Each assignment will be worth 100 points. Grades will be based on completion and accuracy. I am looking to see that you not only read the novel, but also that you took the time to really think about and analyze what you have read. Do your best work. Be sure to read and follow all directions and ask questions if you do not understand. Good luck! I look forward to reading your work and meeting you in the fall.