

## Individual Novel Assignment

**For the first quarter, you must read one novel from the ALA top books for teens list, Barnes and Noble Teen Best Sellers, or another young adult book that is approved by Mrs. Poje, but it must be contemporary literature – not non-fiction. You then will complete the assignments listed below. You will need to access the book you choose on you own either by purchasing it, borrowing it from the library, or downloading it on an e-reader.**

### Assignments:

1. Complete the **novel summary** attached to the google classroom assignment.
2. Complete the **article annotation**. The assignment is on page two of this packet. Complete one per novel.
3. **AP Essay Assignment:** For each novel you must choose one of the following essay topics taken directly from previous AP exams. The essays must be well-developed, and contain details from the novel. Please make the essay substantial and write in paragraph format (5 paragraph expository essay). You will be graded on content, organization and mechanics.
  1. One of the strongest human drives seems to be the desire for power. Write an essay in which you discuss how a character in the novel struggles to free himself or herself from the power of others or seeks to gain power over others. Be sure to demonstrate in your essay how the author uses this power struggle to enhance the meaning of the work.
  2. Morally ambiguous characters – characters whose behavior discourages readers from identifying them as purely evil or purely good – are at the heart of many works of literature. Choose a novel in which a morally ambiguous character plays a pivotal role. Then write an essay in which you explain how the character can be viewed as morally ambiguous and why his or her moral ambiguity is significant to the work as a whole. Avoid mere plot summary.
  3. According to critic Northrop Frye, “Tragic heroes are so much the highest points in their human landscape that they seem the inevitable conductors of the power about them, great trees more likely to be struck by lightning than a clump of grass. Conductors may of course be instruments as well as victims of the divine lightning.” Select a novel in which a tragic figure functions as an instrument of the suffering of others. Then write an essay in which you explain how the suffering brought upon others by that figure contributes to the tragic vision of the work as a whole.
  4. In many works of literature, a physical journey – the literal movement from one place to another – plays a central role. Choose a novel in which a physical journey is an important element and discuss how the journey adds to the meaning of the work as a whole. Avoid mere plot summary.
  5. The most important themes in literature are sometimes developed in scenes in which a death or deaths take place. Choose a novel and write a well-organized essay in which you show how a specific death scene helps to illuminate the meaning of the work as a whole.
  6. Works of literature often depict acts of betrayal. Friends and even family may betray a protagonist; main characters may likewise be guilty of treachery or may betray their own values. In a well-written essay, analyze the nature of the betrayal and show how it contributes to the meaning of the work as a whole.

If you cannot find an acceptable essay topic from this list, please see Mrs. Poje for an alternative.

**\*\*\*All assignments will be turned in as one document on turnitin.com\*\*\***

**It is understood that you WILL NOT use Cliff Notes or Spark Notes!! Use of these will result in failure of the project.**

**Article Annotation**  
(Complete one per novel)

1. Locate an article that is informational text (non-fiction) **related to the topic of the novel** you have selected that you will be able to summarize. **Do NOT use a book review.**
2. In the works cited section of noodletools.com, write a summary for the article you read. The summary should be more than ten sentences long. Focus on the big picture (overall main idea) presented by the author. Include a topic sentence supported with details. Be sure to mention the article title and author's name when you begin.
3. You must insert a quote from your article in the summary paragraph and cite it properly.
4. This assignment must be in MLA format
5. Export your works cited to a google doc, and copy and paste (format and all) into your essay document.

**It is understood that you WILL NOT use Cliff Notes or Spark Notes!! Use of these will result in failure of the project.**

# Novel Summary

**Title of Novel:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Author:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Character List**  
(with brief description)

Protagonist: \_\_\_\_\_

Antagonist: \_\_\_\_\_

Other main characters:

•

•

•

•

•

**Memorable Quotes**

•

•

•

**Plot Events**

Exposition –

Initiating Incident –

Conflicts

Rising Action –

Climax –

Falling Action –

Resolution –

**Themes**

•

•

**Point of View:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Setting:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Tone/Mood**

**It is understood that you WILL NOT use Cliff Notes or Spark Notes!! Use of these will result in failure of the project.**

**It is understood that you WILL NOT use Cliff Notes or Spark Notes!! Use of these will result in failure of the project.**