



# PASADENA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

## John Marshall Fundamental Secondary School

Dear Students and Families:

Incoming **8<sup>th</sup> Grade English Honors** students must complete the following assignments. You are expected to complete the assignments with excellence. Summer work will be due the first week of school and assignments will be averaged into the first semester grade.

### **8<sup>th</sup> Grade English Honors Required Reading & Writing**

1. Write a personal response analysis after reading the required book *Dear Martin*. Instructions on how to write the personal response analysis are on the next page.

*Dear Martin* by Nic Stone

2. Choose an additional book from the list below and complete a second personal response analysis for the book you chose.

*Eleanor & Park* by Rainbow Rowell  
*The Last Day on Mars* by Kevin Emerson  
*Echo* by Pam Munoz Ryan  
*Tangerine* by Edward Bloor  
*All Summer Long* by Hope Larson

Or any second book of your choice!

You are responsible for obtaining copies of the books from a library or bookstore and completing the writing assignments. Any sign of plagiarism (either from the internet or fellow students) will result in an "F".

### **8<sup>th</sup> Grade English Honors Vocabulary (see attached list)**

Throughout the school year, students will be tested on groups of the attached vocabulary list. It is highly recommended that students create flashcards (either digitally through Quizlet, or by hand on index cards). Flashcards will not be collected, but will be useful to ensure student success on all vocabulary tests throughout the school year.

I am looking forward to teaching you next year!

Sincerely,

Ms. Van Rosmalen (8th Grade Honors Teacher)  
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## **WRITING ASSIGNMENT**

**Book Review for both *Dear Martin* & a book of choice from the list.**

**DIRECTIONS:** Write a **1 page**, double spaced, 12 point Times New Roman font, response paper for *Dear Martin* & the other book you choose. Your reviews should include the following:

- Introduce the book and author in the first sentence along with the main idea.
- Brief summary - what was the book about in a bit more detail?
- What did you think while reading the book?
- What emotional reactions did you have?
- Who was your favorite character and why?
- What lessons were learned from reading this book?

Personal Response Analysis papers are due the first week of school.

1. ADMONISH (v) warn; reprove
2. ADVERSARY (n) opponent; enemy
3. ADVOCATE (v) urge or plead for
4. AFFABLE (adj.) friendly; agreeable
5. AMELIORATE (v) to improve; make better
6. ANECDOTE (n) a brief, humorous story
7. ASSUAGE (v) to reduce pain
8. ASTUTE (adj.) wise; shrewd; clever; ready witted
9. ATROPHY (v) to waste away from lack of use
10. AUGMENT (v) to add to; to increase
11. AUSTERITY (n) sternness; severity
12. AUTONOMY (n) self-rule; independence
13. AVARICE (n) greed; cupidity
14. BALLYHOO (n) noisy attention-getting demonstration/talk
15. BAMBOOZLE (v) to deceive by elaborate trickery; to hoodwink
16. BANAL (adj.) hackneyed; commonplace; trite; dull; ordinary
17. BASTION (n) a stronghold; a fort
18. BEDLAM (n) uproar; confusion
19. BELLICOSE (adj.) warlike; quarrelsome
20. BENEVOLENT (adj.) generous; charitable; kindly; well-wishing
21. BENIGN (adj.) kindly; favorable; good-natured; not malignant
22. BEQUEATH (v) to leave to someone in a will; hand down
23. BILLET-DOUX (n) a love letter
24. BIZARRE (adj.) out of the ordinary; freakish; eccentric; odd
25. BLASPHEMY (n) cursing; irreverence, sacrilege
26. BOISTEROUS (adj) rough; stormy; loud; violent; lacking restraint
27. BOGUS (adj) make-believe; fake
28. BOMBAST (n) pretentious, inflated speech or writing
29. BONA FIDE (adj.) made in good faith; genuine
30. BOUDOIR (n) a woman's dressing room, bedroom
31. BOYCOTT (v) to protest by refusing to buy/deal with
32. BREVITY (n) conciseness; right to the point
33. BROUHAHA (n) hubbub; uproar; furor
34. BUFFOON (n) a clown; comedian or laughable person
35. BUTTRESS (v.) to support or prop
36. CAMOUFLAGE (n) concealment by appearing
37. CANDOR (n) frankness; honesty
38. CENSURE (v) severely criticize; blame
39. CHRONOLOGY (n) the order or sequence of events
40. COERCION (n) use of force to get someone's compliance
41. COMMEMORATE (v) to honor the memory of someone/something
42. CONCISE (adj.) brief; compact
43. CONDONE (v) overlook; forgive
44. CONVICTION (n) firm belief; state of being sure
45. COWER (v) to crouch or draw back; cringe

46. CRYPTIC (adj.) secret; mysterious
47. DELINEATE (v) to portray
48. DELUDED (adj) deceived; cheated; misled; tricked; duped; hoodwinked
49. DESPOT (n) tyrant; cruel ruler
50. DISDAIN (v) to treat with scorn or contempt
51. DISPERSE (v) scatter
52. DRONE (v) to talk on and on in a dull way
53. DUBIOUS (adj.) doubtful
54. DULCET (adj.) sweet; melodious; soothing
55. DUPLICITY (n) double-dealing; conniving; lying
56. ECCENTRIC (adj.) out; out-of-the-ordinary; quirky
57. ELABORATION (n) addition of details; intricacy
58. ELEGIAC (adj) mournful, melancholic; plaintive; nostalgic; lamenting
59. ELUSIVE (adj.) evasive; baffling; hard-to-grasp
60. EMACIATED (adj.) thin and wasted
61. EMBARGO (n) govt. prohibition on trade w/another nation
62. EMBELLISH (v) to adorn
63. ENIGMA (n) something puzzling, a riddle
64. ENTHUSIASTIC (adj) showing great interest or excitement
65. EXACERBATE (v) to make worse; embitter
66. EXEMPLARY (adj.) serving as a model of excellence
67. EXPLICIT (adj.) definite; open; specific
68. EXPONENT (n) one who speaks for, represents, advocates
69. EXPUNGE (v) to strike out, to erase, to remove
70. EXTOL (v) to praise; glorify
71. EXTRICATE (v) to free; disentangle
72. EXULT (v) to rejoice greatly; be jubilant, triumphant
73. FALLACIOUS (adj.) misleading; false
74. FASTIDIOUS (adj.) difficult to please; squeamish; finicky
75. FERVOR (n) glowing ardor; burning intensity of feeling
76. FLOURISH (v) to thrive; grow or develop luxuriantly
77. FORMIDABLE (adj.) frightening; dreadful; awe-inspiring
78. FRIVOLITY (n) lack of seriousness
79. GALA (n) festival; celebration
80. GARBLED (adj.) mixed up (as in a message)
81. GARGOYLE (n) a rain spout in shape of grotesque figure
82. GAUNTLET (n) a thick, heavy glove (from a suit of armor)
83. GERMINATE (v) to begin to grow, sprout
84. GLOBULE (n) a tiny drop; a small ball
85. GOOGOL (n) 1 followed by 100 zeroes (10 to 100 th power)
86. GOSSAMER (adj.) light, tenuous, delicate
87. GRAVITY (n) seriousness
88. GREGARIOUS (adj.) sociable
89. GUERRILLA (n) member of military force not part of army
90. GUILE (n) deceit; duplicity; cunning

91. GURU (n) one who is followed as leader, teacher, spiritual leader
92. GYRATE (v) to revolve around a point or axis
93. HACKNEYED (adj.) commonplace; trite
94. HALCYON (adj.) calm, peaceful
95. HAPHAZARD (adj.) random; by chance
96. HARBINGER (n) forerunner; herald
97. HAUGHTINESS (n) pride; arrogance
98. HEDONISM (n) belief that pleasure is the sole aim in life
99. HERESY (n) opinion contrary to popular belief
100. HERITAGE (n) something (tradition) passed down generations
101. HIEROGLYPHIC (n) Egyptian system of writing
102. HIRSUTE (adj.) very hairy
103. HOLOCAUST (n) widespread destruction, especially by fire
104. HOLOGRAM (n) 3 dimensional photographic record
105. HOMOGENEOUS (adj.) of the same kind
106. HYPOCRITICAL (adj.) pretending to be virtuous; deceiving
107. HYPOTHETICAL (adj.) based on assumptions
108. IMMUNE (adj) protected from disease naturally or by vaccine
109. IMMUTABLE (adj.) unchangeable; permanent
110. IMPERTINENT (adj) offensively bold; rude
111. INAUGURATE (v) to start; initiate; install into office
112. INCESSANT (adj.) uninterrupted; unending; non-stop
113. INCIDENTAL (adj.) not essential; minor
114. INCORRIGIBLE (adj.) uncorrectable; hard to deal with
115. INDOLENT (adj.) lazy
116. INEPT (adj) incompetent; inexpert; clumsy; ham-fisted; bungling
117. INEVITABLE (adj.) unavoidable; bound to happen
118. INFERENCE (n) act of deciding/concluding by reasoning evidence
119. INNATE (adj.) inborn
120. INNOCUOUS (adj.) harmless; insignificant
121. IRRESOLUTE (adj.) uncertain how to act; weak
122. IRREVERENCE (n) lack of proper respect
123. JAUNTY (adj) showing carefree self-confident air
124. JOVIAL (adj) jolly; full of fun and good cheer
125. KINDLE (v) to start a fire; inspire
126. LABYRINTHINE (adj.) complicated; perplexing; mazelike
127. LACONIC (adj.) brief; to the point
128. LAMBENT (adj.) softly bright; flickering
129. LANGUID (adj.) slow & listless
130. LAUD (v) to praise
131. LEGACY (n) a gift made in a will
132. LETHARGIC (adj.) drowsy; dull
133. LEVITY (n) lightness; humor
134. LIBATION (n) a beverage (sometimes religious offering)
135. LICHEN (n) organism w/fungus & algae together

136. LIGHT-YEAR (n) distance light travels in one year (5.88 trillion miles)
137. LINEAGE (n) descent in a direct line from an ancestor
138. LOQUACIOUS (adj.) given to excessive talking
139. LISTLESS (adj.) without energy or enthusiasm
140. LUDICROUS (adj.) laughable b/c of obvious absurdity
141. LUCID (adj.) easily understood
142. LUGUBRIOUS (adj.) exaggeratedly or affectedly mournful
143. LUMINARY (n) one who is notable in a particular field
144. MAELSTROM (n) a powerful whirlpool; turmoil
145. MAGNANIMOUS (adj.) especially generous
146. MANACLE (n) a handcuff; a restraint
147. MANEUVER (n) planned movement/procedure involving skill/cunning
148. MARSUPIAL (n) mammals w/pouch outside female body for a baby
149. MASTICATE (v) to chew; to soften by crushing
150. MAUSOLEUM (n) a large, elaborate tomb
151. MELLIFLUOUS (adj.) smoothly flowing; sweet
152. METAMORPHOSIS (n) a transformation; a marked alteration
153. METICULOUS (adj.) excessively careful
154. MISERLY (adj.) stingy; mean
155. MITIGATE (v) to appease
156. MONOLITH (n) a single large stone (often column/monument)
157. MONOLOGUE (n) long uninterrupted speech by one person
158. MOROSE (adj.) ill-humored
159. MOSAIC (n) a design/picture made of small colored pieces
160. MUNDANE (adj.) worldly as opposed to spiritual
161. MUTATION (n) change, as in form
162. NADIR (n) the lowest point
163. NEBULA (n) thinly spread bright cloud of gas/dust in night sky
164. NOCTURNAL (adj.) pertaining to the night; active at night
165. NODULE (n) a small lump
166. NOTORIETY (n) disrepute; ill fame
167. NOVEL (adj.) new; interesting
168. NUISANCE (n) a bother; source of inconvenience
169. NULLIFY (v) to make invalid
170. NURTURE (v) to bring up; feed; educate
171. OMINOUS (adj) threatening; gloomy; portentous; menacing; boding evil
172. OPULENCE (n) wealth
173. PERVASIVE (adj.) spread throughout; permeating
174. PIETY (n) religious devotion; godliness
175. PILFER (v) to steal insignificant items
176. PINION (v) to restrain by binding the arms; to hold fast
177. PINNACLE (n) the highest point; a spire
178. PLACATE (v) pacify; conciliate
179. PLATEAU (n) elevated relatively level land
180. PLUMMET (v) to fall or plunge straight downward

181. POGROM (n) an organized persecution or massacre
182. POLYGLOT (adj.) using several languages
183. PONDEROUS (adj.) weighty; heavy; unwieldy
184. POSH (adj.) elegant; fashionable
185. POTABLE (adj.) fit to drink
186. PRECARIOUS (adj.) dangerous, risky; dependent on chance
187. PROFANE (adj.) to violate; desecrate
188. PROGENY (n) offspring; descendants
189. PROJECTILE (n) a missile; something thrown
190. PROMONTORY (n) a high point of land or rock projecting into water
191. PROSTRATE (adj.) lying flat; face down
192. PROTAGONIST (n) main character in drama/literary work
193. PROXIMITY (n) nearness
194. PUGILIST (n) fighter; boxer
195. PULCHRITUDE (n) physical beauty
196. PULVERIZE (v) to pound, crush, grind to dust or powder
197. QUANDARY (n) dilemma
198. QUARANTINE (n) confinement or isolation to prevent spread of disease
199. QUEUE (n) a waiting line, esp. of persons/vehicles
200. QUOTA (n) amount of something assigned to be made/sold
201. RAINFOREST (n) dense evergreen forest w/annual rain 160"
202. RANDOM (adj) having no specific order
203. RAVENOUS (adj.) hungry; very eager
204. REBUFF (v) to snub; beat back
205. RECALCITRANT (adj.) stubbornly resistant to authority/restraint
206. RECEDE (v) to move back or away from a limit, point, mark
207. RECLUSE (n) a hermit
208. RECTIFY (v) to correct
209. REDUNDANT (adj.) superfluous; saying the same thing over and over
210. REFUTE (v) to disprove; deny
211. RELEGATE (v) to banish; consign to inferior position
212. REMORSE (n) regret for having done wrong
213. REMUNERATION (n) reward, payment
214. RENAISSANCE (n) rebirth, revival (Euro 14 th -16 th century)
215. RENDEZVOUS (n) an appointment; a meeting place
216. RENEGADE (n) one who rejects a cause, allegiance, religion, etc.
217. RENOUNCE (v) to abandon
218. REPLICATE (v) to duplicate; to repeat
219. REPOSE (n) act of resting
220. REPREHENSIBLE (adj.) deserving blame
221. RESPITE (n) a break; a rest
222. RETICENT (adj.) restrained; uncommunicative; reserved
223. RETRACT (v) withdraw; take back
224. REVERBERATE (v) to echo; to resound
225. REVERE (v) to worship; to honor

226. REVERIE (n) daydream; being lost in thought
227. RIBALD (adj) vulgar; rude; coarse; bawdy; lewd
228. ROSTER (n) a list of names
229. RUMINATE (v) to ponder; to think over
230. SALUTARY (adj.) promoting health; beneficial
231. SANCTION (v) to approve; ratify
232. SATIATED (adj.) fully fed; fully satisfied
233. SAVORY (adj.) tasty; pleasing; attractive; agreeable
234. SEDIMENT (n) matter that settles to the bottom of a liquid
235. SERAPH (n) an angel
236. SILHOUETTE (n) a dark outline against a light background
237. SINEWY (adj.) strong and firm; tough
238. SOLSTICE (n) when the sun is farthest north or south of equator
239. SOMBER (adj.) gloomy; depressing
240. SPECTRUM (n) a band of colors; an entire range
241. SQUANDER (v) to waste
242. STEREOTYPE (n) conventional or oversimplified idea or image
243. STRUT (n) a self-important walk
244. STUPEFY (v) to make numb. stun; amaze
245. SUPERCILIOUS (adj) arrogant; condescending; haughty; disdainful; pompous
246. TACITURN (adj.) quiet; uncommunicative; silent
247. TARIFF (n) a tax or duty on imported or exported goods
248. TANTALIZE (v) to tease by keeping something out of reach
249. TECHNIQUE (n) a procedure or method for accomplishing a task
250. TENDRIL (n) a coiling part
251. TENTATIVE (adj.) not final; uncertain
252. TERSE (adj.) concise; abrupt; pithy
253. TIMOROUS (adj.) easily frightened; timid
254. TITANIC (adj.) huge; powerful
255. TORPID (adj.) dormant; dull; lethargic
256. TORTUOUS (adj.) winding or twisting; devious
257. TOXIN (n) a poisonous substance produced by a living organism
258. TRANQUILITY (n) calmness; serenity
259. TREPIDATION (n) fear; trembling agitation
260. TRIBUTARY (n) a stream or river flowing into a larger stream/river
261. TRUCULENT (adj.) savage; fierce
262. TRUNCATED (adj.) cut off; shortened
263. TUMULT (n) noisy, disorderly activity; emotional agitation
264. TUNDRA (n) a cold, treeless, lowland northern area
265. TURBULENCE (n) state of violent agitation
266. UNANIMOUS (adj) sharing the same opinion; in full agreement
267. UNDULATE (v) to move in waves or w/a wavy motion
268. UNKEMPT (adj.) messy; disheveled; w/uncared for appearance
269. UNOBTRUSIVE (adj.) inconspicuous; not obvious
270. VACCINE (n) substance that stimulated cells in immune system



271. VACILLATE (v) to be unable to decide; to waver  
272. VALOR (n) courage; bravery  
273. VENERATE (v) to revere  
274. VERTEBRATE (n) any of a group of animals w/a backbone  
275. VERVE (n) energy; liveliness  
276. VIRTUOSO (n) highly skilled artist  
277. VIRULENT (adj.) extremely poisonous; harmful; deleterious  
278. VORACIOUS (adj) ravenous; very hungry  
279. WRETCHED (adj) miserable, very unhappy or unfortunate  
280. ZOOLOGY (n) branch of biology that deals with animals