

## Honors English III (Grade 11)

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The 11th grade curriculum features a study of American Literature and this summer you will read one of its classics and one non-fiction text.

### **Reading Assignment #1:** *Unbroken* by Laura Hillenbrand

*Unbroken* is the inspiring true story of a man who lived through a series of catastrophes almost too incredible to be believed. In evocative, immediate descriptions, Hillenbrand unfurls the story of Louie Zamperini--a juvenile delinquent-turned-Olympic runner-turned-Army hero.

### **Writing Assignment #1:** Due First Day of School

According to Hillenbrand, “The same attributes that made him (Louie) the boy terror of Torrance were keeping him alive in the greatest struggle of his life” (Chapter 14, p. 155). Do you agree? Explain your position by citing examples from *Unbroken*.

1. Take a stance.
2. Think about three examples from the story that support your stance.
3. Develop a thesis- this will appear in the first paragraph of your essay.

You will write your essay in the five-paragraph essay format, developing a strong introductory paragraph, three body paragraphs with supporting details, and a summarizing conclusion paragraph to solidify your argument. The paper must be 2-3 pages, double spaced, 12 point, Times New Roman font, and must be printed and turned in on the first day of school. You must include at least three textual examples to support your line of reasoning and each should be cited according to MLA format. Please consult OWL at Purdue for MLA guidelines.

### **Reading Assignment #2:** *The Scarlet Letter* by Nathaniel Hawthorne

Read *The Scarlet Letter* and be prepared for a 50-point test on its plot upon your return to school. As you read, take notes, write questions, draw conclusions...draw pictures! Do what you must to actively engage in the text and I promise you will understand the story much better.

