Conner High School
English Department
2015/2016 Summer Reading Assignment

The summer reading assignment is designed to reinforce an appreciation for reading, while also providing opportunity for students to utilize their reading skills throughout the summer months. In addition to the Conner High School library, we have partnered with the Boone County Public Library to bring you high interest level books which correspond with the curriculum/standards for each English course.

CRITICAL INFORMATION:
- All students enrolled in English I-IV classes are required to read ONE work of their own choosing from the provided list and complete a double-entry journal, due by the second Friday of either first or second semester depending on the student’s schedule.
- Students enrolled in English Honors classes will also only read one selection, but will also complete an in class essay within the first two weeks of the semester (August or January, depending on schedule).
- AP students will need to see their AP teacher for course specific assignments.
- If there is an issue with any of the selections, students may choose an alternate novel from the AP reading list with approval from the English Department.
- This assignment is required for each English credit. DO NOT PLAGIARIZE! If caught plagiarizing, a five page critical analysis will be required for half credit.

Full plot summaries can either be found online or by visiting your local library. We have provided several choices and encourage you to choose carefully.

English I
- Article 5 by Kristen Simmons
- Romiette and Julio by Sharon Draper
- The Best Bad luck I Ever Had by Kristin Levine

English II
- The Book Thief by Markus Zusak
- Maus by Art Spiegelman
- Fahrenheit 451 by Ray Bradbury
- Hiroshima by John Hersey

English III
- The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian by Sherman Alexie
- No Country for Old Men by Cormac McCarthy
- Ordinary People by Judith Guest
- Jake, Reinvented by Gordon Korman

English IV
- Divergent by Veronica Roth
- Under the Dome by Stephen King
- The Things They Carried by Tim O’Brien
- The False Prince by Jennifer Nielsen
Instructions for Assembling the Two-Column Journal Assignment

Part I: Cover Sheet
• Print out and complete the cover sheet, below. Please note that teachers will not accept summer reading assignments without a completed cover sheet. The sheet is not complete without a parent or guardian’s signature.

Part II: Two Column Journal
• Students are to select five (5) passages from their summer reading book of choice that interests, puzzles, or impacts them. For each passage or quotation, students are to select from one of the eleven (11) entry prompts listed below and develop a response.

The purpose of the two-column journal is to record your interactions with the text as you progress through the book. (It is much easier to do this while you read, rather than after)! It is a way of recording your responses, positive or negative, and to track your journey through the story. It offers you, the reader, a chance to respond personally, to ask questions, wonder, predict, or reflect on the characters, events, literary elements or language of a text. Don’t summarize. Instead, record your textual observations.

Additional Instructions and Guidelines
• You may complete your journal on notebook paper (one side only), or on a computer.

• Your journal must have two (2) columns. Divide the page in half. Title the column on the left: “Passages from the Text.” Title the column on the right: “Commentary/Responses to the Text.” (See “Example Two Column Journal Entry” and “Two Column Journal Layout,” below.)

• Select passages that interest, puzzle, or impact you. Copy each passage word for word into the left column. Jot down the page number or e-reader percentage that indicates where the passage is located in the text, and identify the speaker in your analysis.

• Show that you have read the entire book by responding to passages from the entire novel.

• Respond to the quote in the right column, using the prompts provided below.

• Required entry lengths are 5 – 9 quality sentences.
Entry Prompt Selections

There are eleven entry prompt selections. Students must complete five for each work. An entry prompt may only be used once per work. The entry prompts are:

2. “The setting gives the effect of . . .”
3. “The author seems to feel . . .”
4. “The tone of this part is . . .”
5. “The character(s) feel(s) . . .”
6. “This is ironic because . . .”
7. “The detail seems effective/out of place/important because . . .”
8. “An interesting word/phrase/sentence/thought is . . .”
9. Something I notice/appreciate/don’t appreciate/wonder about is...
10. “This reminds me of . . .”
11. Creative option:

Example Two Column Journal Entry

This is a sample two-column journal entry written by a student who had read the work Bless Me, Ultima. Note how the passage is written in one column and the commentary is written in a second column. Note also how each passage and commentary share a common number. Remember to include the page number indicating where your selected passage may be located within the text.

Passage from the Text

1. “She took my hand, and I felt the power of whirlwind sweep around me. Her eyes swept the surrounding hills and through them I saw for the first time the beauty of our hills and the magic of the green river. My nostrils quivered as I felt the song of the mockingbirds and the drone of the grasshoppers mingle with the pulse of the earth” (12).

Commentary/Responses to the Text

1. The imagery reveals Tony’s sense of the earth around him. As Ultima touches his hand, he is drawn into what seems to be a new and wild wondrous universe. This powerful experience makes Tony think that Ultima knows his fate and that they will be close. It can be inferred that their relationship will be a significant part of the novel.
Complete this form and all assignment requirements. Attach this to the TWO-COLUMN JOURNAL as a cover sheet. All assignments are due to your English teacher on the Friday of the second week of school.

Note that the Parent/Guardian verification section MUST be complete to receive credit.

Parent/Guardian Verification

I verify that ______________________________________ completed his/her
(Student’s Name—Please Print)
summer reading of:

____________________________________________________________

(Title of Work—Please Print)

Parent/Guardian signature: __________________________________________

Date: ___________________
STUDENT NAME: __________________________

TITLE OF WORK: __________________________

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<th>Quotations from the Text (5)</th>
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General comments about the book: ___________________________________________________________