

SUMMER ASSIGNMENT FOR ENGLISH LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION FOR THE 2009-2010 SCHOOL YEAR

All assignments are due on the first day of school. Also, there will be an optional student in-service on WED AUG 11 from 10-11 in the Arts & Sciences building.

Plagiarism, or any form of undocumented borrowing of the words or ideas of others will result in a "0" as well as disciplinary action.

Summer reading required for all:

Crime and Punishment (Dostoyevsky)
Waiting for Godot (Becket)

In addition, choose any ONE of the following:

Beloved, Morrison
Cat's Eye, Atwood
Don Quixote, Cervantes
Inferno, Dante
The Kite Runner, Hosseini
The Life of Pi, Martel
Madame Bovary, Flaubert
Steppenwolf, Hesse
Wuthering Heights, Bronte

Summer Writing Assignment

I. For all works that you read, record your thoughts in a reader's **response journal** which should demonstrate your ability to be an "active reader" by including notes that record your interpretations and impressions of literary devices, themes and motifs, key passages, character profiles, etc. You should have at least five different entries for each book and from different parts of the book. This journal should also serve you as prewriting for the following essay assignment.

II. Write one essay of at least 750 words (minimum). In this essay, using your own reading skills, imagination, and creativity, find a connection that unifies the three works. Although the works may differ significantly on first reading, use your own interpretive skills to detect **linkages** in the universal messages conveyed in each work. You may wish to consider such elements as the works' respective themes, motifs, uses of setting, imagery, and characterization, (or other elements you noted in your response journal). However, the strongest essays usually are those that explore one common thread in detail rather than briefly discussing numerous connections.

Organize your findings in a well constructed, "typed" essay, using standard MLA format for citations and arrangement of ideas (clear introduction, body, and conclusion). Be sure to proofread for excellent grammar, spelling, and style.