Summer Assignments IB SL English Year 2

First of all, we are so happy that you’ve chosen to take year two of IB SL English! We are so thrilled we get to loop with our year one people. We promise you won’t regret sticking with it for the long haul! :-)

Secondly, let’s talk about the summer assignment. This year we are playing catch up for the time we missed together due to the early school closure. It is super important that you actually read the book, Into the Wild, by John Krackauer. The movie version is amazing, but it only covers about half of the book, and it is an important half. We cannot say enough amazing things about this book, and we cannot wait to discuss it with you.

We have one last year together, and the class will be analysis heavy. We will be completing all the IB assessments, so we will hit the ground running. Here are the details of your assignment:

1. Purchase, read, and annotate Into the Wild by John Krakauer. See our enthusiastic endorsement of the book above. It is the foundation for our other texts throughout the year. We will refer back to it often. And let’s talk annotations. Here’s my philosophy on that - annotations are for YOU! I’m not going to ask you to have so many per page, and I will not take up your books and check your annotations. I’m starting the year trusting that you will indeed annotate. These are your own reflections about what you read, need to clarify, consider discussion worthy, etc. . .

2. The Paper: As you are reading this riveting account of Chris McCandless’s life, we want you to think about the people and institutions to which we owe our allegiance. How do we balance what we owe to our loved ones, religious institutions, family heritage, and society with our own desires and needs? These considerations are also heavily explored in both Dante’s Inferno and Shakespeare’s Hamlet. In a 3 page essay, consider how Chris, Dante, and Hamlet balanced being true to themselves with the expectations others put on them, and if you feel they handled their respective situations correctly. Please use textual evidence from ITW, and extra points for using evidence from the other two works!
If you have any questions, concerns or have trouble procuring the book, please do not hesitate to email or send a Remind.