

Honors English 9 -- Summer Reading 2023

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classroom.google.com/c/NjEzMTU4MTA2MDU5?cjc=4t2p6tz

****PLEASE JOIN A.S.A.P. FOR INFORMATION, UPDATES, MODELS, ETC.!****

Welcome to Honors English 9!

Our study in Honors English 9 this year will focus on **perspective**: the attitudes, beliefs, or ideas about a person, place, or event based on one's own personal experience and background. Perspective is shaped by many concrete aspects of an individual or group, including (but not limited to!) age, gender, race, ethnicity, family, origin; it is also shaped by ideas and beliefs such as religion, cultural practices, political affiliation, schools of thought, education, and experience. As readers, we bring our own **perspective** to our reading of a text, as well, and this point of view informs, shapes, and develops our approach to literature, life, and the world.

For your summer assignment, you will read two **personally-challenging** books of differing perspectives in order to think about the role that perspective plays in the story of the book and its impact on your thinking as the reader. We suggest that you select books that share some sort of commonality (topic, theme, time period, setting, etc.) but also differ in perspective.

Examples of similar/different perspectives in books:

- Both are about teenagers, with one from a girl's and one from a boy's point of view;
- Both are about World War I, one from an American and one from a German perspective;
- Both are epics, with one from Ancient Greece and another from Ancient Mesopotamia
- Both are science fiction, with one showing an optimistic/adventurous story and the other an apocalyptic/dystopian narrative
- Other - almost any books will offer similar AND different perspectives if you consider it long enough!

Please choose books that are challenging texts for **ONE** (or more!) of the following reasons

EACH:

- *Length* - 300+ pages (make sure to choose based on your ability to read, finish, and complete a task on the book!)
- *Language* - new/unknown vocabulary, prose style, and/or wording
- *Content* - complex or challenging ideas (you will be discussing MANY of them this school year!)
- *Time* - classic/non-contemporary author
- *Background* - author/story from another place, era and/or environment than what you already know

Then, BEFORE and AFTER reading, please complete the written assignment outlined below:

1) [Part I - complete *before* reading either book:](#) (link redirects to samples!)

SELF: What shapes or informs your perspective as of now - on yourself, on life, on the world? What factors do you think are the most influential on how you look at things? Provide at least three concrete examples of different facts that shape your perspective.

2) Part II - complete *after* reading the first book:

Book ONE (make sure to identify!): From what perspective is your story told? How did this perspective shape the telling and meaning of the story? Provide at least three concrete examples from the story that show what the perspective is or how the perspective shaped the story. (*Think* how would the story, experience, etc. have been different if this was told from or featured a different perspective?)

3) Part III - complete *after* reading the second book:

Book TWO (make sure to identify!): From what perspective is this story told? How did this perspective shape the telling and meaning of the story? Provide at least 3 concrete examples from the story that show what the perspective is or how the perspective shaped the story (*Think* how would the story, experience, etc. have been different if this was told from or featured a different perspective?)

4) Parts IV & V - complete *after* reading both books.

Comparing BOTH BOOKS: What was the common element of these two books (in other words, what brings these two books together)? And then, what was different about the two perspectives in the two books? How did these different perspectives shape the telling and/or meaning of the story? Provide at least three concrete examples from the story to support your ideas.

Back to SELF: Finally, how has reading these two books of differing perspectives shaped or changed YOUR perspective? Did you think about things in a new way or develop empathy for a different perspective? What else can you say about your perspective as a result of having read these books? Provide at least three concrete examples from the stories that influenced your perspective.

Expectations, tips, and tricks:

- Due the first day of classes at the start of the school year!! (Not the orientation day -- first day of actual class!)
 - Typed or hand-written
 - Support through evidence, including cited quotes and attributed sources
 - Sentences and language that clearly and effectively communicate ideas
 - Uses approved resources, asking for clarification and support as needed
 - Shows academic honesty, own understanding
 - Keeps audience, task, time, and purpose in mind
 - Submission of work class's Classroom page when instructed
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Sources for hard-copy texts:

- [Freeport Community Library](#) - interlibrary loan, curbside pick-up available
 - [Sherman's Maine Coast Bookshop](#) - get whatever book you are looking for AND support local business
 - The FHS bookroom and/or Ms. Friesland's private library - looking for a book? Email and ASK!
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Online FREE sources for texts:

- ❖ [Directions for accessing CloudLibrary from the FHS library website](#)
 - ❖ [Archive.org](#) - will have to sign up; searchable for scanned texts
 - ❖ [Planet EBook](#) - many classic titles
 - ❖ [Project Gutenberg](#) - also a great source for many classic titles
 - ❖ [OpenLibrary.org](#) - will also have to sign up; searchable for scanned texts
 - ❖ [Wattpad](#) - will have to sign up; many classic and contemporary texts
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Self-Selected Book Suggestions:

Please note - Some of these books deal with controversial/mature issues, so please check with your parent/guardian for their approval and/or look up the content on [Common Sense Media](#) or [BookTriggerWarnings.com](#) to see if it is appropriate for you!

- [Minaret, Leila Aboulela](#)
- [Watership Down, Richard Adams](#)
- [Americanah, Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie](#)
- [Oryx and Crake, Margaret Atwood](#)
- [Pride and Prejudice, Jane Austen](#)
- [A Walk in the Woods, Bill Bryson](#)
- [Between the World and Me, Ta-Nehisi Coates](#)
- [The Alchemist, Paulo Coelho](#)
- [The Prince of Tides, Pat Conroy](#)
- [Invisible Man, Ralph Ellison](#)
- [Middlesex, Jeffrey Eugenides](#)
- [Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close, Jonathan Safran Foer](#)
- [This Side of Paradise, F. Scott Fitzgerald](#)
- [Catch-22, Joseph Heller](#)
- [A Farewell to Arms, Ernest Hemingway](#)
- [Dune, Frank Herbert](#)
- [The Odyssey, Homer](#)
- [The Kite Runner, Khalid Hosseini](#)
- [Farewell to Manzanar, Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston](#)
- [A Prayer for Owen Meany, John Irving](#)
- [Never Let Me Go, Kazuo Ishiguro](#)
- [Ayesha At Last, Uzma Jalaluddin](#)
- [One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest, Ken Kesey](#)
- [The Poisonwood Bible, Barbara Kingsolver](#)
- [Annie John, Jamaica Kincaid](#)
- [The Historian, Elizabeth Kostova](#)
- [The Namesake, Jhumpa Lahiri](#)
- [The Moor's Account, Laila Lalami](#)
- [The Dispossessed, Ursula K. Le Guin](#)
- [One Hundred Years of Solitude, Gabriel Garcia Marquez](#)
- [The Life of Pi, Yann Martel](#)
- [The Color of Water, James McBride](#)
- [Song of Solomon, Toni Morrison](#)
- [His Majesty's Dragon, Naomi Novik](#)
- [Run, Ann Patchett](#)
- [The Bell Jar, Sylvia Plath](#)
- [Fire From Heaven, Mary Renault](#)
- [Empire Falls, Richard Russo](#)
- [Franny and Zooey, J.D. Salinger](#)
- [The Way of Kings, Brandon Sanderson](#)
- [On Beauty, Zadie Smith](#)
- [Maus: A Survivor's Tale, Art Spiegelman](#)
- [The Joy Luck Club, Amy Tan](#)
- [The Secret History, Donna Tartt](#)
- [I Am Malala, Malala Yousafzai](#)
- [Darkroom: A Memoir in Black and White, Lila Quintero Weaver](#)
- [The Once and Future King, T.H. White](#)
- [Tomorrow and Tomorrow and Tomorrow, Gabrielle Zevin](#)

