

For those entering Knight High School in the Fall of 2011

***Required Summer Assignment for Fall 2011: Ninth Grade English Honors**

*Failure to complete this assignment could result in transferring to a regular English class

Task Directions (This is a template; write all of your answers on a separate sheet of paper and label clearly. You may NOT use the examples): Your summer assignment is to read *Animal Farm* by George Orwell and complete the following:

Part A) Vocabulary and Summary: Write a correct definition, a synonym, and an antonym to each word listed below. Then, list five more unknown words found in the novel and write a correct definition, synonym, and an antonym for each. Finally, use at least ten words to write a two-paragraph summary of the main action of the novel. You need at least ten sentences, and your summary needs to include the beginning events, the major conflicts, and the ending events.

Example

Word	Definition	Synonym	Antonym
<i>ensconced</i>	<i>to be settled or in place</i>	<i>positioned</i>	<i>unsettled</i>

Word	Definition	Synonym	Antonym
tyranny			
unalterable			
obstinate			
stupefied			
cryptic			
irrepressible			
laborious			
conciliatory			
eminent			
impending			

Part B) Character Analysis: List five important characters. For each character, write two important quotes from the book about them, and explain their most important actions in the novel. An example is provided.

Character	Two quotes that are about each character (Put quotation marks around quotes and include the page number.)	Important actions
<i>Old Major</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. “Old Major... was so highly regarded on the farm that everyone was quite ready to lose an hour’s sleep in order to hear what he had to say” (25). 2. “He was twelve years old and had lately grown rather stout, but he was still a majestic-looking pig, with a wise and benevolent appearance” (26). 	<i>He inspires the animals to revolt against the humans and brings them hope to a better future.</i>

Part C) The book is an allegory, a story in which the characters and settings represent historical people and ideas. In fact, this allegory is tied to the Russian Revolution. Research and display on a poster the following:

- two paragraphs of general information (**in your own words**) about the Russian Revolution
- description of the Russian leaders, Joseph Stalin and Leon Trosky
- three detailed pictures or drawings that represent your information
- a list of the website or the book where you got your information

Part D) Visual Representation: Draw a representation of how the farm changed from beginning to end. You need at least five **detailed** pictures of what the farm looked like at different parts in the book. Make sure to include major characters and the proper settings in your drawings.

Beginning	Middle	Middle	Middle	End
-----------	--------	--------	--------	-----

Part E) Analysis and Extension Questions: Answer the following questions in complete sentences (2-4 sentences each).

1. After doing research on the Russian Revolution, point out similarities between real events and people and those in the novel. (hint: Napoleon as Stalin; Snowball as Trosky)
2. Explain how Animal Farm can be seen as a fable even though it does not have a moral stated at the end. Provide a moral of your own and explain it in terms of the novel.
3. Give examples of peer pressure as used in the novel, paying close attention to Boxer and the sheep.
4. Analyze the commandments. How did they change throughout the novel?
5. Look at the list of good leadership qualities made at the beginning of the novel. How do the pigs fit this list? Were there any attributes that the pigs lacked? Did they have some that were not on the list? Explain how the pigs do and/or do not qualify as good leaders. Use specific examples.
6. Discuss the importance of education as it evolves during the course of the novel.

Grading

The assignment is worth one letter grade in the class. Moreover, this novel is the core of many of the beginning activities and lessons in the class; therefore, it is essential that you complete the assignment to pass English 9 Honors.

Do NOT write your answers on this sheet; you need to write on your own paper and label each section clearly. Typing is always preferred but not required.

If your assignment resembles another student's, you will get an automatic 0. Be original and be proud of your work.

Due Dates/Information

It is your responsibility to purchase this book. Late work is not accepted.

Your summer assignment is due Wednesday, August 10.

You will take a comprehension test on Friday, August 12. You MAY NOT use any notes or the novel to assist you.

You will write an in-class essay on Tuesday, August 16. You MAY use the novel to assist you in writing.

Questions

If you have any questions at all about the summer assignment, you may reach Mrs. Aviles at maviles@avhsd.org or Mrs. Hamberlin at thamberlin@avhsd.org