

Killingly High School English Department

Telephone (860) 779-6620
Fax (860) 774-0846
email: arockwell@killinglyschools.org

226 Putnam Pike
Dayville, CT 06241-1629

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Greetings English III Honors Students:

You have enrolled in Honors English III for next year, and this letter is to inform you of the expectations set for all students taking the course. The Honors English class is particularly challenging and rigorous. Students who commit to taking the course will be required to produce multiple drafts of essays and to read independently and extensively from a wide selection of both nonfiction and fiction texts. As the course is fast paced, it is essential that students take responsibility for their learning and demonstrate the initiative needed to progress.

Along with the summer reading assigned to all KHS students, Honors III students are required to read one additional novel, *The Scarlet Letter* by Nathaniel Hawthorne. If you have already read this novel, you may choose another similar text to read.

Students are expected to write journal responses while reading the novel. The responses should focus on character and theme development and might explore ideas, reactions, predictions, questions, connections, and thoughts that come to mind as the student reads. It is important to remember that a summary of the reading is not acceptable content for journal responses. Journal responses must also contain important quotes from the readings that support the student's ideas. The journals will be used to guide discussion during our unit on the Colonial Period. Students should aim for producing at least one handwritten full-page of writing for every forty pages of reading. Please come to the first day of class with your summer reading complete. Copies of the novel are available online for approximately \$8.00.

Be sure to share this letter with your parents/guardian so that they are aware of the requirements for this class. Good luck and enjoy your summer reading!

Sincerely,

Annic Rockwell
Honors English III Teacher