

The Middle College at Bennett

I hope that your summer is off to a great start and you are relaxed and ready to enjoy some much-needed time off. In an effort to keep your minds active and grow your reading strength, vocabulary, and knowledge, we have designed a summer reading project that will be both beneficial and engaging. This summer reading project is mandatory and you will be graded on the project. Listed below are the novel choices as well as the information you need to complete the project. Copies of the assignment will be available in the main office, and information regarding the work will be posted on the school website.

All of these novels are available on Amazon and Barnes and Noble; additionally, most are available at the Public Library or Edward McKay Used Books. Please select only one of the books to complete the project, but feel free to read both, it will help prepare you for the school year to come. Information about summer reading will be posted on the school website, emailed to you, and in the front office over the summer. Please keep in mind this will be due as soon as you return from summer break. Have fun and enjoy reading!!

Book Choices

- 9th Grade- *The Kite Runner* by Khaled Hosseini
- 10th Grade- *How the Garcia Girls Lost their Accents* by Julia Alvarez **OR** *A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy Soldier* by Ishmael Beah
- 11th Grade- *Black Angles* by Linda Brown **OR** *The Alchemist* by Paulo Coelho
- 12 Grade- *1984* by George Orwell **OR** *Anthem* by Ayn Rand

Important components for Project

- Important Info Sheet
- Project Choices
- Project Rubric
- Summer Reading Critical Notes

Mrs. Massey, masseys2@gcsnc.com, English 9, English 10, and English 11

Mrs. Montalvo, montalr@gcsnc.com, English 10, English 11, English 12

Mrs. Burnette, burnets@gcsnc.com, Curriculum Facilitator

Important Information About Summer Reading

- It is not the intention of summer reading to give you busy work, but to engage your mind and strengthen your reading skills over the summer break. With this in mind, we would like you to interact with the text in a variety of ways other than just reading and reporting. When you respond to a text, consider how/why the components might be important to the author, audience, and world. Take a deeper look into characters, their development, themes, and symbolism. All these things are traits of critical readers--something we hope to sharpen in all of you.
- Themes are complete sentences about a topic. "Love" is not a theme, it is only a topic. "Love can exist despite society's pressure" is a theme because it is what the author might say about love.
- Author's style can mean several things from diction, syntax, point of view, and tone. You also must pay attention to what is said and unsaid in the text. Sometimes what is unsaid is more important than the author's words.
- You may only use the internet for a reference tool when completing your summer reading. For example, if you need to look up specific vocabulary or literary terms you may do this; however, each assignment will need to consist of your own words. You must base your analysis on your own reading and nothing else.
- Upon your arrival back or onto campus, you will be given an assessment of your reading during the first week. This will help us determine the effort and understanding of your reading.

Name: _____
English _____

Summer Reading Critical Notes
Middle College at Bennett

Title of Work: Author: Date of Publication: Genre:	Characteristics of the Genre:
Historical Information about the Period of Publication:	Biographical Information about the Author:

Plot Summary:

Summer Reading Critical Notes
Middle College at Bennett

Description of the Author's Style:	Example that Demonstrates Style and Your Explanation:
Why do you think the book was told using this style and from this perspective?	What is the effect of the style and perspective?

Summary of Author's Purpose:

Memorable Quotes

Quotation and Page Number	Significance: You must go beyond "I think/feel" statements. Tie the significance to theme, character development, motif, etc.
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	
8	
9	
10	
11	
12	

13	
14	
15	
16	
17	
18	
19	
20	

Summer Reading Critical Notes
Middle College at Bennett

Major Characters (Requires at least 4)

Character's Name	Role (What role does this person have in the story?)	Significance (Why is this character important?)	Character Traits (What sort of person is this?)
1			
2			
3			
4			

Summer Reading Critical Notes
Middle College at Bennett

Description of the Setting(s) and the Mood of the Setting(s):	Significance of the Opening Scene:
Major Symbols, Motifs, Images:	Significance of the Ending/Closing Scene:

Themes:
Possible Topics/Questions for Discussion:

Summer Reading Project Choices

For your summer reading, you will select *one* of the following projects to complete. All projects will be explained in detail and require a solid understanding of your novel read. There are rubrics and specific details below the choices which will guide you through your project. This assignment will be due on the 1st day of school with your summer reading critical notes.

Blog: With this project choice, you will create and share an interactive series of blogs dealing with elements from the novel you read.

Director's Choice: In this project, you will take the role of a movie director producing a film of your novel read.

Scene Swap: This project allows you to swap out a key scene for an alternate scene that you will make up. The creative choices will need to be explained and justified.

Blog- Using a free blogging site such as Wix.com or Weebly.com, you will create a blog that centers around your novel. You will complete 6 blog entries (see list of topics below) and must be at least 2 paragraphs (4-6 sentences each). Direct textual evidence from the novel must be present in each blog along with the page number from where the evidence came from. Please see rubric for more specifics on the writing process. Blog topics are:

- **Major theme-** In this blog you will state the major theme of the novel, how you gathered this information (how you know), and what effect it has on the reading of the story. Next, you will explain how this theme can be seen in real life and in other works (poems, movies, novels, etc.) You will then pose an open-ended question for your readers to comment and respond to.
- **Character-** Take two of the major characters and complete a compare/contrast of their personalities. Explain how each of the characters affect the novel's theme, plot, and reader response. Next, you will relate the characters to another character in a movie, tv/reality show, or another novel. Finally, pose an interactive question to your audience to respond to.
- **Real World-** Give a summary of one of the key scenes of the novel and explain its importance to the novel as a whole. Then, go into how this scene relates to the world we live in by connecting it to a recent news story or happening in the community. Compare and contrast the topics and pose an open-ended question to your audience that directly relates to your discussion. If you are using a news article, you must cite where you gathered the information to avoid plagiarism.
- **Social Justice/Equity Issue-** Using the internet, search some social justice or equity issues that surround our community and explain them and how they affect the people directly involved as well as people indirectly involved. Next, relate the issue with an issue of social justice or equity that your novel deals with. Again, explain how the issue affects the people involved directly and indirectly. Finally, propose a solution or call to action for each issue. Turn to your audience next, with a question that helps address the issues.
- **Lesson Learned-** Select a lesson you or one of the character learned in the novel. Explain the lesson and how it impacted your reading of the novel. Next explain how that lesson can be used in other aspects of your life or help you in the future. After this, explain why you believe the author included this lesson in

the novel. What was the purpose? How did it play into the overall reading? What if it had been left out? Finally, propose an open-ended question to your audience about life lessons or the lesson you explained.

- **Personal Choice-** For this blog, you will come up with a self-selected topic to discuss with your audience. Remember, this is your choice, but must still fit the criteria of the other blogs (paragraph count and length, citation, interactive question)

Director's Choice- For this project choice, you will take on the role of a Hollywood director that has been inspired to produce a movie about the novel you read. There will be several sections that you must explain, all of which will need textual evidence from the novel as well as a page number and citation. Listed below are the sections of your movie director role. Please see the grading rubric for more information about the writing process. Movie Director Topics are:

- **Actor List-** You will seek out current actors/actresses to play the roles of your five main characters. You will have to explain why you chose this person to represent the character in detail, including textual evidence from the novel. Have they played a similar role in a previous movie? Do their physical characteristics match the descriptions given in the book? What is the connection? Each character should be explained in 4-6 sentences.
- **Setting-** You will explain in detail the setting of the novel and then the actual setting you will use in the movie. Also, you need to explain how the setting of the novel affected the characters and plot of the book and how this will translate onto the big screen. This should be explained in two 4-6 sentence paragraphs.
- **Scene-** Next, you will explain any changes you are making to the movie that was different from the novel. Why are you changing the scene? What makes your scene better? What is it about the scene that makes it disposable? Also, if you do not wish to make changes, you must explain why and then explain a key scene in detail with your vision of it going. Remember, textual evidence must be used and this should be explained in two 4-6 sentence paragraphs.
- **Poster-** Finally, you will create a movie poster that will appear at theaters around town. Design is up to you, but should include title, novel credit, and catch phrase from the novel. This is a creative poster and you should have fun with this.

Scene Swap- For this project option, you will create a new scene to replace another scene in the novel. It is up to you which scene you would like to replace and with what, but do keep in mind that the replaced scene needs to keep the theme, atmosphere, and purpose of the novel. You will have to explain your choices in detail, see rubric for information on the writing process. The scene swap details are:

- **Original Scene:** First, you will explain/summarize the original scene as it appears in the novel. You should include how the scene advances the plot, character roles, tone and mood, reader impact, and how it relates to the theme. You should include textual evidence to back up your analysis. You will first explain why the original scene should be replaced. This explanation is up to you, but you must back your choice up with textual evidence. This section should be at least two 4-6 sentence paragraphs.
- **Replacement:** Next, you will rewrite the scene. This is not an overview, but a scene that is actually written out as if you were the author. Keep in mind you will need to keep the same writing style, diction, and purpose as the author.
- **Explanation:** Finally, you will explain your choices from your replacement scene. Why did you write the scene the way you did? How does this change affect the plot, characters, theme, and mood? Why is your scene better? This explanation should be at least two 4-6 sentence paragraphs.