

Rockville High School
International Baccalaureate Program

2100 Baltimore Road
Rockville, MD 20851
301-517-5595

Rockville HS English Department
Pre-IB English 9 Summer Reading Assignment



Thoughtful analysis and critical reading are essential skills for every course in the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme. Start now to develop these important strategies.

1. Read the following TWO works by the first day of school:

Antigone **Sophocles (recommended translation: Fagles or Watling)**
and

Antigone **Anouilh (recommended translation: Bray)**

If possible, try to secure your own copies of these works. They are also available at local bookstores, 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.

2. Complete the following writing assignments. Please put your responses to the assignments below in a **marbled composition book**. Avoid using spirals or notebooks as they can fall apart. **Handwrite** your responses. Plan ahead. Do not try to complete the reading and the writing the night before schools starts!

ASSIGNMENTS –

1. **COMMENTARY 1** - Select a passage from the Sophocles version of Antigone of approximately 20-25 lines. Copy or attach a photocopy of the passage in your journal. Choose your passage carefully and take time to annotate and/or mark the passage before writing. (avoid dialogue passages and look for an extended speech by one character). Begin your analysis by identifying **the central focus** of the passage (the main idea). Then move systematically through the passage and talk about the language of the passage. Do not just summarize the content of the passage but write about **how the language of the passage creates meaning**.
2. **COMMENTARY 2** - Select a passage from the Anouilh version of Antigone of approximately 20-25 lines. Copy or attach a photocopy of the passage in your journal. Choose your passage carefully and take time to annotate and/or mark the passage before writing. (avoid dialogue passages and look for an extended speech by one character). Begin your analysis by identifying **the central focus** of the passage (the main idea). Then move systematically through the passage and talk about the language of the passage. Do not just summarize the content of the passage but write about **how the language of the passage creates meaning**.

ASSIGNMENT 3- reflection

Write a one paragraph response to the following (approximately 200 words).

It has been said that the general motive of the play Antigone (both the Anouilh version and the Sophocles version) “concerns the conflict between human law and the individual conscience.” Are both Creon and Antigone equally guilty and deserving of punishment? Why or Why not? Be specific in your response. Support your response with evidence from one of the versions of Antigone.

Assignments to be collected on Tuesday, August 30, 2011.

Read the entirety of both versions of this play carefully. You will be writing an in-class supervised writing during the first week of school as well as additional discussion and analysis.

