

Honors English 2

Summer Reading

All honors English courses at SME are rigorous classes designed for students who are extremely talented in language arts and who are committed to challenging themselves with an advanced, accelerated curriculum.

Summer Reading: The expectations of the Summer Reading assignment is to complete the reading independently over the course of the summer and be prepared to discuss the novel and complete assignments in the fall. **The novel selected is *The Glass Castle* by Jeanette Walls.** It is a memoir about her family dynamic and the struggles Jeanette faced over the course of her childhood. The focus of the summer reading will be on thematic ideas that are present throughout the novel. The reading guide is strongly suggested and recommended in order to process the novel and better prepare you for the activities to come in the fall.

English 10 Honors Summer Reading 2021-2022

***The Glass Castle* by Jeannette Walls (ISBN 978-0-7432-4754-2*)**

Directions: Read *The Glass Castle* by Jeannette Walls and be prepared to discuss and write about the memoir when you return to school in August. The following guide will help you prepare for some of the topics we might cover. (*Note: In class, students will be required to use the pagination from the ISBN edition above. Please keep this in mind if using an eBook.)

1. What is the meaning of the word “nonconformity?”

2. In the chart below, list some examples of nonconformity from the novel:

| Page # | Quotes from the novel | How is the quote an example of nonconformity? How does this differ from a conventional life? |
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3. Poverty and homelessness plague the characters throughout the novel. In the chart below, list some quotes that identify extreme instances of poverty and the effects it has on the characters:

| Page # | Quotes from the novel | How does this quotation display poverty or homelessness? What are its effects on the characters? |
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4. Throughout the course of the novel, the Walls children learn to become self-reliant or self-sufficient. In the chart below, list some quotes that identify examples of self-reliance or self-sufficiency:

| Page # | Quotes from the novel | How does the example portray the children as self-reliant or self-sufficient? |
|--------|-----------------------|---|
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5. Who do you hold responsible for the plight of the Walls family? Provide some quotes to support your opinion below:

| Page # | Quotes from the novel | Who do you blame? Who is responsible? How does this example support your assertion? |
|--------|-----------------------|---|
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6. Along with blame often comes forgiveness. In the chart below, provide examples of quotes that show forgiveness.

| Page # | Quotes from the novel | How does the quotation indicate forgiveness? |
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7. Children learn from their parents' advice and actions; the Walls children are no exception. Provide examples of advice given by and lessons learned from Rose Mary and Rex Walls throughout the novel. Consider whether or not this advice or these life lessons are good or bad.

| Page # | Quotes from the novel | What advice is given or what lesson is learned in the example? Is the advice or lesson good or bad? Explain. |
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8. Throughout the novel, there are many symbols: fire, the glass castle, the Joshua tree, stars. Provide several examples of these symbols in the chart below:

| Page # | Quotes from the novel | What is the symbol in the quotation and what might it represent? |
|--------|-----------------------|--|
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9. Finally, write at least five open-ended questions that require more than a yes or no response. These questions should include social issues, issues that are relevant to and affect a large group of people or an entire society. You may also include outside research about these social issues.

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