

Honors English 2: Summer Reading Assignments

Mrs. Lindsay Kennedy

lindsay.kennedy@knoxschools.org

First, let me outline all of the ways that you are able (and expected) to contact me if you have any troubles along the way:

1. My email is above in my heading. **I check it at least once a week in the summer**, so use it when you don't need an immediate answer or when you just need to send me something.
2. I have created a Remind account for all 10 Honors students. I will create separate accounts when we have final rosters for each class. This is how we can communicate via text or app without sharing phone numbers. This is also how I will send out class wide reminders or notifications. With all of the uncertainty cycling, I HIGHLY recommend signing up. To do so, just text **@lkhoneng2 to 81010**. This is the most reliable and quickest way to contact me.
3. I also have a Google voice number. This is the option I suggest for students who may not yet have computer or app access if for some reason you cannot get texts to go through to Remind. I will see your phone number with this option, but I will never use it to initiate contact with students. **865-236-0153**.

Then, please join my Common Lit class page (www.commonlit.org). You will have to create an account if you haven't already. When signing up, do not enter an email address as it sometimes causes glitches. Please use the first name you go by and your last name as it appears in Aspen. If you already have an account, you can just go to "my account and classes" and add the code. The class code is **QV8P4Y**. It is called "Honors English 2 Summer Assignments." Here, you will be able to access some of the readings we will use to begin our first unit. Not doing the readings/questions will put you behind on the first unit. You should complete these tasks independently.

You will submit your work online via Google Docs. You should do this with your Knox County Google account. (s#####@student.knoxschools.org followed by your aspen password). When you share it with me (using my email address provided below), you should select "can edit" so that I can see your document's history. You should title the document at the top left with your first and last name, then summer assignments. Ex.: John Smith Summer Assignments

- You should complete your questions in one document, but you may separate them out into different pages within the document.
- If you cannot submit your assignments electronically, please contact me immediately so that we can discuss alternatives. lindsay.kennedy@knoxschools.org is my school email, use Remind chat, or you may text my google number:

Task 1: “A Very Old Man with Enormous Wings” by Gabriel García Márquez

- Read the story. Annotate it if your device allows the annotation tool.
- Answer the assessment questions on Common Lit. There are 7.5 multiple choice questions and 2 short answer questions. You will receive a participation grade for this activity. It will be recorded in the Common Lit course.
- On Google Documents, you should copy and paste the following question: Evaluate the ethical choices that Pelayo and Elisenda make. Do they do “the right thing” or not? Who is harmed and who benefits the most from their choices? What are the most significant factors that cause them to make the choices they do?

After copying/pasting onto a doc that will be shared with me, you should develop an analytical response to all parts of the question. (Think expository essay.) You should include textual evidence from the story in creating your response, in addition to your own understanding and connections to the questions. You should answer formally (no first person pronouns). This will serve as a 50 point writing grade.

Task 2: “Cell One” by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie

(I’m aware that some of you may have read this in English 1. It’s okay.)

- Read the story. Annotate it if your device allows the annotation tool.
- Answer the assessment questions on Common Lit. There are 9.8 multiple choice questions and 1 short answer question. You will receive a participation grade for this activity. It will be recorded in the Common Lit course.
- On the same Google Document you have already created, hit enter until you get to a new page. Then, copy and paste the following question: Write a narrative about watching a sibling, friend, or loved one doing things that you knew at the time were wrong, dangerous, or harmful, as the narrator of this story did. Did the person you know have a transformative experience similar to Nnamabia’s? Why or why not?

After copying/pasting, you should develop a narrative response to all parts of the question. You should connect to the story, but ultimately this your experience, and first person personal pronouns are acceptable here. This will serve as a 50 point writing grade.

Task 3: “Cheating Upwards” by Robert Kolker

- Access the text by going to www.tinyurl.com/cheatingupwardsdoc
- Read the article. You may want to print out and annotate.
- In the document you’ve already created, hit enter until you get to a new page. Copy and paste the following questions, and then answer them with fully developed answers. Use textual evidence. This will serve as a 100 point assessment grade.

1. What is a conclusion that you could draw, according to Carol Dweck, who is cited in paragraph 22, about the effect that standardized testing may have on cheating?

2. What is the “cultures of sharing” that Kolker identifies in paragraph 23, and what roles does it play in how today’s students define cheating?
3. Kolker includes quotes from people who essentially rationalize the cheating. What are the arguments that those people put forward?
4. Does Kolker seem to believe that the steps the new principal of Stuyvesant has taken will have any effect on cheating at the school (para. 48)? Why or why not? Use evidence from the text to support your argument.
5. Are cheating and a “culture of sharing” realities in your school experiences? How so?

Task 4: Choice Read

Choose any novel you would like and read it. The only stipulations are that they must be on an appropriate grade level (no *Charlotte’s Web*) and it cannot be something you have read before, including texts you have read in previous classes, like *To Kill a Mockingbird*.

<https://etc.usf.edu/lit2go/> is a good place to go for electronic books, but you are not required to use this source. Amazon offers free books online monthly, especially if you/your guardian have/has Prime. Audible offers free audio books. McKays and local bookstores are currently open with a huge clearance section. If there is a book you want but cannot find on loan, email me and I’ll see if I can access it.

Then, write a double spaced, one page argument, added to the doc you have already created, where you state the title of your book and the author. Your argument should be formal, and it should address the following: This book is or is not worth reading and why. This will be a 50 point writing grade.

The Common Lit assessments will be recorded in my gradebook the second full day of class. The Google Document must be shared with me online, with “can edit” selected, by the first Friday of the semester. Again, if you cannot share electronically, contact me ASAP to set up an alternative.