

**Gibbs High School**  
**2018-2019 Summer Reading**  
**English I Honors**

**Contact Information:**

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**Assignments Due Date: FRIDAY, AUGUST 10th (regardless of which semester you take the class!)**

**Overview**

You will be reading two novels for English I Honors. There will be specific assignments due with each novel. **You should also expect an objective test over BOTH of the novels within the first few weeks of school.**

***To Kill a Mockingbird* by Harper Lee**

“The unforgettable novel of a childhood in a sleepy Southern town and the crisis of conscience that rocked it, *To Kill a Mockingbird* became both an instant bestseller and a critical success when it was first published in 1960. It went on to win the Pulitzer Prize in 1961 and was later made into an Academy Award-winning film, also a classic.

Compassionate, dramatic, and deeply moving, *To Kill a Mockingbird* takes readers to the roots of human behavior - to innocence and experience, kindness and cruelty, love and hatred, humor and pathos. Now with over 18 million copies in print and translated into forty languages, this regional story by a young Alabama woman claims universal appeal. Harper Lee always considered her book to be a simple love story. Today it is regarded as a masterpiece of American literature.” [Review from Amazon.com.]

*Parental Advisory: This novel contains societal conflict, mature themes, and language, but beautifully depicts life in the South in the 1930s and the perseverance of the American spirit. If there is an objection to the themes in the novel, an alternate novel may be requested.*

***The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian* by Sherman Alexie**

“Bestselling author Sherman Alexie tells the story of Junior, a budding cartoonist growing up on the Spokane Indian Reservation. Determined to take his future into his own hands, Junior leaves his troubled school on the rez to attend an all-white farm town high school where the only other Indian is the school mascot.” [Review from Amazon.com.]

*Parental Advisory: This novel contains societal conflict, mature themes, and language, but paints a realistic and compelling portrait of a young person overcoming the odds, from a perspective not often seen in modern literature--that of a Native American youth. If there is an objection to the themes in the novel, an alternate novel may be requested.*

**Assignment #1 – 50 points (ELA STANDARDS MET: 11-12 RL.KID.2)**

Read *To Kill a Mockingbird* and complete the journal assignment below. The journal needs to be handwritten - not typed - and can be submitted on loose-leaf notebook paper stapled together. As you write your journal, you should respond, take notes, and summarize as you read. The journal itself should be sectioned according to the following chapters:

Entry #1: Chapters 1-5

Entry #2: Chapters 6-11

Entry #3: Chapters 12-17

Entry #4: Chapters 18-24

Entry #5: Chapters 25-31

When you begin a new entry, put the entry # at the top of the page and date.

**Each entry should have the following:**

A personal response to what you've just read – any of the following:

- a) Anything that shocked/surprised you
- b) The parts that you found interesting and why
- c) How you felt while reading this section of the book
- d) Parts that you especially enjoyed or didn't enjoy
- e) Any questions that you have about the reading or things that you didn't understand

The personal response for each entry should be 1-2 pages in length. Make sure that your journal entries are handwritten and in your own words. Be sure to read the plagiarism statement attached to this document.

**Assignment #2 – 50 points (ELA STANDARDS MET: 11-2 RL.IKI.7, 11-12 SL.PKI.5)**

After reading *To Kill a Mockingbird*, create a poster to promote the reading of your book by your classmates as well as others, but you may vary the format as long as all of the requirements are met. No pencil or ink pen should be visible on the poster. The poster must include all of the following information:

Two (2) quotations from the novel. You must also explain the significance and the meaning of the quotations.

Names of characters and descriptive adjectives for each.

At least two (2) symbols of importance and their meanings.

A sentence that "teases" the audience and entices them to read the book.

Title, author, publisher, and year of publication - This should be big and bold!

Drawings or pictures about the novel. These may be drawn, printed from a computer, or cut from magazines.

One sentence that states the theme of the novel.

A short review (approximately 50-60 words) as to why others should read the book. NOTE: This is not a summary.

### **Assignment #2 (continued)**

You may vary the format as long as all of the requirements are met. Please be sure the poster is neatly completed. **Important:** No matter how “pretty” your poster is, if the information is incorrect, the grade will be lowered. You should try to show creativity, to be original, and to display understanding of the novel.

### **Assignment #3 – 75 points (ELA STANDARDS MET: 11-12 RL.KID.1, 11-12 RL.KID.2, 11-12 W.PDW.4)**

Read *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian*. After you read, select ONE of the following prompts and write a 300-word essay response. This should be typed, in MLA format.

**Prompt #1:** In Alexie’s book, Junior was certainly not the only person on his reservation to feel trapped, helpless, and hopeless. Why, when others on his reservation have given up, was Junior a survivor? What made him different from the others? Support your argument using specific examples from the novel, and cite them using MLA citation format.

**Prompt #2:** Consider the title of the book, *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian*, and write an essay in which you examine Junior’s struggle for identity. In what ways does his identity change once he attends the white high school, and are there any ways that he remains the same person? How important is his sense of identity? Support your argument using specific examples from the novel, and cite them using MLA citation format.

**Prompt #3:** Although *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian* has been classified as a Young Adult novel, it has been banned in multiple school districts across the country. Write an argument in which you make a case for or against banning this book in middle schools or high-schools. Support your argument using specific examples from the novel, and cite them using MLA citation format.

### **PLAGARISM**

According to *Harbrace Handbook, 15th edition*:

“Plagiarism is defined as presenting someone else’s ideas, research, or opinion as your own without proper documentation, even if it has been rephrased. It includes, but is not limited to the following:

1. Copying verbatim all or part of another's written work;
2. Using phrases, figures, or illustrations without citing the source;
3. Paraphrasing ideas, conclusions, or research without citing the source;
4. Using all or part of a literary plot, poem, or film without attributing the work to its creator."

#### CONSEQUENCES OF PLAGIARISM

Plagiarism is a form of stealing and academic fraud. Students who are found guilty of plagiarism will have the option of either redoing the assignment within a specified time period and accepting a grade letter drop or taking a zero on the assignment. Parents should be involved in making the dec