Welcome to 8th grade English Language Arts! This summer you are responsible for reading three books. The mixture of fiction and nonfiction texts is designed to help you prepare for ideas you will see in a variety of classes in the year ahead. The assignment that accompanies these texts will count as a part of your grade for the first trimester in English Language Arts.

1. **Required reading for everyone:**

   **Fahrenheit 451** by Ray Bradbury

   *Fahrenheit 451* is a dystopian novel by American writer Ray Bradbury, published in 1953. The novel presents a future American society where books are outlawed and "firemen" burn any that are found. That's the job of one Guy Montag, but he begins to question his role as he comes into contact with a teenager who reads secretly. Montag soon becomes a criminal reader of smuggled books.

   Included on GC (code is at the top of the packet):
   - Plot Summary/Reading Guide
   - Video Explanation (by Mrs. Boyer)
   - Movie Trailer

2. **One nonfiction book:**

   *I am Malala* by Malala Yousafzai (Young Readers Edition)

3. **One fictional book of your choice (that you have not previously read) from the list below.**

   - The Book Thief by Markus Zusak
   - The Only Road by Alexandra Diaz
   - The Hound of the Baskervilles by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle
   - Greenglass House by Kate Milford
   - The Help by Kathryn Stockett
   - *All the Light We Cannot See* by Anthony Doerr
   - Ender’s Game by Orson Scott Card
   - Pride and Prejudice by Jane Austen
   - The Boy in the Striped Pajamas by John Boyne
   - Lord of the Flies by William Golding
   - Little Women by Louisa May Alcott
   - Roll of Thunder, Hear my Cry by Mildred D. Taylor
   - Tangerine by Edward Bloor
   - Audacity by Melanie Crowder
   - *The Breadwinner* (Trilogy Edition-All Three) by Deborah Ellis
     *(Great if you really loved *I am Malala)*
   - The Count of Monte Cristo by Alexandre Dumas
   - The Legend of Sleepy Hollow by Washington Irving
   - Fever 1793 by Laurie Halse Anderson
   - The Call of the Wild by Jack London
   - *The Fellowship of the Ring* by J.R.R. Tolkien
In addition to reading the three books, you are also required to complete the attached graphic organizer and write an essay over Fahrenheit 451. The essay will be collected on the first day of school and will count as our first grade of the trimester. Also, we will be discussing the novel for the first three weeks of school as a part of our first mini-Unit of the trimester (you will be tested/quizzed on the novel during that time).

We will also be discussing the nonfiction book and Eagle’s Nest selections during the first week of school, so you should complete the note taking guide for your nonfiction book and annotate within the fictional book of your choice. The guide will be checked for a grade, and its completion will also ensure that you are prepared to actively participate in our discussions. Please see the attached pages for further detail.

Students should purchase physical copies of all three of the summer reading books so that they may highlight and annotate the texts while reading. Please write your name on each novel.

Students will be graded for their annotation throughout their 8th grade year. See the annotation guide on page three.

If you have questions or concerns over the summer, I am available via email at oboyer@hancockdayschool.org. I will also be available in our Google Classroom portal, but please be patient with me. :)

I hope that you enjoy the reading assignments, and I look forward to seeing you in August!

Mrs. Boyer
ANOTHER GUIDE to Close Reading

1. Number the paragraphs.
2. Mark the text with symbols as you read.

- Star: Important Idea
- underline: Key Word or Detail
- Circle: Unfamiliar Word
- Exclamation point: Interesting Detail
- Question mark: Question I Have
- Arrow: Connection I Made

3. Write short summarizing statements in the left margin.
4. Write comments or questions in the right margin.
Directions: Write a five paragraph essay on Fahrenheit 451. Choose ONE out of the three questions and prepare a detailed outline with quotations from the book to support your argument.

1. Ray Bradbury wrote the novel during the height of the Cold War in the 1950s. The main themes in the novel acted as a warning to society at the time it was written. Write an essay about how the novel can still be used as a warning to people in America today. Hint – be sure to mention what the novel is warning against and how.

2. In developing your essay examine the main theme of the book: What is the value and meaning of a free society? While there are some risks in living in a free society, the threat of a society that suppresses freedom is the very possibility of being truly human.) Using your knowledge of political systems explain how the concept of government is the key to creating a free or suppressed people.

3. Think about the term censorship and apply it to the following two questions: What is the importance of education in society? How can ignorance affect a society’s foundation? How can censorship hinder a society?

Once you have chosen a topic, develop it into a thesis statement. Remember that you are formulating a “theory” about the novel that you will have to “prove” with reasons and examples in your body paragraphs.

Example Thesis Statements:

In Fahrenheit 451, censorship causes a loss of societal growth, individual thought, and personal happiness.

In Fahrenheit 451, the society loses its power and purpose because individuals lose their ability to live a full life involving relationships, meaningful activities, and rich ideas.

YOU ARE NOT ALLOWED TO USE PERSONAL PRONOUNS FOR THIS ESSAY!!!
Fahrenheit 451 Prewriting Packet

Directions:

I. Organize your prewriting according to your thesis.

   A. Thesis: Formulate your thesis by addressing the question in your selected essay topic.

      1. ______________________________________________________________________________________
      ______________________________________________________________________________________

II. Introduction Paragraphs

   A. The first paragraph of your essay is demonstrating your basic knowledge of the topic on which you will be writing.

      1. Provide a brief background of what you will be discussing and why. It’s a good idea to give a 1-2 sentence summary of the book here.

      2. Set the mood or the tone of your essay in the introduction so the reader knows what to expect.

      3. End your introduction with your thesis statement.

III. You will need three supporting sub topics to prove your thesis. (Make these three sub topics the three body paragraphs.)

   A. ______________________________________________________________________________________

   B. ______________________________________________________________________________________

   C. ______________________________________________________________________________________

IV. When writing a body paragraph make sure to:

   A. Highlight each body paragraph topic.

   B. Include quotes and page numbers.

   C. You must include at least 2 examples/point for each body paragraph sub topic (this = 6 examples total!)
V. Example Body Paragraph:

A. Sub Topic 1

1. Supporting Example 1
2. Quote Supporting Example 1
3. Reason/Rational of how the quote supports the example.
4. Supporting Example 2
5. Quote Supporting Example 1
6 Reason/Rational of how the quote supports the example.
7. How do both of these examples help prove the sub point validates the thesis?
8. Transition from Sub topic A to Sub Topic B.

B. Please follow this format when preparing your outline.

C. You will need 3 body paragraphs following the example above.

VI. Conclusion Paragraph.

A. In this paragraph the FIRST thing you must do is remind the reader of your thesis.

B. To review what you have covered throughout your essay restate your thesis backwards by stating your how sub topics prove the thesis to be valid.

C. Example thesis from introduction: In Fahrenheit 451, the society loses its power and purpose because individuals lose their ability to live a full life involving relationships, meaningful activities, and rich ideas.

D. Example Re-stated thesis from conclusion: The characters lack of the ability to live a full life involving relationships, meaningful activities, and rich ideas In Fahrenheit 451 leads the society to loses its power and purpose.

E. LEAVE THE READER WITH SOMETHING TO CONTINUE THINKING ABOUT AFTER YOU RESTATE YOUR THESIS THAT IS IN KEEPING WITH THE TOPIC.

The document should be typed in MLA format (Times New Roman Font, 12 pt sizing, 1 inch margins, double spaced, page numbers at the top right corner, and a proper heading- full name, date, teacher, and class).
Fahrenheit 451 Essay Rubric

20%-- IDEAS: The degree to which the writer identifies and supports a specific thesis statement with details and examples from the novel. Each body paragraph should contain at least two supporting details from the novel (can be a direct quote, summary, or paraphrase). COMPONENTS: Controlling idea/focus, supporting details, detail of relevance, and sense of completeness

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20%-- ORGANIZATION: The degree to which the writer’s ideas are arranged in a clear order that follows the thesis statement established in the introductory paragraph. COMPONENTS: introductory paragraph with thesis statement, first point, second point, third point, and conclusion

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20%-- STYLE: The degree to which the writer controls his/her language to engage the reader. COMPONENTS: Word choice, audience awareness, sentence variety, voice

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20%-- CONVENTIONS: The degree to which the writer demonstrates control of sentence formation, usage and mechanics.

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20%-- WRITING PROCESS: The degree to which the writer demonstrates mastery of the writing process. Components—Prewrite, rough draft (with evidence of revision), final draft *ALL parts of the writing process must be submitted in order to obtain full credit.

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TOTAL SCORE:______________
Nonfiction Book: *I am Malala*

Complete the information below as you read your nonfiction summer reading selection. I will review this document during the first week of school to assess the quality of your ideas and the depth of your response to the text. Feel free to use bullet points and fragments as you fill in this document; however, be sure to use **proper grammar rules** when necessary. Your notes must be legible. Feel free to type this information if you prefer. You must type/write the questions if you decide to use other paper/a google doc. Please turn in your best work.

Book’s Title:______________________________________________________________________________

Book’s Author:____________________________________________________________________________

1. The greatest challenge anyone faced in this book was…

2. The protagonist overcame this challenge by…

3. Reading about this struggle taught me…

4. The people in this book most strongly value…

5. I know this because…

6. I do/do not value this as strongly as the people in the book because…
7. One life lesson someone might take away from this book is…

8. Five adjectives that describe the protagonist are…

9. One thing that I would do differently than the protagonist is…

10. I do / do not (circle one) believe that the protagonist in my book has made a lasting impact on the world because…

11. Something that surprised me about this book was…

12. Has this book changed your definition of what it means to be a hero? If so, explain. If not, clearly state what you think it means to be a hero.