

Honors English 9 SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENT

Welcome to the Ninth Grade Honors English Program at Freedom High School!

Both reading and writing are integral components of Honors English 9, and thus, over the summer we want you to get started on both. It is not necessary to purchase a new book. You can locate a used edition through many online booksellers.

You will read one book, but you have a choice. You can select either *The Help* by Kathryn Stockett or *The Color of Water* by James McBride.

Assignment for *The Help* or *The Color of Water* (must select one)

As you read your novel, you will keep a reading journal (at Freedom we call them “Evidence and Interpretation Charts”) of important passages in the book as well as your comments about the passages.

1. Take loose-leaf paper and fold it in half.
2. Draw a line down the middle.
3. On the left side, write the heading “Evidence” and record passages from the novel that you feel are important or meaningful.
4. On the right side, write the heading “Interpretation” and write your comments, questions, connections, and/or insights about the passages.

Your completed reading journal must contain ten (10) entries total.

Take a look at this example from a student who is reading the first page of *The Help*:

<i>Evidence</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>
<p>Here is where you record a passage from the novel:</p> <p><i>“ Mae Mobley was born on a early Sunday morning in August, 1960. A church baby we like to call it. Taking care of white babies, that’s what I do, along with all the cooking and cleaning. I done raised seventeen kids in my lifetime ” (page 1).</i></p>	<p>Here is where you write your comment, question, or personal connection regarding the passage:</p> <p><i>Why do they call the baby a “ church baby?”</i></p> <p><i>The speaker seems to be a maid since she cleans, cooks, and raises children. Also, the speaker is probably African-American as she mentions taking care of “ white babies.”</i></p> <p><i>The story is set in 1960 - I think that is the time in which the Civil Rights Movement was just beginning.</i></p>

Examples of Sentence Starters for Interpretations

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -This passage reminds me of a time when ... -These words/phrases make me think of ... -I had a similar conflict/situation when ... -I would have handled the situation differently/same because ... -This character believes what I believe when ... - I don’t like this character because ... -I am confused about this part ... | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -My thinking about ___ has changed because -I wonder why the author ... -This part reminds of another book/movie in which ... -I wonder how the character’s decision will impact ... -The author describes the setting well when ... -I have felt the same way as this character when ... -I see patterns in this novel when ... |
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Important Note: It is expected that all work submitted is the sole work of the student who is submitting the assignment. No outside resources (other than the novel) are needed in order to complete the assignment. Students are NOT permitted to work on the assignments together.

Have a great summer!

Questions? Email Mr. Ziegler at gziegler@basdschools.org