

# SDHS Honors English I Summer Assignment

## Purpose:

This upcoming school year, your student will be asked to analyze and interpret literature for complex, deeper meanings. We would like to prepare our students for the demands of analyzing literature by first asking them to analyze themselves. This assignment is due on the first day of class (either 1st or 2nd semester, depending on your student's schedule), and is worth 3% of the final grade.

## Procedure:

Your student should read *To Kill a Mockingbird* and respond to one of the prompts below in essay format. If your student would like to discuss the themes of the novel in another way, please encourage them to email either [taylor.massey@knoxschools.org](mailto:taylor.massey@knoxschools.org) or [william.ehrenclou@knoxschools.org](mailto:william.ehrenclou@knoxschools.org) to discuss their proposal.

### Essay Options:

1. This novel is written with Scout reflecting on her past. What is one lesson she learns in the novel, and how can you relate that lesson to your own life? Include one anecdote from your life, and be sure to explain how it interacts with the novel.
2. At certain points, Scout opens her eyes to certain truths of the world and the reality in which she lives. Discuss a time in which you were surprised by the reality of life, and how you would like to address social problems in our community, our state, our country, and our world. Be sure to relate this to the novel in at least one way.
3. Much of the novel is Scout misunderstanding "adult" topics. Reflect on a time in which you have misunderstood a situation, how you could have handled the conversation differently, and how you would handle the situation if you could do it again. Be sure to include at least one reference to the novel.