

ENGLISH III – HONORS

SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENT 2020

Dear English III Honors Students,

Welcome to a brand new year. At ACC, we are looking forward to a wonderful and challenging year for all of you. As part of your preparation for next year, you are assigned to read **two of the three** novels listed below. These thought-provoking novels and the related assignments will provide you with the necessary practice to sharpen and maintain your critical reading skills.

The Secret Life of Bees by Sue Monk Kidd ISBN# 978-0142001745

“Set in South Carolina in 1964, this is the tale of Lily Owens, a 14 year-old girl who is haunted by the memory of her late mother. To escape her lonely life and troubled relationship with her father T-Ray, Lily flees with Rosaleen, her caregiver and friend, to a South Carolina town that holds the secret to her mother's past. Taken in by the intelligent and independent Boatwright sisters, Lily finds solace in their mesmerizing world of beekeeping.” (www.imdb.com)

Funny in Farsi by Firoozeh Dumas ISBN# 978-0812968378

“*Funny in Farsi* chronicles the American journey of Firoozeh Dumas’s wonderfully engaging family: her engineer father, a sweetly quixotic dreamer who first sought riches on *Bowling for Dollars* and in Las Vegas, and later lost his job during the Iranian revolution; her elegant mother, who never fully mastered English (nor cared to); her uncle, who combated the effects of American fast food with an army of miraculous American weight-loss gadgets; and Firoozeh herself, who as a girl changed her name to Julie, and who encountered a second wave of culture shock when she met and married a Frenchman, becoming part of a one-couple melting pot.”(www.amazon.com)

The Absolutely True Story of a Part-Time Indian by Sherman Alexie ISBN# 978-0316013697

“Bestselling author Sherman Alexie tells the story of Junior, a budding cartoonist growing up on the Spokane Indian Reservation. Determined to take his future into his own hands, Junior leaves his troubled school on the rez to attend an all-white farm town high school where the only other Indian is the school mascot.”(www.amazon.com)

Please purchase a hard or paperback copy of the novels. Also, read and carefully follow the instructions for the assignments which are designed to help prepare you for the first quarter of the school year. Annotations in the novels will be checked the first week of school. All assignments will be collected on the first day of school, without exception.

Author W. Somerset Maugham believed the following: "The only important thing in a book is the meaning that it has for you." Find your meaning in the two selections you choose to read. Reflect thoughtfully on the authors' messages and be ready to address the novels when we return. I can't wait to hear your thoughts and discuss the novels with you! If you have any questions, you may email me at lbehrens@colemancarroll.org.

Have a fun, relaxing summer, enjoy your reading selections, and I'll see you in August.

Many blessings,

Ms. Laura Behrens
Archbishop Coleman Carroll High School
English Department Chair

All components of this assignment should be done in one standard composition notebook by hand. This notebook will be yours for the year, and it will be the place where you keep various assignments, so purchasing one over the summer is mandatory. Work that is emailed, printed as a hard copy or submitted in any other form will not be accepted. All work and the novels will be collected on the first day of school. As always, original work is expected from each of you. Copying or plagiarism will not be tolerated, and will result in consequences outlined in the ACC Student Handbook.

Part I: Terminology

Please define the following important literary terms in your notebook. Make sure you write clearly, and add any information that might help you better understand the definitions. These terms will be used throughout the year, and learning them well now will assist you in better understanding the novels we will read together. You can expect a quiz on these terms your first week back to school.

1. Theme
2. Narrator
3. Plot
4. Conflict
5. Rising Action
6. Falling Action
7. Exposition
8. Resolution
9. Summary
10. Analysis
11. Irony
12. Foreshadowing
13. Allusion
14. Mood
15. Tone
16. Characterization
17. Symbol
18. Colloquialism

Part II: Annotations

As you read both books, please do the following:

- 1) Mark any passages that seem interesting or that contain new information that you didn't know before.
- 2) Circle words that you don't know and write their definitions in the margins of the pages.
- 3) If you have questions about the material, write those questions down in the margins as well, so that we can discuss them when you return to school. Your understanding of these books- and your grade! - will depend on successful annotations, so be thorough!

Part III:: Research

Perform research relative to **one novel** from the list.

1. Research and find 3 different articles relative to **one of the three** topics below:

For The Secret Life of Bees:

Research life in the south in the 1960s – include a minimum of two historical events that relate to segregation.

For Funny in Farsi:

Research the Iranian hostage crisis and life in Iran for the typical family in the 1970s.

For The Absolutely True Story of a Part-Time Indian:

Research the educational system and life on an Indian Reservation today.

Part IV: Informative/response essay

You will be required to write a three (3) page informative/response paper **on one of the novels** you've read. The first half of the essay should be informative; the second half of the essay should be responsive. The essay should be typed and is required to be submitted on the first day of class.

An informative essay is to educate on a certain topic. It is not for giving an opinion or convincing someone to do something or change his/her beliefs. Discuss how the outside sources you've researched relate to the plot in the novel. (Remember that information based on the articles should be cited and referenced to a Works Cited List for the source used).

A response paper is your chance to communicate your personal viewpoint on the topics explored in the novel and discuss your personal connection to the story.

The following information should be included in your essay:

Title and Author:

Date of Publication:

Genre and Characteristics of the Genre : What is the genre of the book and what are the characteristics of that genre?

Historical Information: When does the novel take place and what socially or culturally significant events are occurring? (Include your research here!)

Biographical Information: What are some of the important facts about the author?

Plot Summary: What are the main or most important events that occur in the novel?
Beginning, Middle, End

Memorable Quotes: Write down **3 quotes** from the beginning, middle, and the end of the novel and explain why they are important to the story.

Characters : Write down the name, role, and a description of the main characters and 2-3 adjectives which describe each of them.

Connections : To what aspect, part, or incident in the book did you most relate? Did you make a connection to any of the characters? If so, explain. Were there any incidents or events that could relate to a personal experience of yours? Explain.

*****See essay rubric attached as to how the essay assignment will be graded.***

Literary Analysis Rubric

CATEGORY	4 Excellent	3 Good	2 Adequate	1 Needs Improvement	Score
Attention Grabber	The introductory paragraph has a strong hook or attention grabber that is appropriate for the audience. This could be a strong statement, a relevant quotation, statistic, or question addressed to the reader.	The introductory paragraph has a hook or attention grabber, but it is weak, rambling or inappropriate for the audience.	The author has an interesting introductory paragraph but the connection to the topic is not clear.	The introductory paragraph is not interesting AND is not relevant to the topic.	
Focus or Thesis Statement	The thesis statement names the topic of the essay without being formulaic.	The thesis statement names the topic of the essay.	The thesis statement outlines some or all of the main points to be discussed but does not name the topic.	The thesis statement does not name the topic AND does not preview what will be discussed.	
Evidence and Examples	All of the evidence and examples are specific, relevant and explanations are given that show how each piece of evidence supports the author's thesis.	Most of the evidence and examples are specific, relevant and explanations are given that show how each piece of evidence supports the author's thesis.	At least one of the pieces of evidence and examples is relevant and has an explanation that shows how that piece of evidence supports the author's thesis.	Evidence and examples are NOT relevant AND/OR are not explained.	
Closing paragraph	The conclusion is strong and leaves the reader solidly understanding the writer's position. Effective restatement of the position statement begins the closing paragraph.	The conclusion is recognizable. The author's position is restated within the first two sentences of the closing paragraph.	The author's position is restated within the closing paragraph, but not near the beginning.	There is no conclusion - the paper just ends.	
Conventions	Author makes no errors in grammar, spelling, or punctuation that distract the reader from the content.	Author makes 1-2 errors in grammar, spelling, or punctuation that distract the reader from the content.	Author makes 3-4 errors in grammar, spelling, or punctuation that distract the reader from the content.	Author makes more than 4 errors in grammar, spelling, or punctuation that distract the reader from the content.	
Citations	A Works Cited Page is included in MLA format, and parenthetical citations are used in MLA format.	A Works Cited Page is included, and parenthetical citations are used.	A Works Cited Page is included but no parenthetical citations are evident.	No Work Cited Page is included.	

