

AHS Independent Reading Assignment / 2020-2021

Students taking honors, AP, or dual enrollment English are required to complete the independent reading assignment.

The summer reading assignment will be divided into two sections.

	Part I	Part II
CONTENT	Novel test including questions topics including (but not limited to) plot, point of view, main characters, setting, theme title, structure, and style	Research writing assignment covering the author and his/her times, critical review analysis, and reflection on the novel's impact and content.
DUE DATE	FIRST FULL WEEK OF ENGLISH CLASS **Tentative Dates**: FALL: August 17-21, 2020 SPRING: January 11-15, 2021	FIRST PROGRESS REPORT OF FIRST 9-WEEK PERIOD **Tentative Dates**: FALL: September 9, 2020 SPRING: February 3, 2021
POINT DISTRIBUTION	200 points / 1st 9-weeks grade	200 points / 2nd 9-weeks grade <u>SEE ATTACHED RUBRICS</u>

Standards Addressed:

- RL.9-10.1 / RL.11-12.1
- RL.9-10.2 / RL.11-12.2
- RI.9-10.1 / RI.11-12.1
- RI.9-10.2 / RI.11-12.2
- RI.9-10.6 / RI.11-12.6
- W.9-10.8 / W.11-12.8
- L.9-10.1 / L.11-12.1
- L.9-10.2 / L.11-12.

Assignment Details

The assignment requires students to choose one selection from the list (see the last page of this document), read it independently, and complete a two-part assignment, consisting of an assessment and research analyses. See rubrics for evaluation guidelines.

Students are strongly encouraged to read and complete research assignments (Part II) during the summer and submit them to their English teacher when school begins. The independent reading assignment counts as two major test grades, which will be distributed evenly across two semesters. The test (Part I) will count as 200 points on the first 9-week grading period while the research assignment (Part II) grades will be reported for the 2nd 9-weeks grading period of their English term.

Students must submit an electronic version of the assignment in Canvas; be advised, this will be checked for plagiarism via TurnItIn.

***** PART I: Respond to questions addressing the following literary elements: point of view, main characters, setting, and theme . *****

For Part I, you will be given a variety of question prompts including but not limited to short answer and discussion questions to be completed during one class period. These prompts applied to the independent reading text will provide students an opportunity to demonstrate the writing norms learned in previous English courses.

***** PART II RESEARCH: Complete research about the author, and analyze a critical review of the selection Respond to the selection. *****

For section 2, you are required to do the following:

- Respond to the selection
- Use correct MLA citation of sources.
- Research information for #2 & #3.

1. **PERSONAL RESPONSE:** What did you enjoy about the novel and why? Are you eager to read another novel by this author? Would you recommend this novel to a friend? **This section should be a minimum of a half page in length.**

2. **THE AUTHOR AND HER/HIS TIMES:** Provide a biographical and historical analysis of the author as related to the novel. What important family, community, national, and world events experienced by the author helped inform the material? Provide a biography focusing on the details that can be directly linked to the novel in a manner that is convincing. This is related to historical criticism, which suggests that a novel must be understood first in the historical context (both of the culture and of the author) in which it was written. In order to complete this assignment, outside research is required; please remember to only use academic sources and proper citation. All sources should come from Alabama Virtual Library or Google Scholar. **This section should be a minimum of 2 full pages in length.**

3. **CRITICAL REVIEW (nonfiction):** Select a critical review of your novel (we have provided a selection of reviews that you may choose from) and offer your opinion of the critic’s analysis. When expressing your response to the review, be specific in your discussion. If you agree, explain why, and carry the argument beyond what the critic pointed out. If you disagree, provide support for your position from the text. **This section should be a minimum of 2 pages in length.** Attach a copy of the critical review to your paper after the Works Cited page.

*All critical reviews come from the Alabama Virtual Library or Google Scholar.

** A book review is not a critical review; critical reviews are from peer reviewed publications/journals and are written by literary experts

Independent Reading Assignment Selections / 2020 - 2021		
Students are strongly encouraged to research topics, themes, and genres of the selections, before choosing.		
10th Grade:	11th Grade:	12th Grade:
<i>Unwind</i> by Neil Schusterman 740 lexile	<i>Fahrenheit 451</i> by Ray Bradbury 890 lexile	<i>Things Fall Apart</i> by Chinua Achebe 890 lexile
<i>Ready Player One</i> by Ernest Cline 990 lexile	<i>Cry, the Beloved Country</i> by Alan Paton 860 lexile	<i>Pride and Prejudice</i> by Jane Austen 1070 lexile
<i>The Red Badge of Courage</i> by Stephen Crane 890 lexile	<i>Death of a Salesman</i> by Arthur Miller NP lexile (non-prose)	<i>Cat's Eye</i> by Margaret Atwood 850 lexile
<i>A Streetcar Named Desire</i> by Tennessee Williams NP lexile (non-prose)	<i>Their Eyes Were Watching God</i> by Zora Neale Hurston 890 lexile	<i>A Doll's House</i> by Henrik Ibsen NP lexile (non-prose)
<i>I Am Malala: The Girl Who Stood Up for Education and Was Shot by the Taliban</i> by Christina Lamb and Malala Yousafzai 1000 lexile	<i>The Color of Water: A Black Man's Tribute to His White Mother</i> by James McBride 1140 lexile	<i>Lord of the Flies</i> by William Golding 770 lexile

Part II Rubric:

Part II Total

Grade: _____ /100

1. PERSONAL RESPONSE (10 points possible)

Total points: _____ /10

What did you enjoy about the novel and why?	Are you eager to read another novel by this author?	Would you recommend this novel to a friend?
6 pts: exceeds expectations for assignment/question asked	2 pts: exceeds expectations for assignment/question asked	2 pts: exceeds expectations for assignment/question asked
4-5 pts: meets expectations for assignment/question asked (must be ½ page)	1 pt: meets expectations for assignment/question asked	1 pt: meets expectations for assignment/question asked
3-4 pts: somewhat meets expectations for assignment/question asked but has little personal insight	0 pts: does not attempt	0 pts: does not attempt
1-2 pts: partially meets expectations for assignment/question asked but lacks any real personal insight		

2. THE AUTHOR AND HIS OR HER TIMES (45 points possible)

Total points: _____ /45

17-20 pts: meets expectations for assignment; directly and convincingly links information to novel	17-20 pts: all sources and Works Cited page are correctly documented using MLA format without error	5 pts: Overall quality of assignment exceeds ALL expectations.
14-16 pts: mostly meets expectations for assignment; most information is directly linked to novel	14-16 pts: most sources and Works Cited page correctly documented using MLA format; no more than 1-2 errors	4 pts: Overall quality of assignment meets ALL expectations.
10-13 pts: somewhat meets expectations for assignment; information is presented but has little link to novel	10-13 pts: some sources and Works Cited page correctly documented using MLA format; significant errors	3 pts: Overall quality of assignment meets most expectations.
2-9 pts: partially meets expectations but lacks enough information and/or links to novel; not Honors level work	2-9 pts significant errors in Works Cited & in-text citations and/or MLA format; not Honors quality work	2 pts Overall quality of assignment meets many expectations, but is not Honors quality work.
1 pt unacceptable; attempts assignment, but is limited in content	1 pt unacceptable; minimal attention to formatting of Works Cited and/or MLA in-text citations	1 pt Overall quality of assignment is not Honors quality work. Unacceptable (limited attempt to complete assignment).

3. CRITICAL REVIEW (45 points possible)

Total points: _____ /45

17-20 pts: meets expectations for assignment. Discussed agreement or disagreement of critic's analysis with in- depth and specific personal reflection on the novel	17-20 pts: all sources and Works Cited page are correctly documented using MLA format without error	5 pts: Overall quality of assignment exceeds ALL expectations.
14-16 pts: mostly meets expectations for assignment. Discussed agreement or disagreement of critic's analysis with specific personal reflection on the novel	14-16 pts: most sources and Works Cited page correctly documented using MLA format; no more than 1-2 errors	4 pts: Overall quality of assignment meets ALL expectations.
10-13 pts: somewhat meets expectations for assignment. Discussed agreement or disagreement of critic's analysis but needs more specificity and in-depth analysis	10-13 pts: some sources and Works Cited page correctly documented using MLA format; significant errors	3 pts: Overall quality of assignment meets most expectations.
2-9 pts: partially meets expectations for assignment but opinion of critic's analysis and level of agreement and/or textual support is limited; not Honors level work.	2-9 pts: significant errors in Works Cited & in-text citations and/or MLA format; not Honors quality work	2 pts Overall quality of assignment meets many expectations, but is not Honors quality work.
1 pts: unacceptable; attempts assignment, but is limited in content	1 pts: unacceptable; minimal attention to formatting of Works Cited and/or MLA in-text citations	1 pt Overall quality of assignment is not Honors quality work. Unacceptable (limited attempt to complete assignment).