

KITTATINNY REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

DATE: June, 2010
 RE: Summer Reading Program
 TO: Student and Parent

Summer vacation is a time for leisure and relaxation. It is, therefore, an excellent opportunity to engage in some leisurely and relaxing reading. Essayist Richard Steele wrote, *“Reading is to the mind what exercise is to the body.”* With that in mind, the Kittatinny Regional High School English Department has instituted a new summer reading program designed to exercise the mind, while also providing enjoyment and relaxation.

This year, all students are permitted to choose a book from their grade level list. These books become a springboard for many class discussions. During the first full week of school, students will write an essay on the book they read, addressing a character from the work that could or did influence the student as a reader. The rubric for this essay is shown below.

Copies of the books are now the responsibility of the students. The books listed can be obtained from your local or county library or can be purchased through web sites such as *Amazon.com* or *Half.com*. Some are available in our school library if necessary. Parents can greatly assist us in our efforts to improve the education of their children by urging them to read during the summer. By reading and discussing these books with their children, parents can help them truly exercise their minds.

On behalf of the entire faculty, the Kittatinny Regional High School English Department wishes everyone a restful, yet stimulating, summer and sincerely appreciates everyone’s support and participation.

Daniel A. Haug, Supervisor of Instruction

EVALUATION OF SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENT

NAME _____ TITLE _____

Heading

5

- _____ verb tense
- _____ spelling
- _____ punctuation
- _____ agreement – n/pr., s/v
- _____ sentence structure
- _____ capitalization
- _____ no contractions
- _____ word choice
- _____ no “you” / no “I” / etc.
- _____ no “IT” without antecedent
- _____ hyphen v. dash
- _____ do not begin sentences with “But,” “And” or “Because”

- _____ format (name, date, instructor, course)
- _____ appropriateness of title
(includes title and author of book read)

Notes / Outline

5

- _____ prepared with original outline or quotes
(No web sites permitted. Notes will be approved by teacher.)

Thesis Statement and Opening Paragraph

10

- _____ clear statement
- _____ strength of opening

Conclusion

10

- _____ strong ending
- _____ draws paper together
- _____ is not redundant

Details

15

- _____ gives good details about the character that had an influence on the reader
- _____ does not summarize
- _____ sufficient textual evidence from summer reading book to substantiate thesis: SHOW DON’T TELL

Citations and Documentation

10

- _____ MLA format (Author’s last name #). Ex. (Morrison 42).
- _____ for direct quotes and paraphrasing
- _____ proper use of signal phrase
- _____ long quote format when needed

Content

30

- _____ organization of ideas/logical presentation
- _____ clear interpretation
- _____ smooth transitions
- _____ critical analysis / commentary
- _____ personal reaction
- _____ relevant to thesis – proves thesis

- _____ Works Cited – Author’s last name, first name. Title.
Place of publication: Publisher, date.
Ex.: Morrison, Toni. Beloved, New York: Penguin Group, 1987.

TOTAL 100

Usage and Mechanics

15

- _____ no prepositions at end of sentences or phrase