

Summer Reading

for students entering English 9CP

Read any one of the following novels and complete **one** of the written assignments included below. This assignment will provide teachers with a writing sample and count as an essay grade for the first marking period.

Birthmarked by Caragh M. O'Brien

The Reappearance of Sam Webber by Jonathan Scott Fuqua

The House of the Scorpion by Nancy Farmer

Tangerine by Edward Bloor

Slam! By Walter Dean Myers

Breathing Underwater by Alex Finn

a. Develop a thesis-based essay in which you address the following: What transformation does the main character of the novel undergo? What causes him or her to change? In what different ways is this transformation made evident to the reader?

b. Develop a thesis-based essay in which you address the following: What does this novel have to say about human beings in general? How does the novel's plot communicate this idea to the readers? What role do dialogue, symbolism and other literary techniques play in developing this theme?

c. Develop a thesis-based essay in which you address the following: Develop 2-3 criteria you use to evaluate the quality of literature and discuss whether the novel fulfills your definition of good literature.

Be sure to organize your ideas, paying specific attention to the development of your thesis, introductory paragraph, body paragraphs, conclusion paragraph, topic sentences, and transitional sentences. Also include relevant details (i.e. quotes/examples) in your essay.

The essay will be graded using the attached English Department Writing Rubric.

*If you have any questions, please email Ms. Colavecchio at lcolavecchio@hvrhs.org or Mr. Duval at jduval@hvrhs.org.

Enjoy your reading!

