

Rising 10th Grade HONORS Summer 2014 Reading Selections

Honors level students are required to read Thomas Foster's *How to Read Literature like a Professor* and watch one documentary from the selections below. Take good notes and be prepared for an assessment on critical analysis.

Title	Producers or Directors	Description	Themes...
<i>Superheroes: A Never Ending Battle</i> (2013)	Ghostlight Films PBS	Hosted and Narrated by Liev Schreiber- Examines the evolution of superhero characters and the comic book industry, chronicling how disposable diversions that cost just a dime became the foundation for a multi-billion dollar industry whose products are an influential part of our national identity.	Journey of a Hero Good vs. Hero
<i>Waiting for Superman</i> (2010)	David Guggenheim	Filmmaker Davis Guggenheim reminds us that education "statistics" have names: Anthony, Francisco, Bianca, Daisy, and Emily, whose stories make up the engrossing foundation of WAITING FOR SUPERMAN. As he follows a handful of promising kids through a system that inhibits, rather than encourages, academic growth, Guggenheim undertakes an exhaustive review of public education, surveying "drop-out factories" and "academic sinkholes," methodically dissecting the system and its seemingly intractable problems.	Fate vs. Free Will Education
<i>Now: In the Wings of the World Stage</i> (2014)	Jeremy Whelehan's	Follows Kevin Spacey and theatre company- Fascinating insider look into the recent world-class Old Vic stage production and ten-month tour of Richard III that hit nine international cities. A gift not just for Kevin Spacey and theatre fans but for viewers who thrill to travel, live performance, and insights into "the process." www.kevinspacey.com/nowthefilm	Shakespeare War of the Roses Traveling the World Point-of-View
<i>The Cove</i> (2009)	Louie Psihoyos	Using state-of-the-art equipment, a group of activists, led by renowned dolphin trainer Ric O'Barry, infiltrate a cove near Taijii, Japan to expose both a shocking instance of animal abuse and a serious threat to human health. Note: There are some graphic scenes showing cruelty to animals.	Nature Animal Rights Social Responsibility
<i>Unmistaken Child</i> (2008)	Ilil Alexander, Nati Baratz, Arik Bernstein	The Buddhist concept of reincarnation, while both mysterious and enchanting, is hard for most Westerners to grasp. Unmistaken Child follows the 4-year-search for the reincarnation of Lama Konchog, a world-renowned Tibetan master who passed away in 2001 at age 84. The Dalai Lama charges the deceased monk's devoted disciple, Tenzin Zopa, to search for his master's reincarnation, a child who may be anywhere in the world. Tenzin sets off on foot, mule and even helicopter, through breathtaking landscapes and remote traditional Tibetan villages. He listens to stories about children with special characteristics, performs rituals and rarely seen tests designed to determine the likelihood of reincarnation, and eventually presents his chosen one to the Dalai Lama, who will make the final decision. http://watchdocumentary.org/watch/unmistaken-child-video_900f1fe92.html	Spirituality Buddhism Coming of Age

ELACC9-10RL5: Analyze how an author's choices concerning how to structure a text, order events within it (e.g., parallel plots), and manipulate time (e.g., pacing, flashbacks) create such effects as mystery, tension, or surprise.

ELACC9-10RL6: Analyze a particular point of view or cultural experience reflected in a work of literature from outside the United States, drawing on a wide reading of world literature.

ELACC9-10RL7: Analyze the representation of a subject or a key scene in two different artistic mediums, including what is emphasized or absent in each treatment.

*Film Study Worksheet for a Documentary Seeking to Persuade the Viewer
On a Matter of Political or Social Significance*

Read the questions before you watch the film so that you will know what to look for while you watch.

Complete the assignment by answering each question in paragraph form. Answers need to be complete and comprehensive, demonstrating that you paid attention to the film and thought about what was shown on the screen. You may use more than one paragraph if necessary. Be sure that the topic sentence of your first paragraph uses key words from the question. All responses should be in complete sentences using proper spelling, grammar and punctuation.

1. State the title of the film and the year it was released. Then briefly describe what the film is about and the position that it advocates.

Notes: _____

2. Describe the progression of the film: how it begins, what stages it passes through, and how it concludes.

Notes: _____

3. List six facts described in the film that impressed you and explain how each fact relates to the film's premise or theme.

Notes: _____

4. How did the filmmakers try to convince you of the position that the film supports? Look for appeals to logic, emotion, and prejudice.

Notes: _____

5. Did any of the reasoning given in support of the position advocated by the film seem to be weak or misleading? If so, describe the concept put forward in the film and why you thought the reasoning was flawed.

Notes: _____

6. Describe any cinematic techniques used in presenting particular scenes, images, or sounds which were designed to appeal to the viewer's emotions and to encourage the viewer to agree with the position advocated by the film, without reliance upon fact or logical argument.

Notes: _____

7. If the filmmakers asked how this film could be improved, what would you tell them? Describe the changes you would suggest in detail.

Notes: _____

8. Did the film change your mind about any aspect of the subject that it presents? What information, argument or persuasive technique caused you to change your mind?

Notes: _____
