

Summer Reading

for students entering English 9G

1. Please read the novel *Speak* by Laurie Halse Anderson.
2. After you have finished reading the book, compose a short essay (approximately two pages typed and double spaced) in which you respond to one of the prompts below. Be sure to organize your ideas, paying specific attention to the development of your thesis. Include relevant details in your essay, including quotations and specific details from the book.
 - a. What transformation does the main character of the novel undergo? What causes her to change? In what different ways is this transformation made evident to the reader?
 - b. 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. Does this novel fulfill your definition of good literature? Why or why not?

This essay will be your first grade of the first marking period. It will be scored using the English Department writing rubric, which has been attached to this overview.

If you have any questions, please email Mrs. Stowell at jstowell@hvrhs.org

Enjoy your reading!