

Dual Enrollment Summer Reading Assignment

Dual Enrollment English operates in conjunction with the University of Memphis. As such, we follow their syllabus and curriculum. ENGL 1010 in the fall and ENGL 1020 in the spring are both based in writing; therefore, in order to prepare you for the expectations of the course, you'll be – you guessed it – writing! Before you groan, check this out.

The writing required in English 1010 is largely introspective. You have to have an understanding of yourself, where you came from, the world around you, and the ways that you relate to and with others. The writing required in English 1020 is argumentative/persuasive in nature, similar to what you're used to but with a surprise twist – we'll get to that part later, though. The following writing prompts are geared towards helping you prepare for these assignments, so consider this summer work as getting a head start on all that. You'll thank me later. ;)

Requirements for each prompt:

- 1) Write neatly. If you can't write neatly, please type your responses. You may use pencil or whatever color ink you want, except red or yellow, please. They're hard to read. Doodles are welcomed and encouraged. You'll be uploading these to Schoology when you return, so if you handwrite them, you can take pictures of the pages and upload those as well as submit the original.
- 2) There's not a length requirement for your responses; *however, you must address the prompt fully*. Many prompts require you to respond to more than one question, so make sure you hit 'em all.
- 3) Have FUN with this. I know; I know. "But Ms. Jones, it's summer work, and that's awful!!" It doesn't have to be. Change your mindset – change your life. ☺
- 4) You need to prepare a *personal* response to each of the prompts. Be real. Be honest. Be you. Don't be your neighbor, your significant other, or your BFF. They're doing just fine with that all by themselves.
- 5) Answers should be written in essay format (with new paragraphs as appropriate). Impress me. Some of the questions will seem like simple yes/no questions, and you'll be tempted to stop with that response. Don't. Read the whole prompt first. Chew on it. Digest it. Internalize it. Figure out a response that incorporates answers to all of the aspects of the prompt in a narrative (storytelling) fashion, not just bulleted points, which are really boring. Be descriptive. Put me in the scene. Make me taste the muffin and smell the coffee. Take me there.

Prompts (again, please answer in narrative fashion – you'll thank me for this later):

- 1) Think back to your childhood, like, teeny-tiny. Did your parents or others read to you? When? How often? What were your experiences with those people? Did you have a favorite story? What made it so great? Did you like to read all by yourself like a big kid? Did you read to your parents? Do you still like to read? (If not, what happened?) What types of things do you read or do you think you'd like to read if you're given the choice? When did you first learn to write? Who taught you? What lessons do you think you've learned from these experiences?
- 2) Think about a social group you belong to – any group. This can be a church group, a group of really close friends, a group at school, or even your job. What types of things do you have in common? What do you do together that makes you a group? What are your inside jokes? How do you treat outsiders? How do you know who's in charge? What does it take for a person to join your group? Does a person have to go through an initiation to be a member of your group? What's the hierarchy of your group? What makes the group special to you?
- 3) How do you feel about rules? Seriously... should we keep 'em? Break 'em? Are there some that can be bent a little bit and things still turn out okay in the end? Which ones? Which rules do you feel like can't be broken? Why? (Feel free to elaborate however you'd like with your explanations.)

And finally...

To complete the summer reading requirement for the high school English portion of Dual Enrollment, you need to pick your own novel to read. It can be fiction or non-fiction. It doesn't matter what genre it is, but it *needs to be something that you're interested in*, and it *needs to be on your reading level*. You're a senior now; don't choose books from middle school. Additionally, your book cannot be one that's been made into a movie and it cannot be something on Sparknotes, Cliff's Notes, Monarch Notes, or any other kind of notes. You also need to avoid books you've been assigned to read in school previously. If you start one and it's awful, change it!! Just remember, you've only got a few weeks, so do your best to find one that's awesome from the get-go. Here's what you're doing with it.

You're going to create a written response using the same formatting guidelines as above in which you'll respond to the following questions:

- 1) *Describe* (like, REALLY describe) your favorite thing/element about the book. Was it a plot twist? Was it an amazingly developed character? Was it the way the author wrote the characters' dialogue? Why is that thing your favorite? Your description should allow me to relive this moment with you.
- 2) Did a character steal your heart? (It's okay; I won't tell.) Did you grow to love/hate/fear/worry about/etc. a character? What was the situation? the circumstances? How did it all play out? What would you have done differently if you were the character? How so?
- 3) What's the plot? Give me a little bit about the story so I can love it, too. What happened? Who'd it happen to? Why do we care? Was it good enough that you'd suggest others read it? Would it make a good movie? Why or why not?