

Sophomore Summer Reading 2018

Welcome to Sophomore English! The goal of this course, among many other things, is to use literature as a way to understand ourselves, our world, and our God on a deeper level.

Regardless of which book you chose, *A Separate Peace* or *A Tree Grows in Brooklyn*, you will embark on a coming-of-age story this summer. I want you to look for ways in which you identify with the various characters you will meet. Look for ways your life and world intersect with these fictional characters' through the stories, setting, and personalities.

You have two written assignments to complete along with your Summer Reading; one will be completed AS you read, and the other should be written after you read your book.

Assignment #1: You will start a **Quote Notebook** as you read your novel this summer. We will continue to use this quote chronicle throughout the school year.

Quote Notebook - Things You Should Do:

1. **Cover:** Give your Notebook a title (you may be as creative as you like in both the title and embellishment of the cover of the notebook).
2. **First Page:** The first page of your Notebook should function as a Title Page. Not sure what a title page looks like? Reference your summer reading book! (This page should include the title, again, and your name.)
3. **Second & Third Pages:** These pages will function as your Table of Contents for the rest of the notebook. Label the top of the second page with the words "Table of Contents," and then you will list the work read, date of entry, and page number on this page. We will continue filling in contents on this page throughout the school year.
4. **Page Numbers:** In the bottom right-hand corner of each page, write in page numbers. Technically, page 1 should be the first page AFTER the two pages you are leaving for your Table of Contents.
5. **Entries:** As you read your summer reading novel, you need to choose 5 quotes that intrigue you. You should mark these in your novel as you come across them, so you can find them again when you're ready to reflect on them.

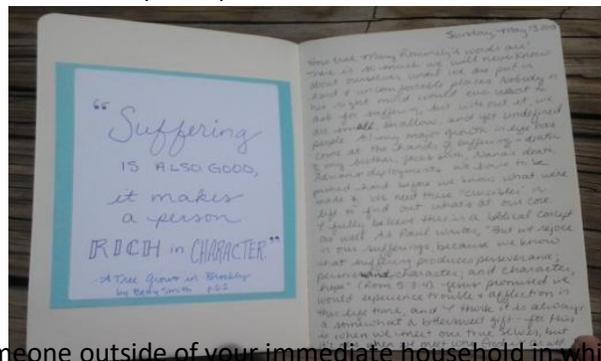
For each Entry:

- Write the quote from the novel on the left-hand page. Include the page number from the novel on which you found the quote. (Be careful choosing a writing utensil; consider using a pencil, ballpoint pen, or additional layers of paper if you're using something that bleeds through the thin pages.)
- On the right-hand page, add the date at the top of the page. You should, at a MINIMUM, fill this page with a response to the quote you chose at left (be cautious of using extra-large handwriting). Your response should be concerning your thoughts, questions, reactions, etc. to the quote you have chosen. **DO NOT PROVIDE PLOT SUMMARY.** Your response should reflect your critical thinking and should display willingness to find connections between the novel, yourself, your world, and themes (e.g. big ideas: love, hate, friendship, faith, etc.).
- In the Table of Contents, list the novel's name, date you wrote your entry, and page number [of the journal] on which the entry is located.

Cover Example:



Entry Example:



Assignment

After reading, write a letter to someone outside of your immediate household in which you offer your thoughts on the novel. You can send your letter to a grandparent, aunt, uncle, friend, cousin, former teacher, etc.

Your letter should contain:

Heading (Dear...)

Date (upper-right hand corner)

Body (minimum 3 paragraphs)

Closing (Sincerely, Love, etc...)

- Please TYPE your letter (and save the file!)
- The Body of your letter should be at least three paragraphs long.
 - o Your first paragraph can be an introductory paragraph; explain why you are writing this letter (my English teacher made me do it!). In this paragraph, you should also provide a very brief summary of the novel.
 - o Your second paragraph should include your thoughts and reactions to various aspects of the novel. You may consider: plot, characters, reading difficulty, setting, time-period, major themes (big ideas of the novel), etc. Write about both what you did not care for and what you liked. Somewhere in here, include a portion of the text (a direct quote) that you liked.
 - o Your closing paragraph should include a final comment on the book: would you recommend this novel [and why/why not]?
- You need to ACTUALLY MAIL your letter to its intended recipient. Have someone **TAKE A PICTURE OF YOU MAILING THE LETTER**. You will turn in this picture with a **COPY OF YOUR LETTER** the first week of school.

Helpful Hints:

- Put book titles in *italics*.
- Streamline and cite your direct quote.
 - o Ex: Upon the birth of Katie's first child, Mary Rommely tells her daughter, "In teaching your child, do not forget that suffering is good too. It makes a person rich in character" (Smith 62).
- Proofread your letter for typos, punctuation errors, and grammatical mistakes.
- Be personable in your writing – your own voice should easily come through!

**All Summer Reading Assignments are due the first block day of school:
Wednesday, August 22 (5-8th Hours) or Thursday, August 23 (1-4th Hours).**

We will also take a short test over the summer reading novel(s) sometime during the first week of school.

For your benefit, please **DO NOT PROCRASTINATE** on these assignments!

If you have questions at any point along the way, please send me an e-mail at cpeppers@trinityacademy.org.

Truly,
Mrs. Peppers