

# Honors English 3

## Summer Reading Assignment

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Welcome, future students! I am excited to meet you in August and I hope that you are equally excited to begin studying with me next year.

This summer you will read *The Things They Carried* by Tim O'Brien. Be sure to critically read and annotate the novel and focus specifically on the elements listed below. After reading the text, identify *three different passages (i.e. one passage for each of the stylistic choices)* below. Be prepared to share your conclusions with your classmates.

1. **DICTION:** This is word choice, which helps to create color and texture through words that are clear and concrete, depending upon topic, purpose and occasion. Diction is strongly shaped by words' connotations and denotations, as well as the complexity of multiple meanings.
2. **SYNTAX:** This is the way words are arranged within sentences, including sentence length, sentence focus, word order, and punctuation. The ways a writer manipulates a sentence is a strong determiner of voice and personality. Good writers shift between conformity and non-conformity to create unusual sentences without being distracting.
3. **TONE:** Tone is the implied attitude of the writer or narrator towards his/her subject. Tone sets the relationship between reader and writer.

Our first assignment will involve a close reading of the text, so a critical analysis is important to your early success in the class.

I am looking forward to a fantastic 2019-2020 school year.

Have a wonderful summer.

Please contact me with any questions:

Mr. Williams ([swilliams@naperville203.org](mailto:swilliams@naperville203.org))