



May 2024

Dear Future 11th Grade English Students:

The following is the required summer reading and assignment for **ALL students entering ENGLISH 3** in the fall. You will be held accountable for completing your work over the summer. This will be your first assignment in Aeries. It is due **Friday, August 30th, 2024**.

Complete the following prior to the first day of school:

1. **REQUIRED READING:** *The Handmaid's Tale* by Margaret Atwood

You can access the [book here](#) or you can check it out from the library.

You can also listen to the [audiobook here](#).

**\*Trigger Warning\***

Parents should be aware that "The Handmaid's Tale" contains mature content, including:

- Sexual Content: Explicit descriptions of sexual acts, including non-consensual sex.
- Violence: Instances of physical violence and harsh punishment.
- Oppression: Themes of extreme oppression and subjugation of women.
- Language: Strong language and profanity.
- Psychological Trauma: Depictions of significant psychological distress.

2. **REQUIRED ASSIGNMENT:**

**Article:** Find a recent news article that connects to a theme and/or events in *The Handmaid's Tale*. Be sure to select Internet sources carefully: When choosing an article from the Internet, make sure that the source is reliable. If the author and sponsor of a site are both unclear, be extremely suspicious of the site. You should choose an article from a journal, newspaper, or magazine for this assignment.

**Writing Response:** include the following:

- Title of Article:
- Author:
- Name of magazine/journal/newspaper source:
- Connection: **Handwrite three or more paragraphs** explaining how the article connects to a theme developed in *The Handmaid's Tale*. Be sure to examine how the article develops the theme AND how the novel develops the theme in order to make one or more relevant connections. Be sure to include **at least 3 quotes** from the novel (with page numbers) in your response. Each paragraph should be at least 5-8 sentences in length.

Themes you may explore: gender, identity, dehumanization, rebellion, and religion

Enjoy your summer! I look forward to seeing you. Eagles SOAR!

Sincerely,  
Mrs. Gretchen Mosher  
ELA Department Chair  
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