

JOLIET CATHOLIC ACADEMY

JUNIOR SUMMER READING

Welcome to the JCA summer reading program. Follow these instructions and you will be well prepared for the first day of English class! Answer each question thoughtfully, thoroughly, and in complete sentences. When you encounter unfamiliar words, use a dictionary to find the definition. This typed, double-spaced assignment is due on the first full day of class in August. Please note the curriculum level of your placement: **H—Honors, U—Upper College Prep, and C—College Prep.**

College Prep – *Left to Tell*

Upper College Prep – *A Painted House* – John Grisham

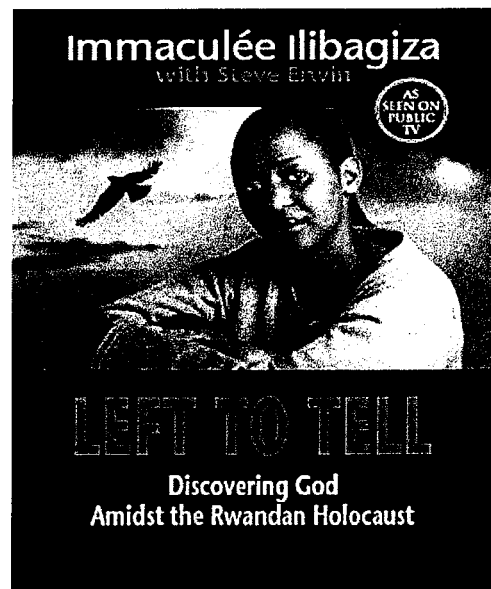
Honors – *Left to Tell* and *The Grapes of Wrath*

***Left to Tell*-College Prep/Honors**

Instructions:

Answer each question in a minimum of 2-5 sentences. Answers should be typed and turned in the first day of class.

1. Give a summary of the book.
2. Describe life in Immaculee's village. How does she characterize the relationship between the members of the two tribes?
3. Which character, besides Immaculée, most affected you as you read?
4. What is the definition of genocide?
5. Immaculée does not intend for the book to be a history of the genocide, so what is the purpose of her writing her story?
6. What role did prayer play in Immaculee's life before the genocide? During? After?
7. Why was Pastor Murinzi initially reluctant to help Immaculee and the other women? What or who do you think convinced him to hide them?



8. When does Immaculée first realize she needs to forgive the killers?
9. How does Immaculée view freedom before and after the genocide?
10. What have you learned about genocide, faith, and humanity in reading this memoir?

Summer Reading Assignment – English III (U)

A Painted House by John Grisham

Due Date: First week of school

Grade Value: Major assessment (reading + writing)

A Painted House is a coming-of-age novel that explores memory, poverty, loyalty, morality, and the loss of innocence through the eyes of a young narrator.

Student Instructions

You are expected to:

- Read the entire novel carefully
- Annotate or note important passages while reading
- Complete **all three sections** of the assignment
- Bring your book and completed work to class

You may **handwrite** or **type** your work unless otherwise instructed.

Part I:

Literary Analysis Questions (20 points)

Answer **ALL** of the following in complete paragraphs. Each response should be 5 to 7 sentences and include **evidence from the text**.

1. How does Luke's age affect the story he tells? In what ways does his innocence limit or deepen the reader's understanding of events?
2. Identify two moments in the novel where Luke's view of the world permanently changes. What causes these moments, and why are they significant?
3. How does the rural Arkansas setting shape the characters' lives and choices? Explain how poverty, labor, and social class influence the story.
4. The novel presents multiple versions of "justice." Choose one major event involving truth or punishment and explain what the novel suggests about right and wrong.

Part II: Choice Writing Assignment (30 points)

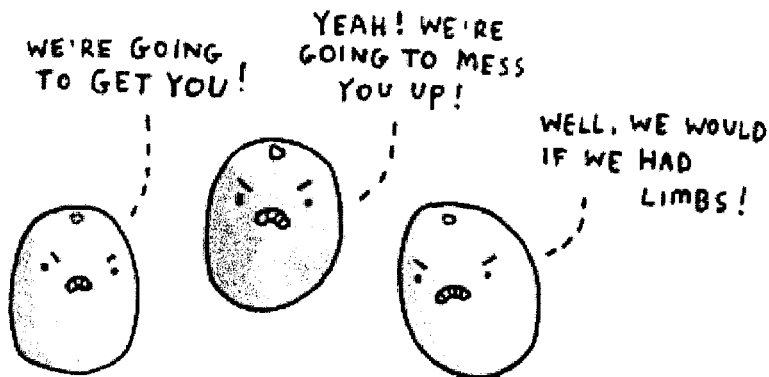
Choose **ONE** of the following options.

Option A: Literary Essay

Write a 2–3 page essay responding to the prompt below:

Grisham once stated that this novel is “about remembering who you were before the world changed you.” Explain how *A Painted House* reflects this idea. Use at least three specific moments from the novel to support your claim.

The Grapes of Wrath-Honors



THE GRAPES OF WRATH

In American Literature junior year, there are no “correct” or “set” answers and all supported opinions are valid, unlike, say, math, where responses are uniform. For example, when asked, “Who is the most important character in *The Grapes of Wrath*?” there may be several valid responses. Approach the following questions with your own opinions as well as evidence from the novel. This means you should put one quote from the novel in each of your answers. Each answer should be typed and a minimum of 3-5 complete sentences. Quotes should not make up the majority of your answer, but they must support your answer.

1. The tractor driver in Chapter 5 says only look after yourself and your family. Do you agree? Disagree? Why?
2. Predict what happens to Muley in Chapter 8 after the Joad family leaves.
3. In Chapter 10, why did Ma burn the box of keepsakes/memories?
4. Grampa dies in Chapter 13. Would he have died if he had stayed home? Did the conditions of the trip kill him?
5. In Chapter 16, Ma “was the power. She had taken control.” Is this true? Or had Ma always been in control?
6. Why does Connie leave in Chapter 20? Predict/write: What happens to Connie after he leaves the family?

7. The title of the novel revealed in the narration itself in Chapter 25, “In the souls of the people the grapes of wrath are filling and growing heavy, growing heavy for the vintage.” What is the message Steinbeck is sending with the title of the book?
8. Tom’s speech in Chapter 28 is one of the most famous passages in the novel. Is this speech the pinnacle of the story? What other powerful speeches and moments in the book compare?
9. The ending of the novel has been referred to as vulgar. What is your opinion? Why?
10. Why was *The Grapes of Wrath* banned? What particular themes, scenes, or ideas may have prompted the banning?