

Mohonasen High School

Summer Reading 2010

English 9

Dear students and parents,

In preparation for English 9, freshmen are required to accomplish the summer reading assignment outlined below.

Assignment:

- A. Read **two full length works** of literature over the summer. For a list of suggested titles visit our website at www.mohonasen.org. You are not limited to these titles.

- B. While reading each book **create a reading record chart** for each work, and **be prepared to write an essay about this assignment on the first day of school**. Your reading record charts will serve as notes for this essay, which will be written in class.

A sample reading record chart is enclosed with this letter. In your chart, include the following:

- 1. **Title:** Give the complete and accurate title. Use appropriate punctuation. Underline the title of a full-length work. Use quotation marks around the titles of short stories, essays, and poems.

- 2. **Author:** Give the author's full name. Spell it correctly.

- 3. **Genre:** Indicate whether you have read science fiction, historical novel, autobiography, biography, etc.

- 4. **Setting:** The setting is "the time and place of the action." Sometimes the setting is very specific; at other times it is vague. In either case, be sure to indicate both the time and place.

- 5. **Characters:** List the names of key characters and provide a brief description of each one.

6. **Brief plot synopsis:** A synopsis is a summary. Write a brief plot summary.
7. **Theme:** The theme is “a central message or insight to life.” It is a bit like a lesson the author wants us to learn. Write your statement of theme in a complete sentence.
8. **Major symbols:** A symbol is “anything that stands for or represents something else.” In this section be sure to give the symbols and what they stand for.
9. **Distinguishing characteristics about the work:** Consider what makes this work special, what stands out, and what sets it apart from other pieces of literature.
10. **Important quotations:** Choose one or more lines of significance. These do not need to be lines of dialogue, although they certainly can be. Write quotations accurately.
11. **Personal response:** Write a brief paragraph explaining your feelings about the selection. Be specific and support these feelings using examples from the text. Avoid words such as “stupid,” “interesting,” “boring,” “okay.”

In the event that a student does not move on to 9th grade, it is his or her responsibility to contact the middle school guidance office for the appropriate summer reading assignment.

If you have any questions about the assignment, please feel free to contact the guidance office at 356-8320 or Mrs. Lisa Cutting, English Administrator at 356-8345. Summer reading lists are posted on the Mohonasen Website: www.mohonasen.org.

Mohonasen High School Summer Reading

Name _____

9th Grade Reading Record Chart

Date: _____

Book 1

Title	
Author	
Genre	
Setting: place/time	
Theme	
Brief plot summary	
Characters (w/brief descriptions)	
Major symbols	
Distinguishing characteristics of the work	
Important quotations	
Personal response	

Mohonasen High School Summer Reading

Name _____

9th Grade Reading Record Chart

Date: _____

Book 2

Title	
Author	
Genre	
Setting: place/time	
Theme	
Brief plot summary	
Characters (w/brief descriptions)	
Major symbols	
Distinguishing characteristics of the work	
Important quotations	
Personal response	