

Dear Future LMS English 1 Honors Student:

As a student enrolled in an Honors-level English class, you will be expected to do some reading over the summer. This reading is mandatory and must be completed by the first day of the 2015-2016 school year. Please understand that classroom instruction during the first week of school will be based on the work you complete over the summer. Bring us your very best work.

English 1 Honors Summer Reading Requirements:

Part One: Read pages 1-55 ONLY in *The Last Book in the Universe* by Rodman Philbrick, AND complete the attached “*The Last Book in the Universe* Reading Guide.”

Part Two: Read another book of your choice, which is of appropriate length and level, AND complete the attached “Book of Your Choice Reading Guide.”

Helpful Information for Part One: *The Last Book in the Universe*

- As you read the first 55 pages, plan to READ every word, sometimes more than once.
- Take notes/ annotate as you read.
- Complete the attached “*The Last Book in the Universe* Reading Guide,” which is structured to support you in locating and analyzing some important literary elements found in the text. We want to prepare you for the kind of reading and literary analysis we will expect from you as an English 1 Honors student. Pay attention while you read, and notice how the language of the text impacts the overall meaning. This assignment will serve as a guide for future formative and summative assessments.
- We have completed a similar Reading Guide (based on the book *Owl Moon*) and placed it on the LMS Summer Reading website, so that you will have a place to look at sample answers. Use this as a model to guide you in developing your own entries about *The Last Book in the Universe*. Notice the complexity of the answers. You will not find answers such as: “It helps me to be able to picture it better,” or “It helps me to know what he is doing.” We want to see that you have thought about how the particular word choices made by the author are meaningful and how those particular words affect the way you understand the story. For example:

<p>Imagery</p> <p>Quote: “I could feel the cold, as if someone’s icy hand was palm-down on my back.”</p> <p>Page: 11</p>	<p>**Acceptable Response**</p> <p>How it adds meaning to the text: The imagery in this quote appeals to the sense of touch. The sensation of an icy hand on someone’s back makes me actually shiver; because it affects me, the reader, that way, it allows me to relate to exactly how shocking the cold was to the little girl on this winter night in the woods.</p> <p>**Unacceptable Responses**</p> <p>How it adds meaning to the text:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is imagery, so it helps me be able to picture it better. • I can feel how cold she is.
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- If you happen to complete this assignment early in the summer, please make sure you re-read the first 55 pages as the first day of school approaches. We want to make sure the book is fresh in your mind, so you will be equipped to fully participate in classroom activities based on this book.

Helpful Information for Part Two: Your Book of Choice with a COURAGEOUS character

- Choose any book you like for this requirement, keeping in mind the following:
 - Choose a book that will challenge you. For example, do not select a book that your elementary-age sibling would read; remember that you are entering your first high school English course. Choose the rigor of your book accordingly.
 - Make sure your book includes a courageous character. Be prepared to justify how your book reveals courage.
 - Can't find a book? Check out a South Carolina Junior or Young Adult Book Award List for ideas.
 - Try to pick something you WANT to read. We want this to be a pleasant experience for you.
- This assignment will serve as a guide for future formative and summative assessments.
- Complete the attached "Book of Your Choice Reading Guide," which is structured to support you in locating and analyzing significant and meaningful quotations found in the text. **For each chapter**, you should select at least one quote that you believe is significant and/or meaningful. Wherever possible, your meaningful quotations should reveal courage. Highlight these specific, courageous quotes in your template. Additionally, you may select a quote because it makes you ask an important question about the story. You may select a quote because you believe it reveals important information about a character, because it reveals a change in the plot, because you think it might be connected to the book's theme, or for any other reasons you believe to be important. Write each selected quote (**at least one per chapter**) on the left side of the template, along with the page number on which you found the quotation. On the right side, describe in detail what the quote makes you think about. Be thorough and thoughtful in describing what the quote makes you think about. For example:

Meaningful Quote (*Include chapter AND page number*)	What I think...
<p>"For one minute, three minutes, maybe even a hundred minutes, we stared at each other." (no chapter/page 22)</p>	<p>This passage makes me think about how important this moment is to the little girl. She is so overwhelmed when she finally sees the owl. The repetition of the word "minute" 3 times helps me to imagine time practically stopping while she takes in this special moment. Also, I think this might be an example of hyperbole, too, since I don't think she really stood there a hundred minutes.</p>
<p>"I didn't ask what kinds of things hide behind black trees in the middle of the night. When you go owling, you have to be brave." (no chapter/page 14)</p>	<p>This reminds me of how scared I was when I had to walk into my bedroom by myself when I was little. I just knew there was something behind the closet door, but I had to be courageous and run and jump into my bed anyway.</p>

As your future teachers, we look forward to working with you next year. We have high expectations for the work you will complete for our course, and we believe that each student should put his/her best effort into every task or assignment. This expectation begins on Day One! Be prepared!

Thank you in advance for your hard work,

Mrs. Jenny Bumgarner

Mrs. Brienne Williams

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