11th Honors Literature & Composition

This assignment will be due hardcopy on the first day of class. Have a digital copy ready to submit on turnitin.com as well.

Learning Objectives

- Identify and analyze the development of central idea or theme of the text.
- Cite textual evidence to support the analysis of central idea or theme.

1) Select and read ONE of the following books:

**A Yellow Raft in Blue Water**
Michael Dorris
Description: “Michael Dorris has crafted a fierce saga of three generations of Indian women, beset by hardships and torn by angry secrets, yet inextricably joined by the bonds of kinship”

**The Things They Carried**
Tim O’Brien
Description: “Catalogs the variety of things his fellow soldiers in the Alpha Company brought on their missions. Several of these things are intangible, including guilt and fear, while others are specific physical objects, including matches, morphine, M-16 rifles, and M&M’s candy.”

**Cat’s Cradle**
Kurt Vonnegut
Description: “Filled with scientists and G-men and even ordinary folks chasing each other around in search of the world’s most important and dangerous substance, a new form of ice that freezes at room temperature”

**My Name is Not Easy**
Debby Dahl Edwardson
Description: Told by five different narrators covering the time period 1960-65, this is essentially Luke’s story, whose native and, as the title indicates, difficult-to-pronounce name is not revealed until toward the end. Forbidden to use their language, fed unfamiliar food and under the thumb of priests and nuns, some strict and some kind but whose religion is unfamiliar, Luke’s homesickness is visceral.

**The Walls Around Us**
Nova Ren Suma
Description: “Suma subtly explores the balance of power between the talented and the mediocre, the rich and the poor, the brave and the cowardly . . . To reveal more would be to uncover the bloody heart that beats beneath the floorboards of this urban-legend-tinged tale.”

**Special note: Please be aware that you may find material in some texts objectionable that others find acceptable. If in doubt about the above selections, check with your parents to help you make a good decision.**

2) Assignment: Complete an outline including a thesis and two body paragraphs. This outline is due on the first day of class.

- **Thesis statement**
  - Theme of a novel (fiction)/central idea of the text (non-fiction):

- **Body paragraph #1 (Literary Analysis)**
  - Arguable claim that connects to the most significant theme/central idea:
    - How does it develop over the course of the text?
  - 2 pieces of evidence: (direct quotes from text and MLA citations*)
Analysis- In order to effectively connect your evidence to your claim, consider these guiding questions:

A. Explain the context of the quote. Who is speaking (or the speaker)? Who is being spoken to or about in this quote? What is going on at this point in the book in terms of plot, characters, etc.? Are there any misconceptions about the quote that you may need to clear up?
B. Explain the connotation of the quote. Are there any words of phrases that carry significant weight or meaning as evidence? Are there any deeper meanings within the quote that you need to identify and explain?
C. Explain the revelation that this quote provides for the claim. What is revealed, or who is revealed in terms of supporting the claim?

- Body paragraph #2 (Reader Response)
  - Arguable claim that connects theme/central idea
    How can you relate the theme/central idea to you personally?
  - 2 pieces of evidence: (direct quotes from text and MLA citations*)
  - Analysis- In order to effectively connect your evidence to your claim, consider these guiding questions: Choose two of following questions to address in your analysis. (if you read fiction choose from fiction questions)
    If you read non-fiction choose from non-fiction ones.

  Fiction
  
  - What quality of which character strikes you as a good characteristic to develop within yourself over the years? Why? How does the character demonstrate this quality?
  - Why do you think the author wrote this story?
  - Do you have any unanswered questions about the story? Explain.
  - Pick a scene in which you disagreed how a character handled a situation/person and rewrite it in the way you think it should have happened.

  Non-fiction
  
  - Explain some of the things that you have learned in your reading that you are not likely to forget in the near future.
  - How does an important person’s actions affect other people in the story?
  - Explain the main person’s problem and then offer advice on how to solve his/her problem.
  - What quality of which person strikes you as a good characteristic to develop within yourself over the years? Why? How does the person in the text demonstrate this quality?

Video for How to Complete Assignment
https://youtu.be/JcIw4PVpToY

For questions regarding summer reading, please contact Ms. Stroligo (StroligoL@fultonschools.org).