

Summer Reading Assignment
Honors English II
2023-2024

There are two options for this assignment. Decide on which option you prefer and then select one novel from that option as the basis of your summer paper. Answer the questions that are listed below the option, using complete sentences, well-developed paragraphs, and detailed examples (**direct quotes and page numbers where possible**). These responses can help you to organize your thoughts for the paper that is due. Final papers must be emailed to csinclair@eustace.org by **15 August 2023**.

Option#1

Hemingway, Ernest
Sepetys, Ruta
Tan, Amy

The Sun Also Rises
Salt to Sea
The Joy Luck Club

Sometimes when a character(s) are unable to turn to traditional beliefs, a question of identity, “Who am I and where do I fit in?”, comes to mind. Often times this can cause the feeling of isolation from society, community, and even family.

Assignment: In a 3-4 page typed paper examine the theme of isolation in the novel selected incorporating short quotes where possible (WARNING! Do not over quote).

1. Trace a character(s) throughout the novel who questions his/her sense of identity. Choose three important scenes to support your findings.
2. What events(s) cause them to question who they are and where they fit in?
3. Examine the values one character in the novel possesses. How do others in the novel react to this character?
4. What causes that character to act as they do? Does it have to do with an internal or external conflict?
5. What actions, if any, does the character(s) take to fit into their society, community, or family? Do they end up fitting in or standing out?

OR

Option #2

Sinclair, Upton
Steinbeck, John
Williams, Tennessee

The Jungle
Cannery Row
The Glass Menagerie

Last year you studied Steinbeck's "Tide pool Theory." Steinbeck clearly saw the connection between the ways a marine biologist looks at the tide pools and the way we might similarly examine human behavior to reach an understanding of mankind. According to this theory he believed the strong devour the weak and the weak rarely survive beyond their initial habitat.

Directions: In a 3-4 typed page paper examine the theme of survival of the fittest in the novel selected incorporating short quotes where possible (WARNING! Do not over quote).

1. Trace a character(s) throughout the novel who fits into Steinbeck's "Tide pool Theory". Choose three important scenes to support your findings.
2. Describe how others react to the character(s) you have chosen. Do they hold that person back? Do they help them achieve their dreams? Why or Why not?
3. What motivates this character(s) to continue to try to improve their life? Are they motivated by fear, greed, selfishness, or power? If so, explain how they react in these situations.
4. Does the character(s) you have chosen succeed or fail in what they set out to accomplish?
5. In each of these novels America and what it has to offer is examined. Discuss how America is seen as the melting pot of a place for dreams to come true.