

Sophomore Honors Summer Reading Assignment

Welcome to Sophomore Honors English. During the coming year you will continue developing reading skills that will enable you to unlock meaning in both older and more contemporary poetry and prose. To that end, I have chosen a work that will sharpen your reading skills, provide intellectual stimulation, and add to your ever-increasing cultural awareness.

It will be important that you engage in close reading and textual annotation to do well on reading checks during the class. You will be asked questions that require knowledge of plot details, character motivations, conflicts, themes, symbols and tone. *Spark Notes* and other such “study aids” will not be of much help if you do not read the novel.

Work:

A Thousand Splendid Suns by Khaled Hosseini

You MUST bring your copy of the book on the first day of class. The novel **MUST** include **IN-DEPTH** annotations (*Highlights/Underlines AND Margin Notes/Sticky Notes*).

These annotations need to include more than just plot summary. They need to include personal interpretations, analysis of literary techniques, connections to the real world or connections to other literary works.

You will receive a grade on the first day of class for your annotation of the novel. You will also take a test and write an in-class essay during the first week of school.

For information on the novel and suggestions for annotation and highlighting, visit the class Schoology page when you gain access this summer.

This novel will connect to other works throughout the year and was selected to prepare you for more in-depth studies of literature.

I very much look forward to getting to know you next year. Have a good summer!

Mr. Lyke
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