

Summer Reading, 2008: English 2 Honors Ms. Leah-Martin and Miss Gillis

PLEASE READ BEFORE SCHOOL ENDS!!!

Congratulations on your enrollment in the rigorous English 2 Honors program. We expect you to complete this assignment thoroughly and independently; do NOT work on this assignment with another student, or reference any published source on these books (including the internet). If you run into any confusion, you should e-mail one of us for clarification.

- Ms. Leah-Martin: c.leahmartin@gmail.com
- Miss Gillis: missgillis@hotmail.com

We will be happy to answer your e-mails as soon as we can. However, we are generally unavailable the week before school starts, so be sure to start reading earlier in the summer. Failure to follow the above instructions, including copying from another student's work (from any class or any year), writing out the answers together, and reading *Sparknotes* "just to make sure," will result in a zero for the assignment for any involved individuals, as well as whatever consequences are listed on Leigh's Academic Integrity Policy.

Part 1: Reading

What?

Read the following books:

- *The Kite Runner* by Khaled Hosseini
- *Nectar in a Sieve* by Kamala Markandaya

Why?

You will spend this year reading about the nature of humanity and society. Consider these three questions as you read:

1. What is the responsibility of an individual who comes face to face with injustice?
2. What are the consequences of listening to or not listening to one's conscience?
3. How do human nature and society both help and hinder one's ability to respond to injustice?

When?

Both books must be read before the first day of school, **August 25, 2008**.

How?

We expect you to take notes as you read. The format of the notes will be as follows:

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1. For each chapter, you will choose 1 quote (length: 1 sentence to 1 paragraph) that you feel is important to the plot development, character development, theme, or conflict, or that is a metaphor or symbol that deepens your understanding of the story. **Note: A quote does not need to be dialogue; it is comprised of any words from the story.**
2. You will write out your chosen quote on the left side of your paper. **Don't forget to write the page number in parenthesis after the quote!**
3. On the right-hand side of the paper next to your quote, you will explain in a short paragraph of 6-8 sentences why you think this moment is or these words are important. Does it foreshadow something? Does it connect to something that has already happened? Does it show a character's personality, or how a character is changing? Does it help to explain the deeper significance of what's happening in the story?

You will do one of these entries (one quote, and one explanation) for approximately every other chapter for both *The Kite Runner* and *Nectar in a Sieve*. Therefore, for *The Kite Runner*, you will have a minimum of 12 entries, and for *Nectar in a Sieve* you will have a minimum of 12 entries—these entries need to be spread throughout each novel so that all your entries together for each book address the whole story.

Notes (for clarification):

- You may type multiple entries on the same piece of paper. **They MUST be typed.**
- **You will submit your notes to www.turnitin.com after the first day of school when we will give you your class ID and password.**
- **You will bring your notes to class on the first day.**

Part 2: Test

What?

You will take a test on both books. The test will include questions about plot, characters, themes, and symbols. You will be asked to explain important quotes from the novel. During the first six weeks, you will also write an essay that deals with both books.

When?

You will take the test the first day of class.