

**Bergenfield Public Schools
Humanities Department
Summer Reading 2026**

Due: September 8, 2026

Dear incoming **English 9 Honors** student,

Your first assignment is to **read at least one book of your choice** over the summer and to complete a **Double-Entry Journal** with at least **30 entries**, as well as a **Summer Reading Choice Board Project** for your book. This assignment is **mandatory** for all 9th grade students taking honors English next year.

Double-Entry Journal: Free Choice Novel

During-Reading Instructions: **Actively and thoroughly** read a book of your choice (fiction). Be sure to **take thorough notes** as you read so that you can be well prepared to **analyze** and **discuss** the book in September. The more detailed your notes are, the more prepared you will be to successfully complete assignments about this book when we meet in the fall. These notes are intended to help you understand the book on a deeper level. **You must take notes in a double-entry journal in the format below (you may choose to type or handwrite it).**

In your journal, you may include questions that you have about the text, emotional reactions that you have to it, and things that you notice about the characters, plot, setting, theme, etc.

What to Expect in Class: When you return to school in September, be prepared to discuss your book and share your journal entries with your classmates (who probably read a different book than you!)

The Use of AI/Plagiarizing Other Work(s): **Using AI is NOT permitted and will result in receiving a zero for the assignment.** A major focus of our class is developing **brainstorming, prewriting, and drafting** skills using **original thought** and research skills.

It is our policy that we use Turnitin rather than other AI detection sites to determine student use of AI. **If TurnItIn identifies your work as more than 30% AI**

generated, **your assignment will NOT be accepted. You will receive an automatic zero** for the assignment. There will be **NO** exceptions to this policy.

Quote From Text With Page #s	My Analysis/Thoughts /Reactions/ Questions
1)	
2)	
3)	
4)	
5)	
6)	
7)	
8)	
9)	
10)	
11)	
12)	
13)	
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28)	
29)	
30)	

Summer Reading Choice Board Assignment

Instructions for Students:

1. Choose *one* activity from *each* column (total of 3 activities).
2. Complete all three chosen activities based on your summer reading book.
3. Be prepared to share one of your completed activities with your classmates.

4. Your work should demonstrate thoughtful engagement with the text and attention to detail.

5. All assignments are due by the first day of school: Tuesday, September 8th

Grading Criteria:

- Depth of understanding of the text (40%)
- Creativity and originality (25%)
- Quality of execution and presentation (25%)
- Following directions and completing all requirements (10%)

Creative Response	Analysis & Reflection	Multimedia
Character Journal Write 5 diary entries from a main character's perspective, revealing thoughts not explicitly stated in the text.	Theme Analysis Identify 3 major themes and provide textual evidence showing how they develop throughout the book.	Book Trailer Create a 1-2 minute video trailer that captures the essence of the book without spoiling the ending.
Alternate Ending Write a different conclusion to the story (2-3 pages) that remains true to the characters and themes.	Literary Devices Identify 8 different literary devices used in the text with examples and explain their effectiveness.	Podcast Episode Record a 5-minute podcast discussing the book's relevance to contemporary issues.
Found Poetry Create 2 poems using only words and phrases from the book that capture key moments or themes.	Character Evolution Track how a character changes throughout the story with specific evidence and analysis.	Visual Timeline Create a visual representation of the plot with key events, turning points, and character developments.

Book Art Create an artistic representation (drawing, painting, collage) of a significant scene with a written explanation.	Critical Review Write a thoughtful review analyzing the book's strengths and weaknesses (1-2 pages).	Social Media Campaign Design 5-7 social media posts that would promote the book to your peers.
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Remember, reading a book, completing 30 double entry journals, and completing three activities from the choice board is a ***mandatory*** assignment for all 9th graders taking honors English at BHS. When school starts in September, we will delve right into your novels and explore their characters, symbols, and themes very closely. **Have a great summer, and happy reading!**

Please feel free to email us with any questions!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Trivisonno ktrivisonno@bergenfield.org and Ms. Connor tconnor@bergenfield.org