

English 9 Honors Summer Reading Assignment – 2017

This is the assignment for all English 9 Honors students whether enrolled in the blocked World Civilization course (English and Social Studies) or English 9 Honors as a single class. This is due on your first day of English (either August 28 or 29, 2017).

Assignment: Read the novel *Watership Down* by Richard Adams. (ISBN 978-0743277709). Complete the following chart, tracking the rabbits' journey along the way. Please:

- Review the chart and the rubric before beginning the novel so you know what to look for in the text.
- Write in complete sentences and use evidence (quotes AND page numbers) to defend your claims.
- Draft responses on other paper, since space is limited, and then carefully edit/revise to generate what will go in each box.
- Work independently!

The Archetypal Heroic Journey/Quest

I. Departure	<i>Watership Down - Commentary</i>
Description of heroic milestones towards the BEGINNING of the story	Identify the appropriate event, provide a quote AND page number, and explain how it satisfies the heroic milestone.
Call to Adventure: Hero sets forth: lured, kidnapped or drawn by his own desire. How does the main character receive the Call to Adventure?	<p>EXEMPLAR:</p> <p>The hero, a young rabbit named Hazel, is lured by his companion, Fiver, to leave the warren, thus starting his journey. Fiver has a special ability to sense when something bad will happen, and one day he warns Hazel, saying, "Believe me, something very bad is close upon us, and we ought to go away" (Adams 9). At first, Hazel is skeptical, but he trusts Fiver's hunches and goes to warn others. One rabbit questions Fiver's prediction, and Hazel says, "I'm quite certain. I've always known Fiver, you see" (13). Thus; Fiver's prediction is Hazel's Call to Adventure as it is the reason he leaves the Sandleford Warren.</p>
Crossing the Threshold: At what point in the story does the hero first leave the familiar world and move into a new, strange, or unfamiliar circumstance?	
Aid: Who or what helps the hero on his journey? Identify major guides, mentors, companions, and/or divine aid and briefly explain how they help.	

II. Initiation Description of heroic milestones towards the MIDDLE of the story	<i>Watership Down - Commentary</i> Identify the appropriate event, provide a quote AND page number, and explain how it satisfies the heroic milestone.
Road of Trials: What specific challenges does the hero face? How do these challenges strengthen the hero?	
Test: Does the hero battle some kind of monster (before the climax or Supreme Ordeal)? Does the hero have to face some inner demon? Explain.	
Ultimate Boon/ Magic Elixir: What does the hero desire to accomplish? What is his end-goal? Does the hero find some special solution to the problem he is attempting to resolve?	
Supreme Ordeal: What is the moment of most danger when the hero seems most likely to fail?	
Expansion of Consciousness: How is the hero changed and ready for return to his ordinary world/home? Describe the hero's newfound illumination, transformation, and/or freedoms.	

III. The Return Description of heroic milestones towards the END of the story	<i>Watership Down - Commentary</i> Identify the appropriate event, provide a quote AND page number, and explain how it satisfies the heroic milestone.
Hero returns/Magic Flight: Is there some point (toward the end) where the hero “escapes” or is pursued by enemies out of the “darkness?” Explain.	
Master of Two Worlds: By the end of the story, how has the hero conquered life in both the familiar and unfamiliar worlds? Explain.	
Freedom to Live or Return “home”: Since the hero typically begins the journey to resolve a problem, does it appear the problem is at last resolved so that all can live freely? Explain.	

Honor Code: I _____ (print name) verify that this assignment contains my own words and ideas, and I have neither given nor received help in its completion.

Signature: _____

2017 Summer Reading Assignment – *Watership Down* Rubric

Name: _____ Period: _____

	4	3	2	1
Accuracy of Content	Comments are relevant and accurate. Student proves comprehension of the entire text.	Comments are relevant, but there may be some inaccuracies in content. Some details may be vague.	Response reveals uncertain or inaccurate content knowledge in multiple places.	Student does not provide relevant comments and does not show comprehension of text.
Completion and Thoroughness	Student elaborates ideas fully and completely. Responses are thoughtful and insightful.	Responses are accurate but provide less detail.	Responses provide uneven support with little elaboration. Most responses are vague.	Responses provide minimal support/evidence.
Use of Quotations	Student uses a variety of quotations to support ideas, at least one quote per milestone. Page numbers are provided.	Student uses quotations for most but not every entry. Page numbers are provided.	Student uses a minimal number of quotations. Page numbers may be missing.	Student does not use quotations.
Structure and Grammar	Entries are written in complete, grammatically sound sentences.	Entries are written in complete sentences; however, there are some errors in usage or mechanics.	Student uses incomplete sentences and/or there may be frequent errors in usage or mechanics.	Student uses incomplete sentences. The responses demonstrate a lack of command of conventions.
Score	_____	_____	_____	_____

Total Score: _____

Grade: _____