

# Welcome to English 9 Honors!

Dear Eighth-Grade ELA Students,

Welcome to the Bartlett Ninth Grade Academy! We hope you are looking forward to English Honors 9 next school year. To prepare you for your honors and advanced placement courses in high school English, you must be willing and motivated to read!

Your summer reading includes two classics: *The Pearl* by John Steinbeck and *Animal Farm* by George Orwell.

**For your summer reading assignment, you will be required to create a one-pager (see directions) for one of the novels—you choose!** All the requirements for the one-pager are provided on the pages that follow.

During the first two weeks of school, we will have a test over each novel, each worth 50 points. The first test will be over *The Pearl*, followed by *Animal Farm*.

We look forward to seeing you next year! Have an amazing rest of your eighth-grade year and a wonderful summer!

Sincerely,

Your English Honors 9 Teachers

# One-Pager Assignment for Summer Reading: *The Pearl* by John Steinbeck

**Directions:** Create a visually engaging and analytical one-pager on an 8.5 x 11-inch sheet of plain white paper that demonstrates your understanding of *The Pearl* by incorporating key literary elements, themes, and symbolism, and key events.

**Requirements - Your one-pager should include the following elements:**

## 1. Title, Author, and Genre

Clearly write *The Pearl* and John Steinbeck's name in a creative and eye-catching way. Think about how book covers are designed to attract readers. Also, this book is considered a novella. Research what that means and include that information on your one pager.

## 2. Central Theme

Identify two major themes from the book (greed, fate, oppression, family, etc.). Include quotes/textual evidence from the book that supports each theme and explain its significance to the plot.

## 3. Symbolism

Illustrate at least three important symbols (e.g., the pearl, the canoe, the scorpion, the songs, etc.) and explain the meaning for each one.

## 4. Character Analysis

Include Kino and one other main character (Juana, Coyotito, the doctor, etc.) on your one pager. You can draw and label who they are or just write their names and describe their role in the story, how they develop or change, and their key traits. Include a meaningful quote that reflects their personality or journey.

## 5. Key Plot Points

Summarize three key events in the novel. Use visuals (drawings, symbols, or graphic elements) to represent these moments and textual evidence (key quotes).

## 6. Personal Connection

Explain how the novel's message or a character's experience relates to you, society, or the world today. Think about the central themes and how we are willing to risk everything for "more."

## 7. Creativity and Presentation

You must use color, images, and symbols to make your one-pager visually appealing. Organize your content neatly, ensuring a balanced mix of text and visuals.

**Grading Criteria - Your one-pager will be evaluated based on:**

**Content – Includes all required elements and demonstrates deep understanding. (15 pts)**

**Visual Appeal – Creative, neat, and effectively uses images and colors. (10 pts)**

**Textual Evidence – Uses appropriate quotes and explanations. (5 pts)**

**Effort & Originality – Thoughtful and unique presentation. (5 pts)**

**Total – 30 points**

**YOUR NAME AND CLASS PERIOD SHOULD BE EASY TO LOCATE ON YOUR ONE PAGER.**

# One-Pager Assignment for Summer Reading:

## *Animal Farm* by George Orwell

**Directions:** Create a visually engaging and analytical one-pager on an 8.5 x 11-inch sheet of white paper that demonstrates your understanding of *Animal Farm* by George Orwell that includes the analysis of themes, characters, symbolism, and key events.

**Requirements - Your one-pager must include the following elements:**

**1. Title, Author, and Genre**

Clearly write *Animal Farm* and George Orwell's name in a creative and eye-catching way on your one pager. Think about how book covers are designed to attract readers. Also, this book is considered a satirical allegorical novella. Research what that means and include that information on your one pager.

**2. Central Theme**

Identify two major themes in the novel (e.g., power and corruption, propaganda, class struggle). Include quotes/textual evidence from the book that supports each theme and explain its significance.

**3. Character Representation**

Choose two major characters (Napoleon, Snowball, Boxer, Squealer, etc.) and illustrate/draw something that symbolically represent them. Include a brief description of their role and importance in the novel.

**4. Symbolism**

Identify at least three significant symbols (e.g., the windmill, the farmhouse, the flag, the commandments, etc.) and explain the meaning each one.

**5. Key Plot Points**

Summarize three key events in the story. Use visuals (drawings, symbols, or graphic elements, etc.) to represent these moments. Select meaningful quotes from the book and explain how they connects to the overall message of *Animal Farm*.

**6. Personal Connection**

Explain how the novel's message relates to society and the Russian Revolution, or even the world today. Think about the central themes and how influential power is. You may need to do a little research with this.

**7. Illustrations and Creativity – Your one-pager should be visually engaging, incorporating drawings, colors, or artistic representations that connect to the novel. These should be relevant and thoughtfully integrated.**

**Grading Criteria - Your one-pager will be evaluated based on:**

**Content – Includes all required elements and demonstrates deep understanding. (15 pts)**

**Visual Appeal – Creative, neat, and effectively uses images and colors. (10 pts)**

**Textual Evidence – Uses appropriate quotes and explanations. (5 pts)**

**Effort & Originality – Thoughtful and unique presentation. (5 pts)**

**Total – 30 points**

**YOUR NAME AND CLASS PERIOD SHOULD BE EASY TO LOCATE ON YOUR ONE PAGER.**