**English I Honors**

**Independent Book Choice**

Please contact your teacher with questions.

* Ms. Myers: [MyersM@santarosa.k12.fl.us](mailto:MyersM@santarosa.k12.fl.us)
* Mr. McAuley: [McAuleyE@santarosa.k12.fl.us](mailto:McAuleyE@santarosa.k12.fl.us)

Choose a book to read that interests you. It may be fiction or non-fiction. If you need book recommendations, let me know—I love recommending books!

**Requirements:**

The book should be at least 200 pages and at a high school level. It must be, on your honor, a book you have NOT previously read. Also, on your honor, you must have permission from your parent/guardian to read your chosen book!

There are many resources online for free books. Scribd is doing a 30 day free trial with no credit card required right now. They have ebooks and audiobooks. Audible has many YA books free right now as well. Let me know if you are having difficulty getting a book, and I can make arrangements for you to borrow one from my classroom library. I will work on updating Teams with links to websites for books and some recommendations over the next few days.

**Assignment 1:**

Write one paragraph identifying the book and author you have chosen. Why did you choose this book? What about it appeals to you? Create a Word document with a MLA heading and format. Submit in the Assignments section of Teams.

**Assignment 2:**

When you are about 1/4 of the way through your book, write a one page reflection on what has happened in the book so far. Who are the main characters? What is the plot and central conflict? What are your thoughts on the book? Predictions? Create a Word document with a MLA heading and format. Submit in the Assignments section of Teams.

**Assignment 3:**

Complete this assignment when you are at least ¾ done with the book. Show how the protagonist of your story is characterized by the author. How does the author paint a picture of this character? What conflict(s) does this character face? How does he/she resolve them? Write 1-2 pages. Create a Word document with a MLA heading and format. Submit in the Assignments section of Teams.

**Assignment 4:**

Complete this assignment when you are finished with the book. Choose one of the following options. See below for more instructions.

* Option A: Digital One Pager
* Option B: Book Review
* Option C: Book Talk Video

**Option A: Digital One Pager**

You may use PPT, Sway, Prezi, Canva, Google Drawings, or any other program you are comfortable with to create your One Pager. You may create a hand-drawn one pager and submit a picture of it. Be creative.

**Requirements:**

* Title & Author
* 4-5 sentence summary of the plot
* 2 quotes that impacted the story. Include parenthetical citations and an explanation of why this quote is significant.
* Fiction: What is a theme of this work? How is this developed throughout the story.
* Non-Fiction: What is the author’s purpose of this work? How is this developed throughout the story?
* Include two pictures or symbols to represent the book/characters.

**Option B: Book Review**

Book reviews differ from reports in that they are more persuasive. (Why a reader should or shouldn't read this book). Both offer a combination of summary and commentary. They are a way to think more deeply about a book you have read and to demonstrate your understanding. Feel free to look at sample book reviews online, but not for the book you are reading!

Create a word document with a MLA heading and format. Your review should be a minimum of 500 words—with multiple structured paragraphs. Include these elements in your review:

* **Introduction**

Here you want to provide basic information about the book, and a sense of what your review will be about. This is in paragraph form. You should include:

1. Title (*italicized*)/Author
2. Publication Information: Publisher, year, number of pages
3. Genre
4. A brief (1-2 sentences) introduction to the book and the report/review.

* **Overall Idea of Book**

There are two main sections for this part. The first is an explanation of what the book is about. The second is your opinion(s) about the book and how successful it is. There are some differences between reports on fiction or other imaginative writing and reports on non-fiction books. But for both, a good place to start is to explain the author's purpose and/or the main themes of the book. Then you can summarize.

* + **For fiction or other creative writing:**

Provide brief descriptions of the setting, the point of view (who tells the story), the protagonist , and other major characters. If there is a distinct mood or tone, discuss that as well. Give a **concise** plot summary. Along with the sequence of major events, you may want to discuss the book's climax and resolution, and/or literary devices such as foreshadowing. But, if you are writing a review, be careful not to give away important plot details or the ending.

* + **For non-fiction:**

Provide a general overview of the author's topic, main points, and argument. What is the thesis? What are the important conclusions?

Don't try to summarize each chapter or every angle. Choose the ones that are most significant and interesting to you.

* **Analysis and Evaluation**

In this section you analyze or critique the book. You can write about your own opinions; just be sure that you explain and support them with examples. Some questions you might want to consider:

* Did the author achieve his or her purpose?
* Is the writing effective, powerful, difficult, beautiful?
* What are the strengths and weaknesses of the book?
* For non-fiction, what are the author's qualifications to write about the subject? Do you agree with the author's arguments and conclusions?
* What is your overall response to the book? Did you find it interesting, moving, dull?
* Would you recommend it to others? Why or why not?
* **Conclusion**

Briefly conclude by pulling your thoughts together. You may want to say what impression the book left you with, or emphasize what you want your reader to know about it. Do NOT tell us it was the best book ever.

**Option C: Book Talk Video**

The basic requirements of this are the same as a book review but in video form. You may submit the video file or a link to your video. Look at book talk videos online for inspiration. Your video should be 3-4 minutes.