

Summer Assignments for 8th Grade Honors English

Reminder: “Optional” student in-service, to discuss readings and assignments, on WED AUGUST 11, 10 - 11 a.m. in the Arts & Science building. All assignments are due on the first day of school. Expect an additional evaluation in class.

Congratulations and welcome to 8 Honors! I am looking forward to meeting you this fall and having a successful school year. First, I certainly hope that you had an enjoyable summer filled with fun and relaxation. Ideally, a great summer will provide time to recuperate and prepare for the new school year. This preparation should include plenty of reading. I advise you to take your summer reading assignments (listed below) very seriously. Both assignments are due on the first day of class. Also, we will discuss these novels during the first weeks of class. Both are favorites of many students. Hopefully, you too will enjoy them.

Sincerely,

Mrs. B. Stewart

Reading Assignments:

The Autobiography of Miss Jane Pittman by Ernest Gaines
Tom Sawyer by Mark Twain

Writing Assignments:

1. While reading THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF MISS JANE PITTMAN, keep track of Jane’s personality. Miss Jane Pittman is a very strong character; as you read, decide what gives her the strength and will to survive. Make a list of her positive and negative character traits and provide brief examples from the novel to support your opinion (include both page and paragraph #s). This assignment will also be used during class discussion and as background for a future essay.

2. After reading The Adventures of Tom Sawyer by Mark Twain, do the following:

PART 1

As you read, you should list 15 main/important events, starting from the beginning of the novel and ending with the resolution of the novel. For each event, find a piece of text to support that event. (This should be a quote from the novel; not necessarily something someone said, but simply a piece of text that you copied word for word that is relative to the event.)

EVENT	TEXT SUPPORT (QUOTE) WITH PG. #
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	
8	
9	

10	
11	
12	
13	
14	
15	

PART 2

On a **separate piece of paper**, answer the following question in a 2-3 paragraph response.

Throughout the course of the novel, several of the characters change a great deal. Which character do you think changed the most? Choose **one of the main characters** in the novel and explain **how** he/she changed throughout the story and **what effect** it had on the **outcome of the novel**. Make sure you use at least 2 quotes for support. (Again, not necessarily something someone said, but simply a piece of text).