LA10H/Gemellaro
Summer Reading Information
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Welcome to Honors LA10. Through the exploration of American literature, this class will continue to develop critical reading, critical thinking, analytical discussion, and academic writing skills.

Please join Google Classroom with this code: 5ch5o654

It is imperative that students have a strong foundation in the following areas:

- Critical thinking
- Active reading strategies, including annotations, to facilitate a greater understanding
- Class discussion techniques
- Developed essay structure
- Analytical writing
- Grammar and mechanics

In preparation for the start of the 2026-2027 school year, you are expected to expand on your research skills, as well as read and comprehend three texts. One you are already familiar with if you took Honors LA9, one that I have selected, and one that you will select. There are required assignments for the research, and for the assigned texts, two you will complete and turn in digitally before we return to school in August, two that will be due shortly after school begins (the second day of classes). There will also be a comprehensive test, your first diagnostic writing assignment and a Socratic discussion that will take place within the first weeks of school.

The first two related ***assignments*** need to be submitted before 7:30AM, Monday, August 17th. Your notes for HTRLLP go to Turnitin.com, and the Research assignment is due to Google Classroom. **The due dates are part of the assignments, so you may not submit them late**.

SUMMER ASSIGNMENTS (required)

1. **Reading and taking notes** on chapters from: *How to Read Literature like a Professor* Revised Edition by Thomas C. Foster (read and make notes for the assigned chapters) Required Chapters: 2, 3, 5-11, 19, Interlude "one Story" 24, and 25.
   *You should have already read and annotated the intro, chapter 1, 4, and 12, if you were Honors LA 9. If you weren't, you should read those chapters, but you won't have to annotate or make notes. (due before school starts, August 17th, 7:30AM)

2. **Foundations of Research:** Since you will be doing research in HELA 10, it is important for you to have an understanding of the various types of sources on the "Source Spectrum," moving beyond the simple "reliable vs. unreliable" to truly understand the nuances of intent, audience, and evidence. This assignment will have you analyze, categorize, and cite eight distinct types of information sources, evaluating their credibility based on institutional standards and peer-review processes. You will also make a video recording of yourself using MeL and Gale explaining your search process for at least four of the different style sources. (due before school starts, August 17th, 7:30AM)

3. ***Selection of a memoir*:** select ONE of the following to read this summer. Please bring your selected memoir on the first day of school. You will be getting your related writing assignment once classes begin. (hard copies, not digital and no graphic novel versions should be read).

   A Long Way Gone by Ishmael Beah *I Will Always Write Back* by Martin Ganda

Escape from Camp 14 by Blaine Harden
The Distance Between Us by Reyna Grande
The Color of Water by James McBride
Farewell to Manzanar by Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston
The Far Away Brothers by Lauren Markham
Into the Abyss by Carol Chaben
The Family Romanov by Candace Fleming
A House on Mango Street by Sandra Cisneros
Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks by Rebecca Skloot
Brown Girl Dreaming by Jacqueline Woodson
How Dare the Sun Rise by Sandra Uwiringiyimana
Lone Survivor by Luttrell and Robinson
Educated by Tara Westover
Angela's Ashes by Frank McCourt
Hole in My Life by Jack Gantos
Flowers in the Gutter by K.R. Gaddy
I Am Malala by Malala Yousafzai
Lab Girl by Hope Jahren
Nickel Boys by Colson Whitehead
The Glass Castle by Jeannette Walls
Night by Elie Wiesel
Honor Girl by Maggie Thrash

*A note on memoirs: Memoirs are written by individuals who are telling a story unique to themselves, their lives, experiences, culture, and community. They may contain content different from the traditional stories you have read throughout your schooling. Please try and read with sensitivity, empathy, maturity and a desire for understanding.

Some of the memoirs contain profane words or include content relating to sexuality, gender issues, race, religion, socio-economic background, family dynamics, etc. These are sensitive topics in which some people could find offensive, but if we stay within the intended context of the memoirs and understand that authors may well be trying to capture language as it was used by their own community to tell their story, we will hopefully have a greater understanding of the meaning they are trying to convey.

4. **Read *1984* and complete the Socratic discussion assignment** for *1984* by George Orwell. Keeping *How to Read Literature like a Professor* in mind, of course.

SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENTS four in total.

1. One completed and submitted to Turnitin.com before August 17th, 7:30 AM
2. One completed and submitted to Google Classroom before August 17th, 7:30AM
3. the remaining two are to be completed and brought to school on the first full day of classes, August 25th

1.Chapter Notes *How to Read Literature*…: You will be writing notes on the assigned chapters for *How to Read Literature like a Professor*. Note taking is an active reading strategy that allows the reader to react to the text. These notes will provide an enriched understanding. Your notes should provide explanation, critical commentary, and connection. Your notes should vary amongst students and chapters, and should reflect a high level of engagement with the text and should be varied. They are not merely copied word for word from the text.

- You will be doing all of your work in turnitin.com as a "Student Writing Assignment". Create notes for each of the required chapters (12 total). Your typed notes should include: Chapter #/Title, key definitions, ideas, and paraphrasing. The purpose is to create limits so you are forced to summarize, and synthesize the information in a condensed and usable manner. *Do not write word for word/copy and paste from the text.* Your notes can be bulleted and complete sentences are not required. Each chapter is limited to no more than 200 words. (12pt Times New Roman Font). Notes for all 12 chapters are to be done as a Student Writing Assignment in turnitin.com only. That means you aren't using Google Docs. This assignment must be completed and submitted by August 17th 2026 7:30AM. You will not be able to turn this in late.

- This submission is part of the assignment, be conscious of the deadline.
  - Class name: Honors LA 10 Summer Reading 2026-2027
  - Password: English (this website is case sensitive)
  - Class id: **53206233**
  - Assignment title: HTRLLP Chapter Notes

2. **The Anatomy of Information**--Research

You will analyze, categorize, and cite eight distinct types of information sources, evaluating their credibility based on institutional standards and peer-review processes.

But first, you need a debatable topic. Start with an idea.

Example idea: The Privacy Paradox

- Subject Idea: Facial Recognition and Public Safety.
- Ask a Narrowing Question: Does the use of facial recognition technology in public schools improve safety, or does it violate student privacy rights?
- This question will be what you research.

Why it works: It forces you to weigh two positive values (Safety vs. Privacy) against each other. Pick a side, and get started.

Part A: Source Scavenger Hunt

Curate a "Source Portfolio" on a single topic (e.g., *The Ethics of Gene Editing* or *The Impact of Algorithms on Democracy*). For this topic, find one example of each of types of sources: (8 total to go on a References page). You do not need to print the documents, but you need to save them to your drive as PDFs because you will be turning them in digitally. You will need to create a References page in APA for each source. Noodle tools or other citation platforms can help with this. You will need to use MeL for this. You also need to make a video recording of yourself (via Google Chrome-(directions are in Google Classroom) or a similar platform, where you screenshare and explain how you found at least four of the different style sources using MeL and Gale. Two of the four must be a scholarly journal, and a literary criticism. You must appear in the recording and have clear audio. (due before school starts, August 17th, 7:30AM)

1. **Peer-Reviewed Scholarly Journal:** Must include an abstract, methodology, and a robust reference list (August & Brouwer, 2024).
2. **High-Quality Journalism:** Long-form investigative pieces from "paper of record" outlets (e.g., *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*).
3. **Editorial/Op-Ed:** A piece where the primary intent is to persuade or offer a specific viewpoint, often found in the "Opinion" section (Bobkowski & Younger, 2020).
4. **Short-Form Journalism:** A "straight news" report (under 500 words) focused on the *who, what, where, and when* without deep analysis.
5. **Biased/Partisan Piece:** A source that uses "clickbait" or "emotional word choice" to drive engagement or confirm existing biases (Galeazzi et al., 2024).
6. **Literary Criticism:** An academic essay that interprets or evaluates a primary text looking through a specific lens (Kubik, 2012).
7. **Abstract:** Specifically, the standalone summary of a research paper (often found in databases like JSTOR or PubMed).
8. **Trade Publication:** A "middle-ground" source written by experts for others in a specific industry (e.g., *Education Week* or *Scientific American*).

Part B: Video Presentation

- **Make a recorded presentation of yourself** showing yourself using MeL and Gale-- **explaining the process of how you found four of the sources**. One must be a scholarly journal, and the one must be a

literary criticism.

- You will need to screenshare, appear in the video, and have clear audio using Google Chrome, Googlevids, Loom or any recording platform is fine as long as you meet the requirements of the assignment.
- For planning purposes and by way of understanding, pretend you are an influencer, and you need to make a step-by-step recording of how to find sources on MeL and Gale.
- You will need to download your video to YouTube, make sure you have the video set to unlisted, not private. If your teacher can't open it, she can't score it.
- Upload your YouTube video to Google Classroom before the due date. (uploading takes time, make sure you allow for this)

Part C: Comparative Analysis Table

Complete the following table for your eight chosen sources to identify structural differences. **This will be a separate assignment on Google Classroom.** This submission is part of the assignment, be conscious of the deadline.7:30AM, August 17th 2026.

Title: (write the title here)	**Type of source:** (options include: scholarly journal, short form, Editorial, biased, high-quality news, etc)	**Audience:** Who was this written for? (Doctors, scholars, general public, soccer moms)	**Language style** (technical, heavy jargon, professional, casual, colloquial, emotional, persuasive)	**Full Citation** APA

Part D: The APA Identification Challenge

Create an APA 7th Edition **References Page** for all eight sources. You must annotate each entry by explaining

how the *formatting* of the reference reveals the source type. Simply labeling it isn't enough. (Use the "Comments" feature in Google Docs to complete this). **This is an assignment in Google Classroom.** You will be turning in your eight sources as well. This submission is part of the assignment, be conscious of the deadline. August 17th 2026 7:30AM.

Key Identification Markers to look for:

- **Journals:** Look for **Volume, Issue, and Page Numbers** and a **DOI** (a unique, alphanumeric string assigned to digital objects (journal articles, books, or datasets) to provide a permanent, clickable link to their location online). (August & Brouwer, 2024).
- **Newspapers:** Look for a specific **Month and Day** in the parentheses and the **Newspaper Title** in italics.
- **Websites:** If there is no "container" (like a journal or newspaper), it is often a general web page.

3. Journal Assignment Critical Memoir (of your choice) It is important that while you read, you are checking for understanding. For your summer reading choice title, you will be keeping a reading journal in which you use *How to Read Literature like a Professor* (HTRLLP) as a companion to foster a greater understanding of the text.

- For your selection of a memoir, you are going to complete 12 journal entries.

**You may select your journal entries from the following prompts listed below. At least half of your entries should be generated from this list. Each of your 12 entries should be hand-written on looseleaf paper and at least one comprehensive paragraph long (topic sentence followed by seven to nine detailed sentences that fully address the topic [question], and connect to *HTRLLP* in some way-remember to use in-text citation, as well) Focus on the questions below or a specific topic or question that you have developed yourself that you can relate to *HTRLLP*. At least six of your journals must come from the prompts below. The others can be topics you develop unique to the memoir. Since you will be writing by hand, make sure you underline book titles. Highlight the section of each journal writing that connects to *HRLLP*

**Please note these are generic questions and some of them use the word "character." Obviously, this word only applies to novels. Please substitute it for the word "author" or the author's name since the author is writing about him/herself and not a fictional character.

Questions about Meaning	Questions about Technique
● What is the author's purpose? Is the purpose worthwhile? ● What is the author's attitude toward a situation, environment, etc.? Do you agree with this attitude? ● Who is the author's audience? Would the audience agree with the author? ● What does the author seem to focus on in the text? Why might he/she do this? ● What is the author like? ● What motivates the author? ● Does the character/author behave correctly according to societal norms? ● Describe the climax? ● Is the ending effective? Why or why not?	● How does the author structure the text? Is the structure effective? ● What important details does the author include? ● What comparisons and figures of speech does the author include? Describe how he/she uses them. ● What ideas are suggested by comparisons and figures of speech? Are the author's comparison and figures of speech effective/original? ● Which of the following techniques are important in the text: atmosphere, suspense, irony, conflict, word connotation, figurative language? Why?

● Is the title effective? Why or why not? ● What ideas or emotions are suggested by figures of speech? ● Are the author's ideas important? Why or why not?	● How effectively does the author use selected techniques? ● Are the details selected by the author appropriate and effective? ● Is the author accurate or is the author substituting emotion for logic?

***Please use examples that represent the beginning, the middle, and the end of the text. They are not to favor any one particular section. (You ultimately want to prove you have read and understand the text).

***You are analyzing (applying literary interpretation to) the text and its purpose, NOT summarizing. All grammar, spelling, and formatting rules apply. Also, you may not use any form of the pronouns "I" or "you"

- This journal writing assignment for your choice reading memoir or novel, is to be done by hand on loose-leaf paper. Typed journal entries will not receive credit. This assignment is due on Tuesday, August 26th. The first full-day of classes.

4. Socratic Discussion Preparation for *1984*: Once classes have begun, you will participate in a special kind of discussion called a Socratic Seminar. This is an all-hour discussion run completely by students without any teacher input. The purpose of the discussion is to explore the novel to develop a deeper understanding of the themes, ideas, and historical context. In order to be prepared for a thoughtful, academic discussion, you will need to complete the assignment below.

The following prompts must be written in complete sentences. You must write down the chapter (from *1984*) that invoked your question or prompt. Pick 12 of the 15 provided prompts, and use each prompt twice. This means you will have two sentences/questions for each prompt for a total of 24 sentences. (there are more prompts than are required-pick 12 of the 15). Please include the page number for the prompts that provoked your question.

For example if your Socratic discussion is regarding *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*:
"*I'd like to talk with people about* why Huck is so superstitious. (Chapter 4)
"*I'd like to talk with people about* society during this era and why Huck doesn't trust adults." (Chapter 8)

- What puzzles me is…
- I'd like to talk with people about…
- I'm confused about…
- Don't you think this is similar to…
- Do you agree that the big idea seems to be…
- Something that I didn't like is…
- This reminds me of…
- I have questions about…
- Another point of view is…
- I think it means…
- Do you think…
- What does it mean when _____ says…..(required evidence/passage from the text)
- Do you agree that…
- Wouldn't it have been interesting if…
- I really liked when…

Give some thought to the following:

1. What is the purpose and pros and cons of technology? Rebellion? Censorship? Propaganda?

2. How important is individual identity?

- Your discussion prompts are due in class on August 25th. (The first full day of classes). These may be typed or handwritten.

IMPORTANT DATES AND MATERIALS:

- Chapter Notes for *HTRLLP* must be submitted to Turnitin.com, before Monday, August 17th, at 7:30 AM.
- References with annotations, eight sources, and Resource Analysis Grid due to Google Classroom before Monday, August 17th, at 7:30 AM.
- On the first full day of school, (August 25th) come prepared with
    - Choice memoir in hand. (no digital copies)
    - Handwritten journal writing assignment for your choice memoir (with *HTRLLP* connection highlighted)
    - Socratic Seminar discussion prompts for *1984*

District Summer Assignment Policy:
Summer work is necessary for honors and AP courses in order to help students build prior knowledge that is essential for the curriculum at the beginning of the school year.

Any assignments submitted with copied and pasted text will not receive credit.

Please see Rochester Community School's Academic Integrity Policy for further clarification regarding expectations for completing summer work.