

**Contact Information:** [mgerba@msdsc.us](mailto:mgerba@msdsc.us) (I do **NOT** check this email every day during the summer. Do **NOT** expect an immediate reply!!!)

## Summer Reading Project

Hello and Welcome to Pre-AP English 10!

This packet contains your summer reading project and some valuable information for next year for Pre-AP ENG 10. Please read through the **ENTIRE** packet and note the “helpful information” section that contains an excerpt from the syllabus. This section contains expectations and rules/procedures for next year that pertain to this essay, as well as, the rest of the year.

As an honors student, you are expected to complete each of numbers 1-5 to receive full credit for this assignment. Any signs of plagiarism or misconduct will result in **immediate dismissal** from this course!

Papers are due the first day of school, August 15th. Papers turned in August 16th will result in a deduction of 50% from the total earned grade. **No papers will be accepted after 3:30 PM on August 16th.** Failure to turn in a **PRINTED COPY** of your essay within the first two days of school will result in immediate dismissal from the course as well.

## Helpful Information

When you come to school, we will spend some time getting to know each other. I am very excited for this upcoming year! We will go over the whole syllabus after the start of the year, but please pay close attention to these excerpts. ANY sign of plagiarism or cheating will have the proper repercussions. You can't just read sparknotes and movie reviews for this assignment. You will have to **ACTUALLY** read the books, but hey, you get to watch a movie! That's exciting, right?!

### **Required Materials**

*A notebook is required for this course. It should be at least 70 pages, preferably 150. You will use a page a day, almost. Writing utensils are also required, whatever the student prefers as long as it is a legible color. Students are also required to have their book/novel/short stories with them in class for analysis. Failure to have all materials (ex. You forget your book in your locker) will result in a tardy for the day.*

### **Expectations and Goals**

*You are expected to act respectfully to your classmates and teacher. Failure to do so will result in a lower grade. As you are an “honors student,” you will be expected to act as such. My goal for you is to receive an A in this class, as you all can with hard work and determination, and to pass the end of course assessment test. Any sort of cheating, plagiarism, or misconduct/foul play will result in immediate disciplinary action. The first instance will be a referral and a call home to parents/guardians. The second instance will lead to removal from the Pre-AP class.*

# Summer 2018 Reading Assignment

1. Choose **ONE** book to read (research them first to find the one most interesting to you!)
  - a. *The Zookeeper's Wife*- Diane Ackerman
  - b. *The Monuments Men*- Robert M. Edsel
  - c. *Unbroken*- Laura Hillenbrand
  
2. Read, annotate, and analyze the book of your choosing
  - a. If the book is yours, write in it! It's okay!
  - b. Make annotations along the way (if you don't own the book, write stuff down in a notebook)
  - c. To **analyze** means: you examine methodically and in detail the framework or structure of the novel; you explain and interpret the piece as a whole. You can refer to themes, motifs, or symbols or relate the novel to outside sources as well.
  - d. To **annotate** means: you add notes, explanations of words or phrases, or add comments/questions to the book. You may note literature vocabulary examples as well (ex. Sally sold seashells by the seashore= alliteration)
  
3. Watch the movie
  - a. Go rent it!
  - b. Find online (legally)!
  - c. Buy it for yourself!
  
4. Write a movie critique analysis
  - a. Movie critique
    - i. Now knowing what the ACTUAL book was like, how does the movie hold up? What pieces from the book was the movie missing that would have made it more impactful? What was over exaggerated? How? EXPLAIN!!!
  
5. Review and edit your critique prior to printing

## Requirements for the Movie Critique Analysis

You may write this in a 5-paragraph (ish) format. NOTE: it can be longer than 5 paragraphs, but you can use this guideline to format your essay.

**Paragraph 1:** Offer your overall impression of the film while mentioning the movie's title, director, and key actors.

**Paragraph 2:** Briefly summarize the plot of the film

**Paragraph 3:** Positive things you thought about the film, what did you like? Why? Use descriptive words to discuss the plot, setting, techniques and effects used, music, etc. Negative things you thought about the film, what didn't you like? Why?

**Paragraph 4/5/6:** Comparison between book and movie. How does the movie hold up compared to the book? What pieces from the book was the movie missing that would have made it more impactful? What was over exaggerated? How so? EXPLAIN YOUR THOUGHTS!!!

**Paragraph 6/7:** Ending paragraph--your last opportunity to guide the reader. Summarize and strongly restate your opinions.

## Need Some Help Still?

Here are some words and phrases that are commonly used in movie reviews. You may want to use some of them (or the ideas they suggest) in your critiques:

*spectacular visual effects, excessive violence, breathtaking, evocative, mood, atmosphere, poorly, unsuccessful, detail, scenery, irresistible, perfect, moments, plot, this movie has been compared to \_\_\_\_ because, wonderful, hilarious, momentum, unexpected plot twists, unbelievable, phenomenal, hype, suspense, disappointing, confusion/confused, fake, imitation, genre, unoriginal, typical, thrilled, was a very moving portrayal, quality of the film, I was impressed by, credible, cliché, a mixture of, classic, captivating*

The following questions should help you in writing your critique. Keep them in mind when watching a film, and use them when choosing what to write about.

### BACKGROUND

Who is the writer of the film? Has the screenplay been adapted from another work (yes)?

Who is the director?

When was the film made?

### OTHER QUESTIONS

How are the opening credits presented? Do they relate to meaning?

Why does the film start in the way that it does?

Are there any motifs that are repeated? What purpose do they serve?

Is sound used in any vivid ways to enhance the film? (i.e. Enhance drama, heighten tension, disorient the viewer, etc.)

Are there any striking uses of perspective (seeing through a character's eyes, camera angle, etc.) How does this relate to the meaning of the scene FROM THE BOOK?

Does the film leave any disunities (loose ends) at the end? If so, what does it suggest? Does the book "tie these loose ends"?

Why does the film conclude on this particular image? Did you see this in the book?

How does the movie hold up compared to the book?

What pieces from the book was the movie missing that would have made it more impactful?

What was over exaggerated? How so?

EXPLAIN YOUR THOUGHTS!!!