

Honors English 10 Summer Reading Project 2018-2019

As a prerequisite for enrolling in this course, students must complete a summer reading project. Each student is responsible to read three of the books from the list below and to be prepared to present a “Book Talk” on one of them (my choosing) when school starts in August. The vocabulary component of the project is due on the first day of class in August. Students who do not complete the project will be transferred into the regular English 10 class.

PART 1: Vocabulary. Working with the Internet site <vocabulary.com>. You should already have an account from your English 9 class, if you do not (or are a new student), you need to set up an account with the site, registering it under your email address.

Important: before you begin your summer vocab, take a screenshot of your current score and email it to me. Over the summer, you will be adding 10,000 points each week for a total of 8 weeks. At the end of the summer (or whenever you have completed 80,000 points, you will take another screenshot and email it to me. You should choose a vocabulary list from either the AP Lists (there are 35 of them) or the SAT Lists (there are 3688).

Book List (Note: You must read books from this list. If you are interested in reading another novel by an author already on the list, contact me via email):

Little Men by Louisa May Alcott
Little Women by Louisa May Alcott
Pride and Prejudice by Jane Austin
Lorna Doone by R.D. Blackmore
Wuthering Heights by Emily Bronte
The Pilgrim’s Progress by John Bunyan
The Silver Chalice by Thomas B. Costain
David Copperfield by Charles Dickens
Alas, Babylon by Pat Frank
The Far Pavilions by M.M. Kaye
The Poisonwood Bible by Barbara Kingsolver
Out of the Silent Planet by C.S. Lewis
Perelandra by C.S. Lewis
The Heart Is a Lonely Hunter by Carson McCullers
1984 by George Orwell
The Shipping News by E. Annie Proulx
On the Beach by Nevil Shute
A Town Like Alice by Nevil Shute
East of Eden by John Steinbeck
Joy Luck Club by Amy Tan
The Hobbit by J.R.R. Tolkien
Dinner at the Homesick Restaurant
by Anne Tyler
Exodus by Leon Uris
Mysterious Island by Jules Verne
Obasan by Joy Kogawa
The Color Purple by Alice Walker

Not a Penny More, Not a Penny Less
by Jeffrey Archer
Kidnapped by Robert Louis Stevenson
The Woman Warrior by Maxine Hong Kingston
The Glass Palace by Amitav Ghosh
The Kitchen God’s Wife by Amy Tan
Peace Life a River by Leif Enger
Life of Pi by Yann Martel
I Never Promised You a Rose Garden
by Joanne Greenberg
The House on Mango Street by Sandra Cisneros
The Kite Runner by Khaled Hosseini
Bel Canto by Ann Patchette
When I Was Puerto Rican
by Esmeralda Santiago
My Name is Asher Lev by Chaim Potok
The Promise by Chaim Potok
To Sir, with Love by E.R. Braithwaite
The Swiss Family Robinson by J.D. Wyss
Marley & Me by John Grogan
Kane and Abel by Jeffrey Archer
The Handmaid’s Tale by Margaret Atwood
Emma by Jane Austen
Kim by Rudyard Kipling
The Adventures of Tom Sawyer by Mark Twain
Papillon by Henri Charriere
Christy by Catherine Marshall
The Shoes of the Fisherman by Morris West

Please note: I have not read all of these books and therefore cannot vouch for their content—many of these books are suggested by other honors high school teachers and have not been screened by me or anyone at Dalat International School. Use your best discernment to determine if a book is right for you.

PART II: A “Book Talk.”

As you read your books, keep some notes so you have information to help you prepare for your book talk. Each student will have to give a 3-5 minute “Book Talk” to the rest of the class during the first or second week of school in August. Here’s what you may include in this “Talk”:

The purpose of this book talk is to recommend titles of good books for your peers to read and enjoy. It should be a fun experience, hopefully not something that will burden you.

Your book talk may include any following elements:

- What made you laugh, angry, cry, think about things, say ‘wow’, etc.
- Answer questions like: 1. Why did you choose this book? 2. How did this book make you feel?
- 3. Tell about something that happened or somebody in the book that reminded you of your own life.
- 4. What was your favorite or least favorite part in the book and why? 5. What questions would you like to ask the main character? 6. What were the most memorable things you learned while reading this book? 7. What did the author include that helped you understand the topic or information? 8. What did you learn as a result of reading this book? 8. What questions do you still have after reading this book?

Other Suggestions for students to make your book talks even more fun:

1. Read a favorite passage from your book (less than one minute).
2. Show and tell about the cover of the book
3. Tell a little about the author—where he/she was born? When? Did this book receive any awards?
4. Talk about other books by this author
5. Mention other books that remind you of this one
6. Show pictures, photographs or diagrams from your book
7. Talk about themes, symbolism, genre, etc.

Excellence Requirements: Book Talk		
Information: 20pts	You tell us basic information about the book and its author	
Setting: 15 pts	Lots of vivid, descriptive words are used to tell the audience when and where the story takes place.	
Characters.: 20 pts	The main characters are named and clearly described (through words and/or actions). The audience knows and can describe the characters and how they typically behave.	
Problem/Conflict: 20 pts	It is very easy for the audience to understand what problem the main character(s) face and why it is a problem.	
Knows the Books: 15 pts	You know the story well and have obviously practiced the book talk several times. You speak with confidence and are within the time requirements.	
Audience Contact: 10 pts	You engage the audience with eye contact and speak to all members of the audience.	

If you have any questions, feel free to email me at: jhiebert@dalat.org

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