



## HONORS ENGLISH I SUMMER WORK ASSIGNMENTS AND INSTRUCTIONS

### Assignments:

1. Students are read the following novels and answer the analysis questions outlined below: *To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee and *The Hobbit* by J.R.R. Tolkien.
2. Once the student has read the novel, he/she should sit down to write a response to each of the following questions. Each response should consist of a well-developed and well-organized paragraph of 100-150 words.
3. Here are the questions:
  - A. Explain who the protagonist of the novel is including the character's development from the beginning of the novel to the end of the novel.
  - B. Identify a secondary character in the novel and explain his/her importance in the novel as a whole.
  - C. Find and explain one instance of irony in the novel.
  - D. Find and explain the meaning of one symbol in the novel.
  - E. Identify and explain the central conflict of the novel. Include the type of conflict (man v. man, man v. self, man v. nature, man v. society, etc.) as well as the conflict's resolution and how the resolution comes about.
  - F. Determine a theme for the novel. This should be sentences, not a one-word topic like "love" or "friendship" or "prejudice" but "love conquers all" or "friendship requires loyalty" or "prejudice is harmful to society." Explain how the author makes this evident in the novel.
4. These paragraphs should follow all the rules of good writing under your command, including the rules I outline later in these instructions.
5. On the first day of classes, you will receive an invitation via e-mail to join the class's Teams page where you will find an assignment that will allow you to submit your work. It will be due on the second day of school to allow you the time to figure out how Teams works (it actually pretty easy). That means these paragraph responses are due that day.
6. In addition to these paragraphs, you will be assigned an essay to write during the first week of school. You will learn more about that after school starts.
7. If at any time during the summer you have a question, e-mail Mrs. Williams at [cwilliams@fenwickfalcons.org](mailto:cwilliams@fenwickfalcons.org).
8. Read through the writing instructions on the back of this before writing your paragraphs.

**General Writing Instructions:**

1. Don't use "I" (or "we" or any variations) even when an opinion is called for. You are the author of the essay therefore I know that this is your opinion.
2. Don't speak directly to your audience by using the pronoun "you." When a writer uses "you," it sounds as though he/she is instructing his/her audience on how to read and/or understand the work under discussion and is, therefore, somewhat insulting to the reader.
3. When typing your work, ALWAYS use the correct MLA formatting for your work. This includes the correct heading in the upper left corner of the document (first line – name, second line – instructor name [Mrs. Williams], third line – course name [Honors English I], fourth line – date in European style [24 March 2021]). This also includes using a non-handwriting font in size 10 or 12 with 1-inch margins; the document should also be double-spaced with no extra spacing between paragraphs.
4. Avoid using words like "a lot," "very," "so," etc. Try to employ a more specific, vivid, and precise vocabulary.
5. Human beings require the use of the word "who" not the word "that," as in "the girl who. . ." NOT "the girl that . . ." Characters in a literary work, by the way, are human.
6. Check out the proper use of commas!
7. Use present and present perfect tense verbs to discuss the events of a literary work. Every time a reader opens the novel the characters are doing the actions of the novel, therefore it is the present in the novel (play, short story, poem, etc.) at all times.
8. Make sure you explain your thinking and support your ideas with solid evidence from the novel.