

Honors British Literature Summer Reading Assignment: 2010 – 2011

Assigned Works:

Hound of the Baskervilles, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle

Lord of the Flies, William Golding

Picture of Dorian Gray, Oscar Wilde

The above novels may be purchased at The Novel Experience in SLO; they give a 10% discount to MCP students.

Welcome to the wonderful world of Honors British Literature. As you know, an important component of the English program is the Summer Reading assignment. The three main goals of this assignment are to keep you active in reading, broaden your horizons, and challenge your thinking skills.

The Summer Reading Assignment is a graded assignment. Although we **will** discuss the readings in class, your knowledge of each work's content will be discerned in three (3) ways: a visual depiction, a written response, and an exam administered during the full first week of school. Please note: Discussions on both novels will take place after the exam, not before.

I. **Exam:** The Summer Reading exam is scheduled for **Tuesday, August 17.**

II. **In-class Essay:**

- You will be writing a literary analysis in which you discuss the theme of one of the above works. This is a formal response, and as such should include an introduction with a thesis statement that states the purpose of your scene in relation to the entire novel. Supporting paragraphs should reinforce your thesis.
- As you read all of the novels, think about what message each author is trying to get across. One way to figure out message is to consider what new awareness you had when you finished reading the work. Remember, authors write for a purpose. They write to get a specific message across. Our job as literary analyzers is to determine what that message is.
- At the in-class essay, you may use your books, any notes, and the introduction that we will be focusing on during our class period on Wednesday, August 18.
- The in-class essay is scheduled for **Thursday, August 19.**

III. **Poster Project:**

- Choose one of the above novels to be the subject of a poster.
- Decide on a main theme / topic from one of the above works. Your poster will reflect this message.
- Design a poster (size 12 x 18") that depicts an important event / scene (or events / scenes) that reflects your chosen theme / topic in the novel. (Do NOT use foam core or super-thick poster board.)
- Place the title of the work and the author's name clearly and legibly on the front of the poster so that it can be seen from a distance.
- Select a passage that supports the event that you have chosen to illustrate. Copy the entire quote (neatly and accurately) onto the front of your poster (it must be visible from a distance). Please edit your work! Spelling and neatness count!
- Posters are due on **Tuesday, August 17, the day of the exam.**