

St. Mary's Academy
2022 Summer Reading
9th Grade English

Based on their scheduled class, all incoming freshmen are to read and answer the following questions. During the first week of the new school year, all English classes will have assessments on the books read. The questions on the English books will be due during the first week. You must type the answers. Please be brief, use your own words, and avoid such publications as Cliff Notes. We hope your reading will be pleasurable.

The summer reading for English 9 is *The Hobbit*.

English 9 Assignment: *The Hobbit* by JRR Tolkien

Please complete the following assignment by the first full day of school. This assignment MUST be typed and printed. Quality is more important than quantity.

1. Define the following terms:

a. Setting b. Antagonist c. Protagonist d. Archetype e. Theme f. Imagery

2. Setting: Give time and place and any major changes of setting.

3. Characters Analysis: Name and briefly describe the following characters: (3-5 sentences each). Go beyond their physical description and discuss their personality traits, role in the novel, etc.

a. Bilbo Baggins b. Gandalf c. Smaug d. Thorin Oakenshield

4. Characters in Conflict: Who do you think is the protagonist? Who or what do you think is the antagonist? What are the basic problems (man vs. man, man vs. nature, man vs. himself) and how are they resolved?

5. Theme: What is the underlying message or meaning of the book? Theme is expressed by completing this sentence with a complete thought statement: "The theme of the novel is that _____." (For example, "The theme of the novel is that good is more prevalent than evil among people.") There may be more than one theme explored in the novel so you may have more than one.

6. Point of View: Who tells the story? How are events and the theme influenced by the narrator's point of view?

7. Heroes: What is a reluctant hero and how important was this to the novel?

8. Imagery: How does Tolkien use imagery to create certain moods and reader reactions? Quote a specific scene from the novel to demonstrate this.