

Summer Reading and Writing Assignments for Advanced Honors English 2017

Congratulations on being accepted into this accelerated English program! Your exceptional talent and work ethic has caught the attention of the teaching staff of Nazareth. We have high expectations and goals for you that necessitate you starting this summer to build those mental muscles.

For the summer you MUST read all 3 of the novels below:

The Kite Runner by Khaled Housseini

Breakfast at Tiffanies by Truman Capote

The Joy Luck Club by Amy Tan

Directions and expectations for the writing assignments:

For each of the novels you must produce a 3 page essay that will require you to create a unique argument based on the story. They should have a distinct intro, body, conclusion, demonstrate attention to the task, knowledge of the story, and be edited for clarity, grammar and spelling. **Each essay is worth 100 points.**

They are due **September 2017** on the first day of school. You will lose 5 points a day for EACH assignment I do not have. After 4 days they will not be accepted.

Enjoy your summer reading!

Writing Assignment Questions

The Kite Runner by Khaleed Housseini

Both Amir and Baba make morally questionable choices that complicate the reader's perception of their character. How would you characterize Baba and Amir? Are they moral, admirable people that simply had difficulty overcoming the society they were surrounded by? Or are they contemptible because they lacked the courage to follow completely their own personal beliefs and bent to norms they didn't agree with? You may have a different answer for Baba and Amir.

The Joy Luck Club by Amy Tan

What is your opinion about how the Chinese values and traditions are reinforced? Overall, do you think that individuality, legacy and family were preserved in these families or did part or all of these values get lost in the process? Explain how your perspective is supported by the different mother daughter relationships that exist in the novel.

Breakfast at Tiffanies by Truman Capote

What is your opinion about American gender roles and values? Overall, do you think that individuality, and strength comes from independence? Is a woman who chooses to accept gifts from men devaluing herself? Is she hurting feminism? The author, Capote, once said of his book: "whole breed of girls who live off men but are not prostitutes. They're our version of the geisha girl." What are your thoughts on Capote's character? Are women like Holly a modern-day version of a geisha?