

Mr. Miller's Summer Reading Letter: 2026

Summer Schoology Code: 4HSW-3S8G-4F69H

Hello, and welcome! I want to congratulate you on your decision to take on the challenge of a college level course- while you are still in high school! It is my hope that together we will learn and grow as scholars and human beings, and also get a ton of reading done along the way.

This class is not intended to give you work; it's intended to prepare you for the AP Literature and Composition test in May. However, in order to do well on that test and to fulfill the expectation of the College Board and Tomah High School, you will have to work for it. This class is going to have high expectations. Officials at the College Board suggest that a summer reading assignment is necessary. I agree with this. Therefore, over the summer, I ask that you 1. complete one novel of literary merit (a choice of three is highlighted in this letter). Furthermore I ask that you 2. Read 100,000 words of choice reading. Before you panic, know that *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone* is 92,000 words. Remember: reading is one of the single most powerful tools we have as a people seeking to learn. As such it is my expectation that you will read if not *every* day, then *very nearly* every day. This is NOT busy work but work that will prepare you for success.

1. The One-Pager that you will be completing for your reading can be found on the Schoology page. The code is at the top of this document.

Literary Reading: 3 options

The Kite Runner

Life of Pi or

Sing, Unburied, Sing

For this reading, you will be challenging yourself to really dig into a novel. This means you will be annotating/taking notes on your reading, as outlined in my instruction sheet. I do not want this to spoil the reading for you, as these are all terrific novels, so please find a method that works best for you.

2. Choice Reading: 100,000 words of whatever you would like.

For this portion of the summer reading, you will be reading whatever makes you happy as a reader. If you are not sure what makes you happy as a reader, then ask your friends, your teachers, or PLEASE ask your librarians. To prove to me that you have in fact done the reading, you will be filling out my "I read 100,000 words!" form. ***As a warning*** Plagiarism software has gotten very good, and will flag your work if it even *resembles* the structure of ANY online source. Plagiarism is illegal and will not be tolerated. Besides that, and this is IMPORTANT: you are choosing to challenge yourself in the hopes of earning college credit and preparing yourself for whatever comes next. Cheating is just not the way to get where you want to go.

I am very excited to work with you all this year!

Mr. Miller

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The One Pager

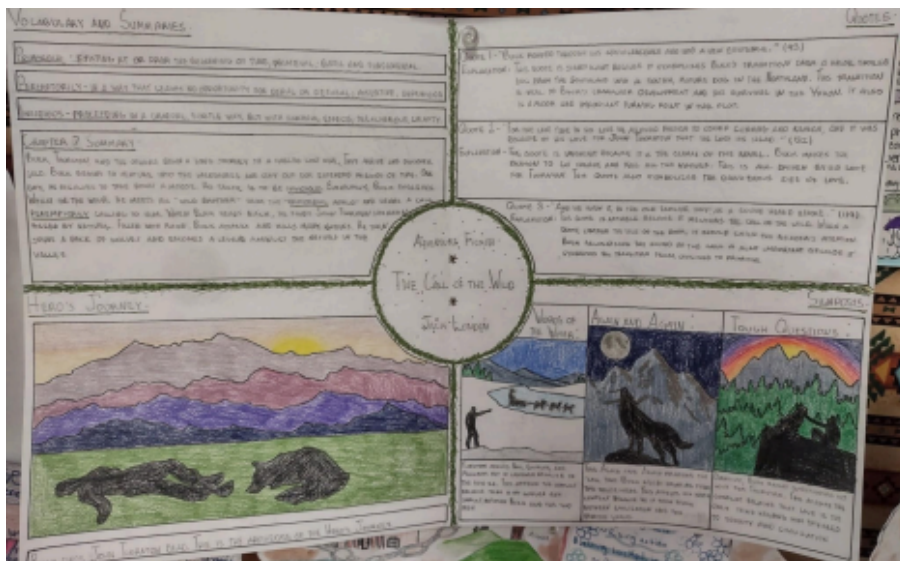
A one-pager is an analytical, creative, and written response to a novel that completely fills one side of a piece of paper. For your One-Pager, you'll want to focus on some key concepts from your Summer reading novel.

Directions: On a plus sized sheet of paper (legal paper, two 8.5X11 taped together, large piece of construction paper, etc.) you will be completing a One-Pager for your literary reading this Summer. In order to be successful with this assignment, you need to start out with an in depth reading of your chosen text that will include annotation. As stated in the letter, I don't want this to ruin your reading, so find a method that works for you. Personally, I use sticky notes but use any method you want, as long as you're not writing in the school's books. -Your annotations are going to be done to help you with your One-Pager, so you NEED to annotate:

- descriptions of setting
- important quotes
- big plot moments.

-Once you have done your reading and annotations, complete the One-Pager by connecting four boxes vertically, horizontally, or diagonally. Each of your BINGO options are going to include Characterization, A Change, and Setting, so really you just need to pick your 4th element. The different elements are highlighted on the matrix.

-I am by no means an artist, and as such I am not expecting you to be one. However, I do expect effort and creativity with these One-Pagers. There can be NO white space on your legal-sized sheet of paper, there should be color and or shading, and tracing is completely allowed. Please have FUN with this assignment, so that we can all have fun looking at them come Fall.



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One-Pager Matrix:

Characterization: Find 3 separate quotes that concern a single character, whether they were said by that character, to them, or about them. Write the quotes down (in MLA format) and write 3-5 sentences of analysis for each.	A Change: Choose a moment in the story in which you believe there to be a large change- to a character, the plot, theme, etc. Describe the change, what impact it has on the story, and create a visual to represent that shift.	Setting: Illustrate a setting from the book. The illustration must be accurate, detailed, and in full-color. Provide 3 quotes from the book to support the illustration. Also, write 3 sentences about what impact you think the setting had on the story.	Song: Find song lyrics that connect to the novel. Include the lyrics, the name of the song and artist, and a 3-5 sentence explanation of how the song related to the book.
Setting: Illustrate a setting from the book. The illustration must be accurate, detailed, and in full-color. Provide 3 quotes from the book to support the illustration. Also, write 3 sentences about what impact you think the setting had on the story.	Theme: In a well developed paragraph, write a theme statement for the novel as a whole. Provide textual evidence that supports your thesis for what the theme of the work is.	Characterization: Find 3 separate quotes that concern a single character, whether they were said by that character, to them, or about them. Write the quotes down (in MLA format) and write 3-5 sentences of analysis for each.	A Change: Choose a moment in the story in which you believe there to be a large change- to a character, the plot, theme, etc. Describe the change, what impact it has on the story, and create a visual to represent that shift.
Title: Explain the title of the work: its significance, the impact it had on the reading, how it came into play in your reading, etc.	Setting: Illustrate a setting from the book. The illustration must be accurate, detailed, and in full-color. Provide 3 quotes from the book to support the illustration. Also, write 3 sentences about what impact you think the setting had on the story.	A Change: Choose a moment in the story in which you believe there to be a large change- to a character, the plot, theme, etc. Describe the change, what impact it has on the story, and create a visual to represent that shift.	Characterization: Find 3 separate quotes that concern a single character, whether they were said by that character, to them, or about them. Write the quotes down (in MLA format) and write 3-5 sentences of analysis for each.
A Change: Choose a moment in the story in which you believe there to be a large change- to a character, the plot, theme, etc. Describe the change, what impact it has on the story, and create a visual to represent that shift.	Characterization: Find 3 separate quotes that concern a single character, whether they were said by that character, to them, or about them. Write the quotes down (in MLA format) and write 3-5 sentences of analysis for each.	Compare and Contrast: Choose a character in your book who is really similar to a character in another book you have read-describe their similarities and their differences.	Setting: Illustrate a setting from the book. The illustration must be accurate, detailed, and in full-color. Provide 3 quotes from the book to support the illustration. Also, write 3 sentences about what impact you think the setting had on the story.

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Choice Book Reading Help Page

Choice Reading Task :

Read 100,000 words in text/s of your choice. You choose where the words come from, but this assignment is in addition to the assigned summer reading (*Life of Pi*, *Joy Luck Club*, etc.). Please complete your

Finding book word count:

1. Go to <https://howlongtoread.com/> and search your book.
2. Google your book and: a) find the word count or b) use the length of the audiobook. 3 Hours at 250 wpm means 180 minutesX250 wpm=45,000 words.
3. Count the number of words in what looks like an average line. Then, count the number of lines on an average page. Multiply those two numbers, then multiply the result by the number of pages in the book:
Words per-line X Words per-page X Pages in book=Total words

Finding something to read:

Use these resources to find a book that might interest you!

1. Tomah Public Library!
<https://tomahpubliclibrary.org/new-materials>
2. Book Riot- An excellent collection of articles and lists for book recommendations of ALL GENRES!! <https://bookriot.com/>
3. Time Magazine's list of the 100 best Young Adult Books of all time!
<https://time.com/collection/100-best-ya-books/>
4. AP Reading List on this [AP Page](#).

Student exemple (Just recreate this on your document from the Choice Reading Letter):

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I read 100,000 words!

Example

Text Title: *Hamza and Amira and the War to Save the World* Author: Samira

Ahmed OG Pub. Date: September 21, 2021 Length: About 110,032

Genre: Realistic Fantasy

Major Elements of Fiction:

Characters: Protagonist- **Hamza and Amira**

Antagonist- **Ifrit the gul**

Supporters- **Jinns**

Plot- **The moon, and the realms within are breaking apart, can the heroes of Quaf save the world in time?**

Point of View- **mostly all Amira, but in some part Hamza**

Setting- **beginning on earth, then moving into the land and all the realms of Quaf**

Original Summary:

When the two siblings go to a museum in Chicago for a special moon viewing, they find something unexpected. A box with a model of the moon, earth, and sun that they are drawn too. During the moon viewing a bit later, the moon begins to crack and everyone around the siblings falls into a deep sleep, including their parents. They are taken to the realm of Quaf in the moon by a collection of fire beings called jinn. Here they learn they are the heroes of Quaf and must defeat the evil ghul Ifrit before it is too late. After many trials, and the loss of their jinn friend, Hamza and Amira find Ifrit and are able to defeat him saving all the worlds forever.

Questions: **Why did their friend have to die? Why do the heroes have to be someone outside of their own culture?**

What I gained: **I realized that there is much I can learn from artifacts from the past. I also realized heroes can be any age or gender and we sometimes need to sacrifice our needs to help others.**

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I read 100,000 words!
Example

Text Title:

Author:

OG Pub. Date:

Length:

Genre:

Major Elements of Fiction:

Characters: Protagonist

Antagonist

Supporting

Plot

Point of View

Setting

Original Summary:

Questions (High Leverage):

What I gained (Your perspectives):