

Rockville HS English Department

IB English 1 (Language A 1) GRADE 11 Summer Reading Assignment

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Thoughtful analysis and critical reading are essential skills for every course in the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme.

1. Read the following work by the first day of school:

The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn by Mark Twain (Category: Literary Genres)

If possible, try to secure your own copy of this novel—you might try Friends of the Library, used books. It is also available at local book stores, public libraries, the RHS Media Center, or the RHS English department (for summer check-out). It is extremely helpful to annotate and/or highlight as you read. Write notes in the margins or use post-it notes for the books that you borrow from the library or English Department. You will use this novel for both your junior year, first semester AND second semester senior year, for your final external assessment, so having your own copy and writing in it is a great idea, if at all possible.

2. Write a commentary (see directions below). You have a choice of format:
 - A. Put passage and commentary in a **marbled composition book**. Avoid using spirals or notebooks as they can fall apart. **Handwrite** your response.
 - B. Or: Type your response, standard 12 font, double-spaced. Turn in separately. You will submit these to Turnitin.com.
3. Write one paragraph (200 word maximum) on your opinion of the last quarter of the novel (when Tom Sawyer returns to the story). How did you feel when reading it? Do you think it fits with the rest of the novel to create a unified whole? Why or why not? Be specific in your response. You are required to type and submit this paragraph to Turnitin.com. We will give you the account and password information on the first day of school.

Commentary directions: Commentary Response (multi-paragraph; 1500 word maximum)

Read and follow the accompanying commentary rubric.

Choose a 20-25 line passage of your choice from this novel. (**Note:** You can find the full text of Huck Finn online and do a copy/paste.) Follow the commentary format that we have used throughout grades 9 and 10. After identifying the passage that you plan to use (20-25 lines), annotate and color-code your passage. Chunk the passage into sections (these sections should help you to organize the paragraphs of your commentary). Clarify the central focus. Discuss how language creates meaning in the passage. Remember it is not enough just to paraphrase or identify literary features. An effective commentary shows the relationship between meaning and language. Attach both the rubric and the annotated copy of your passage to your commentary.

ASSIGNMENTS – to be collected on Tuesday, August 30, 2011

Read the entirety of **The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn** carefully. You will be writing an in-class essay on this novel, a “supervised writing,” in the first week of school.