



## 2009 Mandatory Summer Reading for Incoming 9<sup>th</sup> graders Albert Einstein High School's English Department

All students must read the short story "Everyday Use" (<http://xroads.virginia.edu/~ug97/quilt/walker.html>) and the critical essay about the story, "The Women in Alice Walker's Short Story 'Everyday Use'" ([http://www.associatedcontent.com/article/30741/the\\_women\\_in\\_alice\\_walkers\\_short\\_story.html?cat=38](http://www.associatedcontent.com/article/30741/the_women_in_alice_walkers_short_story.html?cat=38)). After reading the story and essay, students must complete three assignments. These assignments are **due on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day** of school. Additionally, there will be a writing assignment completed in class during the first week of school. The assignments will count for up to 5 % of students' first quarter grade.

### ASSIGNMENTS TO COMPLETE OVER THE SUMMER:

- Take 5 Cornell Notes on 1 character's traits in "Everyday Use": Character/Quote/Trait Analysis Identify five passages that you feel help to develop a character. When looking for examples of characterization, include passages that show how the character thinks, speaks, acts, and how other characters view this character. Write the passage in the left hand column, documenting the page number of the quote. In the right hand column, write a brief explanation of what you feel the passage reveals about the character's personality. An example from J.D. Salinger's *Catcher in the Rye* is provided:

*Catcher in the Rye*  
by J.D. Salinger

#### Cornell Notes

Character	Passage	Explanation
1. HOLDEN	"I know he's dead! Don't you think I know that? I can still like him, though, can't I? Just because somebody's dead, you don't just stop liking them... especially if they were about a thousand times nicer than the people you know that are alive and all" (17).	Holden is talking about his brother Allie. Holden seems to be having a lot of trouble dealing with his brother's death, and it has affected the way he feels about the people in his life.

- Choose 5 vocabulary words from the story or the essay. Define each word and use it in a detailed sentence that shows you know what the word means.

WORD	DEFINITION	SENTENCE USING THE WORD
1.		

- Write a well-developed paragraph summarizing the argument being made in the critical essay "The Women in Alice Walker's Short Story 'Everyday Use'".

**\*\*During the first week of school, after turning in the work to your teacher for a grade and discussing the story and essay as a class, you will complete an in-class writing assignment using your notes and your paragraph.**

**\*\*If you cannot access the short story and critical essay online, copies are available at Einstein High School in the main office.**