



9th Grade Honors Classical Literature Summer Assignment

Purpose:

The purpose of this 9th Grade Honors Classical Literature summer assignment is to ensure that students ‘hit the ground running’ upon their return to school for the 2021-2022 school year. By reading and annotating their summer book, the teacher can immediately begin teaching and discussing the material, making classroom time more efficient and productive.

Students who will be taking on-level 9th Grade Classical Literature are more than welcome to complete this summer assignment, but it will not be offered for any credit. Its purpose will be to help the student get a head start on the material that the teacher will begin introducing into their class in the following weeks.

The Hobbit by J.R.R. Tolkien:

In preparation for the year, students are to read and annotate the book *The Hobbit* by J.R.R. Tolkien over the summer. Please be prepared to begin the 2021-2022 school year with a fully annotated copy of the reading. Annotations must be done in the book in legible handwriting.

Annotation Tips and Tricks:

- **Summarize key points in your own words.** Use headers and words in bold to guide you and look for main ideas, arguments, and points of evidence
- **Circle key concepts and phrases.** What words would it be helpful to look-up at the end? What terms show up in lecture? When are different words used for similar concepts? Not every annotation has to be a sentence in length. Sometimes simple markings are the most effective.
- **Write brief comments and questions in the margins.** Be as specific or broad as you would like—use these questions to activate your thinking about the content
- **Use abbreviations and symbols.** Using question marks, exclamation points, and asterisks are helpful tools that will save you time and energy in your annotations. Be careful not to overuse them though, because frequent use can confuse your teacher and even yourself at a later point in time.
- **The appropriate amount of annotations for this assignment is 2-3 annotations per page,** but you are more than welcome to use more if you see fit.



Important Details:

- **Due date:** First Day of School
- **Submission:** Arrive at school with a fully annotated copy of *The Hobbit* that your teacher will grade when your class discusses the material in class.
- **Grading:** The assignment will be reviewed for completion. Teacher(s) may provide feedback to students at their discretion.
- Teachers will be using the summer readings during the first weeks back to school and teachers will be requiring the text be brought to class. Therefore, at a bare minimum, your student would benefit from completing the summer reading to prepare for the discussions that will ensue upon our return.