Stafford High School

Honors English II

Summer Reading Assignment

You will select **one** of the novels below to read and complete the assignment. You should review the entire assignment before you start reading. The assignment will be due on **Monday August 25, 2025** for a **MAJOR GRADE** for the first six weeks.

- *A Lesson Before Dying* by Ernest J. Gaines
- *The Girl from the Well* by Rin Chupeco – first book in the series
- *Salt to the Sea* by Sepetys
- *The Namesake* by Jhumpa Lahiri
- *The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald – in the public domain

The recommendation is to purchase your own copy from Amazon, Barnes and Noble, Half Priced Books, or any number of other retailers, so you can annotate and have a conversation with the book. You may be able to find copies available online, or you can also visit your public library to check out a copy. *The Great Gatsby* is available for free from the Project Gutenberg website at this website https://www.gutenberg.org/cache/epub/64317/pg64317-images.html as it is now in the public domain. Mr. Martin has a PDF version of the Project Gutenberg *The Great Gatsby* available if you email him a request at the address below.

There are four parts to the assignment and should be put together to turn in on the due date.

1. You will create an image that represents the overall theme or a major symbol from the novel. This will be the cover of your assignment, and it must include the name of the novel and its author in addition to your name. This should be an original image created by you, but you are free to use your personal creative skills.
2. You will annotate an important page from the novel. Use the annotation skills you practiced last year to do the annotation. Underneath the passage, explain why you selected this passage and how it is significant to the story.
3. You will complete a dialectical journal of a minimum of ten (10) rows *(see attached pages)*.
4. You will create a blackout poem using a page or two from the novel that represents your thoughts or feelings about what you read. For information on blackout poetry, visit the following website: https://www.weareteachers.com/blackout-poetry/

If you have any questions, you may contact Mr. Coy Martin at coy.martin@staffordmsd.org. Please include your first and last name in your email and put "Honors English 2 Summer Reading Assignment Question" in the subject line of the email.

Rubric

Image of theme or major symbol	_____/ 20
Annotation & Explanation	_____/ 25
Dialectical journal (3 points per entry)	_____/ 30
Blackout poem	_____/ 25

Dialectical Journal

Directions: You will fill out 10 rows (two pages) for your chosen novel. Make sure that you use complete sentences when writing your response. If your penmanship is poor, feel free to input your information electronically.

- **In the first column: Write down a direct quote from the text.**
- **In the second column: cite the page**
- **In the third column: Explain why you selected this quotation. Why is it important? What do you not understand? Of what did it make you think?**

Quotation from the Text	Page Number	Response

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