

## Honors English 9 AHS Independent Reading Assignment / 2024-2025

Students taking Honors English are required to complete the independent reading assignment. The summer reading assignment points (300 pts) will be divided between each grading period. The assignment requires students to **choose one book selection from the list**, read it independently, and complete a dialectic journal. This journal will help with comprehension, analysis, and assessment related to the novel choice. You will be allowed to use your (hardcopy) dialectical journal assignment on the novel test.

The due date for the assignment is the date of the first progress report of the 1st 9-weeks grading period when students have English whether during first semester or second semester. The independent reading assignment will be recorded on the 1st progress report for the 2nd 9-weeks grading period. **NO LATE SUBMISSIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED. New enrollments will be given one month from their first day to complete all independent reading assignments.**

| TASK   | DUE/POINTS   |
|--|--|
| 1. Dialectical Journal with MLA citations<br><a href="#">SPECIFIC DIALECTICAL JOURNAL ASSIGNMENT INSTRUCTION HERE</a> (hyperlink)  | 3rd week of class/ Turned in with novel test<br><b><u>150 POINTS (on 2nd semester average)</u></b> |
| 2. Three question essay test that requires the synthesis of the following novel elements: point of view, characterization, setting, theme, and/or symbolism <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Open book/open journal / completed within one period</li> </ul> | 3rd week of class<br><b><u>150 POINTS (on 1st semester average)</u></b>                            |

Standards Addressed:

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|----------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| • RL 8.1 / RL 9-10.1 | • W 8.6 / W 9-10.6 | • W 8.9 / W 9-10.9 |
| • RL 8.2 / RL 9-10.2 | • W 8.7 / W 9-10.7 | • L 8.1 / L 9-10.1 |
|                      | • W 8.8 / W 9-10.8 | • L 8.2 / L 9-     |

### Honors English 9 Independent Reading Assignment Selections / 2024-2025

Students are strongly encouraged to research topics and themes of the selections, as well as the genre of the selections, before choosing.

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| <p style="text-align: center;"><b><i>House of the Scorpion - Nancy Farmer</i></b><br/><b>(660 Lexile)</b></p> <p>At his coming-of-age party, Matteo Alacrán asks El Patrón's bodyguard, "How old am I?...I know I don't have a birthday like humans, but I was born." "You were harvested," Tam Lin reminds him. "You were grown in that poor cow for nine months and then you were cut out of her." To most people around him, Matt is not a boy but a beast. A room full of chicken litter with roaches for friends and old chicken bones for toys is considered good enough for him. But for El Patrón, lord of a country called Opium--a strip of poppy fields lying between the U.S. and what was once called Mexico--Matt is a guarantee of eternal life. El Patrón loves Matt as he loves himself, for Matt is himself. They share identical DNA.</p>         | <p style="text-align: center;"><b><i>The Hunger Games - Suzanne Collins</i></b><br/><b>(810 Lexile)</b></p> <p>In the ruins of a place once known as North America lies the nation of Panem, a shining Capitol surrounded by twelve outlying districts. The Capitol is harsh and cruel and keeps the districts in line by forcing them all to send one boy and one girl between the ages of twelve and eighteen to participate in the annual Hunger Games, a fight to the death on live TV. Sixteen-year-old Katniss Everdeen, who lives alone with her mother and younger sister, regards it as a death sentence when she steps forward to take her sister's place in the Games. But Katniss has been close to dead before—and survival, for her, is second nature. Without really meaning to, she becomes a contender. But if she is to win, she will have to start making choices that weight survival against humanity and life against love.</p> |
| <p style="text-align: center;"><b><i>A Lesson Before Dying - Ernest Gaines</i></b><br/><b>(750 Lexile)</b></p> <p><i>A Lesson Before Dying</i> is set in a small Cajun community in the late 1940s. Jefferson, a young black man, is an unwitting party to a liquor store shootout in which three men are killed; the only survivor, he is convicted of murder and sentenced to death. Grant Wiggins, who left his hometown for the university, has returned to the plantation school to teach. As he struggles with his decision whether to stay or escape to another state, his aunt and Jefferson's godmother persuade him to visit Jefferson in his cell and impart his learning and his pride to Jefferson before his death. In the end, the two men forge a bond as they both come to understand the simple heroism of resisting and defying the expected.</p> | <p style="text-align: center;"><b><i>The Secret Life of Bees - Sue Monk Kidd</i></b><br/><b>(840 Lexile)</b></p> <p>Set in South Carolina in 1964, <i>The Secret Life of Bees</i> tells the story of Lily Owens whose life has been shaped around the blurred memory of the afternoon her mother was killed. When Lily's fierce-hearted black "stand-in mother," Rosaleen, insults three of the deepest racists in town, Lily decides to spring them both free. They escape to Tiburon, South Carolina, a town that holds the secret to her mother's past. Taken in by an eccentric trio of black beekeeping sisters, Lily is introduced to their mesmerizing world of bees and honey and the Black Madonna. This is a remarkable novel about divine female power, a story women will share and pass on to their daughters for years to come.</p>   |