

## Honors English 2

### Summer Reading Assignment

To prepare for Honors English 2, you will complete a summer reading project that has two parts. ***You should be prepared to submit your project to Canvas on the first day of school: Thursday, August 14.***

#### Part I: Text Collection/Set Creation

You will build a collection/set of texts that work together to present an important claim (argument) about humanity. **Your collection/set must contain four (4) unique texts:**

- **Text #1: A full-length book**
- **Text #2: A Poem**
- **Text #3: A Song**
- **Text #4: An Image**

You are completely free to choose the texts, but they must be:

- grade-level appropriate
- written/created by someone other than yourself
- widely accessible
- new to you – not read for any previous school assignment or on your own in the past

**Note: Be aware that your full-length book should reflect your understanding of the expectations for a 10th grade honors English class.**

**Important:** The following texts are off limits:

- *Frankenstein (Shelley)*
- *Interpreter of Maladies (Lahiri)*
- *Macbeth (Shakespeare)*
- *Fiddler in the Subway (Weingarten)*

Your claim should illuminate/answer **ONE** of these questions:

- What does it mean to be human?
- What elements or experiences are universal and/or foundational for all humanity and why?
- What is a common failing shared by all humanity and why?
- What is a common strength shared by all humanity and why?
- What is a universal dream/desire held by all humanity and why?
- What defines a "good life" for human beings?
- How do human beings make meaningful choices?
- How do human beings achieve happiness?
- To what extent are human beings controlled by fate?
- Are humans inherently good or evil?

As you read and annotate your texts, look for how the authors/creators:

1. Develop their various themes and to what effect.
2. Express and use their craft (diction, literary elements, etc. ).
3. Convey wider world messages that transcend the texts.
4. Leave you pondering specific, significant quotes and/or images.

To formally present your collection/set of 4 texts, please create a table like the one below on a Google Doc and fill it with images and links to your texts. In addition, bring physical copies of the annotated texts to class.

Claim	<b>One Sentence</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Make sure that this statement is arguable.</li></ul>
Text #1	<b>A Full-Length Book</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <b>This text will form the foundation of your collection/set.</b></li><li>● You are free to choose the genre.</li><li>● It can be fiction or nonfiction.</li></ul>
Text #2	<b>A Poem</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● You are free to choose a classical or contemporary poet.</li><li>● You are free to choose any poetic style.</li><li>● You must turn in an annotated copy of the poem.</li></ul>
Text #3	<b>A Song</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● You are free to choose a classical or contemporary song.</li><li>● You are free to choose the genre.</li><li>● You must turn in an annotated copy of the lyrics.</li></ul>
Text #4	<b>An Image</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● You are free to choose a still image from a movie, journalistic photo, or a digital copy of any piece of art (painting, sculpture, etc.).</li><li>● <b>The image should be symbolic and not literal.</b></li><li>● You must be able to present this image to the class.</li></ul>

## Part II: Analysis

For each of the prompts below, write a **concise** response that demonstrates the depth of your thinking and your skill as a writer. Your work should be typed in a Google Doc and follow MLA guidelines (double-spaced, 12 pt font, complete header – top left).

- 1) Prove your argument about the human condition using at least one piece of evidence from each of the texts in your collection/set. Whenever possible, quote directly from your texts.
- 2) What does this text collection/set say about you?
  - As a reader?
  - As a student?
  - As a person?

Your completed project is due on the first day of class: Thursday, August 14. Be prepared to submit your work to Canvas at this time.

### HE2 Team

Mr. Carlson

Mr. Doman

Mrs. Johnson

Mrs. Konrad

Mrs. Plackett