

cp english 12 summer assignment

In order to maintain all of the knowledge that has been gained throughout junior year and to enhance learning for senior year, each student will complete a summer assignment for their English class. The assignments are **to be completed by the first day of instruction in their entirety.**

You may choose one of the two options below for your summer assignment! If you'd like, we encourage you to do both, but only one is mandatory.

Please email kellefff@mhusd.org if you need a book delivered to your locker or house to coordinate shipping or drop-off, and feel free to email unterreiner@mhusd.org or lagunasm@mhusd.org with any questions specific to the assignment itself!

option one: a book of your choice

Choose one book that interests you! You may pick either a novel or non-fiction text that will interest and engage you. You can find [lists of recommended novels here](https://tinyurl.com/eng12bookrecommendations) (or type this link into your phone/computer to see the list: <https://tinyurl.com/eng12bookrecommendations>). You may choose from the list or find another book, so long as it is considered to be at least a high school level text. The book should be entirely new to you; please don't return to an old favorite!

As you read, reflect on the following questions to help yourself process your book:

- What moral, ethical, and philosophical questions are being raised by the text? What does it make you think about, and what lessons are being imparted?
- How do characters or individuals in the text represent humanity's strengths and weaknesses? What are the strongest traits of the many characters?
- What is the overarching meaning or theme of the text, and what choices made by the author convey that meaning?

After reading your chosen book, complete both parts of the assignment outlined below.

→ Part one: personal reflection

◆ Type a strong, detailed paragraph reflecting on the book you read. It should be roughly a page in length, single spaced. Questions to consider addressing in your reflection include:

- How did the moral, ethical, and philosophical questions raised in the text alter your perspective of those topics?
- What character stood out to you the most? Explain why.
- Did any characters develop significantly throughout the story? How, and why was it important?
- What is your biggest takeaway from the book? Explain why.
- What interesting issues came up that connect to our world today or are relevant to your personal experience? Why/how?
- Were there any quotations in the book that stood out to you? Why did you like them?
- Overall, did you enjoy the book and/or think the story was meaningful? Why?

→ Part two: project of your choice

◆ Choose one option total from any of the lists below to complete as a creative reflection on your book!

Creative Options:	Character Study Options:	World Connection/Context Options:
→ Write an original poem (at least 10 lines) about a topic of	→ Write a letter (roughly 1 page single spaced) from the	→ Write a reflective paragraph (roughly 1 page single-spaced)

<p>your choice, capturing a greater meaning explored in your book of choice [the poem shouldn't be <i>about</i> the text, but should be about a theme inspired by/related to the text based in your own awareness/experiences]. Write a paragraph (8-10 sentences) in which you explain the choices you made in your poem, as well as the details and thematic concern(s) from the text that inspired you.</p> <p>→ Create an artistic piece (can be a painting, collage, digital piece, something you build, etc) that captures a greater meaning explored in the text. Write a paragraph (8-10 sentences) in which you explain the choices you made in creating your art and what it is meant to convey about the greater meaning or theme(s) in the text you focus on.</p>	<p>perspective of one character/ person to another. Imagine that you are that character, reflecting on the current events and challenges occurring in your book (or feel free to consider a different timeline, such as years into the future). Consider how you can capture your character's way of speaking, the way the events of the text are impacting your character emotionally, and the relationship between the characters.</p> <p>→ Create a one-pager (one full page, colored) that is a profile of a key character in the text. Include a drawing of the character based on their description in the text, as well as a background to the page that highlights key colors, images, and symbols associated with them. Include three significant quotations from the text that you feel most strongly characterize them, and write a short analysis of each. Additionally, articulate a greater meaning in the novel and describe how your character contributes to its development.</p>	<p>in which you explore a relevant social issue tackled in the book and how it connects to a current event unfolding in the world today. Please be thoughtful and include links to at least two credible articles that you read as references.</p> <p>→ Make a video presentation in which you explore how key lessons, themes, and characters from the text could help us address a related issue in today's world. Be reflective in considering how the solutions and/or problems raised in the text could be seen as guidance and advice that could be meaningful to our growth and work toward service and altruism. Please include links to at least two credible articles you read.</p>
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option two: a podcast of your choice

Find a podcast that interests you! It should be at least six episodes in length. You can find [a list of recommended podcasts here](https://tinyurl.com/eng12podcastlist) (or type this link into your phone/computer to see the list: <https://tinyurl.com/eng12podcastlist>). Please choose from the list to ensure that the content is school appropriate. Listen to one season or at least six cohesive episodes of the podcast.

Podcast listening tips:

- Explore several different podcast styles and topics before you commit to the podcast you'll listen to
- **DO NOT** do any serious multitasking while listening to a podcast! It might be helpful to do menial tasks as you listen-- folding laundry, doing dishes, driving on a familiar route, walking, etc.-- but don't do anything that requires much brain power, however, because you should be listening thoughtfully and closely.
- Give a podcast a fair chance before you ditch it! Give it at least an episode before you decide it's not for you. If a podcast is not sequential, you can start with a later episode that may be better produced/have a more interesting topic.
- If you like a podcast, make sure to subscribe! It helps the creators.

As you listen, reflect on the following questions to help yourself process the information:

- What moral, ethical, and philosophical questions are being raised in the podcast? What does it make you

think about, and what lessons are being imparted?

- What important purpose does the podcast serve? Does it educate, inform, challenge, investigate, entertain, etc?
- How do the creators of the podcast tell their stories or deliver their content in an engaging and meaningful way?

After listening to your chosen podcast, complete both parts of the assignment outlined below.

→ Part one: personal reflection

- ◆ Type a strong, detailed paragraph reflecting on the podcast you listened to. It should be roughly a page in length, single spaced. Questions to consider addressing in your reflection include:
 - How did the moral, ethical, and philosophical questions raised in the podcast alter your perspective of those topics?
 - Were there any people mentioned in/interviewed in/narrating the podcast that stood out to you the most? Explain why.
 - What is your biggest takeaway from the podcast? Explain why.
 - What interesting issues came up that connect to our world today or are relevant to your personal experience? Why/how?
 - Were there any quotations, moments, or episodes that stood out to you most? Why did you like them?
 - Overall, did you enjoy the podcast and/or think the story was meaningful? Why?

→ Part two: project of your choice

- ◆ Choose one option total from any of the lists below to complete as a creative reflection on your podcast!

Creative Options:	World Connection/Research Options:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">→ Record your own episode of a podcast that is at least twenty minutes in length. Make sure you name your podcast and provide a brief description of what your theme/topic is! You can have guests, tell stories, explore research, use music/sounds-- be creative and original!→ Record a video or audio interview with a friend or family member where you ask them intriguing personal questions in the style of a journalist. What do you want to learn about them that you didn't know before? Be respectful, and consider how you can bring up relevant issues raised in the podcast you listened to! Ask them at least 15 questions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">→ Conduct research into a topic brought up by your podcast that you are curious about. Find at least three credible sources on your topic and read them carefully! Then, either:<ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ Write a response in which you synthesize the information you gathered and explain what you learned (at least one page, single spaced), OR◆ Prepare a slideshow presentation with a voice recording (consider using Screencastify or Zoom) where you synthesize the information you gathered and explain what you learned.◆ For both options, make sure you cite your sources!→ Research a "hero" in a field related to your podcast, and create a slideshow that profiles them. What are their biggest accomplishments? What was their life like? What changes have they made in their field of expertise? Why were you interested in them, and why do you view them as a hero?