

# RYAN HIGH SCHOOL

## Summer Reading for PreAP *Freshman English* 2017

These instructions will be posted on the Ryan Website under Student Services – Summer Reading Lists - all through the summer in case your copy goes missing...**Please read and follow these instructions carefully!**

WELCOME!! This assignment introduces you to what Pre AP English will be about. It will show me where you are in terms of your reading awareness. The whole assignment will be due on the **second day of school**, so don't wait too late in the summer to begin. THIS ENTIRE ASSIGNMENT IS TO BE HANDWRITTEN in a spiral notebook, front side of the pages only. If you use pen, please stick to navy blue or black. **Take your time reading through these instructions – email me if you have questions!**

### **PART ONE: Read a PRINT copy of The Scorpio Races by Maggie Stiefvater ISBN# 978-0-545-22491-8**

For this novel, keep a **reader-response journal** as you read in a **SPIRAL notebook** – remember to **use the front of the pages only, use pencil or navy blue or black ink.**

1. READ THE FIRST 50 PAGES OF THE NOVEL BEFORE STARTING YOUR READER-RESPONSE JOURNAL.
2. Draw a line down the middle of the page.
3. Left side: put page number in margin and copy **meaningful** passages from the book – perhaps a bit of dialogue, a description, or a character's thought(s). Make it at least a complete sentence BUT not more than five-seven sentences long. **REMEMBER:** You will have no passages from the first 50 pages of the novel.
4. Right side: write **your response** to the quotation – Consider telling me: Why did you choose it? Did it puzzle or confuse you? Remind you of something? What does it mean to you? (These are suggestions to get you started, not the ONLY things I expect you to write in your journal. :)
  - a. **If you choose to comment on a personal experience, be sure to connect it to what is happening IN THE NOVEL at that point so I see your reaction to and understanding OF THE NOVEL (characters, events, setting, etc.).**
  - b. *REALIZE: these entries are NOT a summary or paraphrasing of your reading – it is your RESPONSE to the passage.*
  - c. **A good, thoughtful, developed response is no less than 5 sentences. Seriously, I count sentences!**

#### **Example – (but NOT from *The Scorpio Races* 😊)**

##### **Passage**

**"Charles Halloway suppressed a sudden urge to run with them, make the pack. He knew what the wind was doing to them, where it was taking them, to all the secret places that were never so secret again in life." (P.17)**

##### **Response**

**I feel kind of sad for Will's dad. He wants to be a kid still, but he's gotten too old. The "secret places" makes me think of the shed at my grand parents' farm where my cousins and I used to play, but we don't play there anymore because we're too big. Is that how Charles feels? I hope his character gets to be part of the adventure, or I'm going to be pretty upset.**

Your journal for the novel should have at least **10** responses from **throughout** the book, so pace yourself! (I'd rather have 10 well-developed, thoughtful responses instead of 20 short, bad ones!) **Use**

**a spiral notebook to keep all the responses together as you read. Do not wait until you finish the novel to write your responses.** The responses should reflect *what you are thinking as you read the novel, not what you think when you are finished*, so try to stop at the ends of chapters to go back and write. That'll help you keep up with what's happening but still allow you to share what you are thinking as you go.

**PART TWO: Heroes, Gods and Monsters by Bernard Evslin.** READ THIS ONE SECOND so the stories are fresher in your mind when you take the open book test over it on the second day your class meets. This short novel is a collection of stories featuring some of the most important and well-known figures from Greek mythology. You'll read about such characters as Hades, Zeus, Aphrodite, Midas, and the curious Pandora. Buy your own copy and make notes in the margins or on post-it notes you place in the book as you read. **There will be an open book test (NOT open note) over this book on the second day of school, so be ready to answer questions/write about people, places, events, themes, etc.!**

If financially possible, please **buy your own copy** of Heroes, Gods, and Monsters and your novel. This way you can underline passages that stand out to you as important, place post-it notes with your comments on the pages, etc. This will make class discussions go more smoothly. Bring your copy to school with you on the second day your class meets.

Another Note: PreAP English I is a college-prep class. As such, we will be reading literature written for a mature audience that may at times discuss facets of life that you have not encountered before and may use language that you would not choose to use yourself. If you feel delicate about such things or are easily offended, let's talk together about the challenges you might face in this class via email AND I encourage you to discuss what you are reading with your parents.

**UNOFFICIAL PART THREE: movie literacy.** We use movies to discuss many concepts throughout the year. I do not want you to feel left out when we have those conversations! I often reference the movie series for Star Wars, Harry Potter, Lord of the Rings/The Hobbit, and the recent Marvel movies (Iron Man, Avengers, Thor, Captain America, Spiderman, The Guardians of the Galaxy). If you haven't seen ANY of these, I encourage you to watch one or two so you will feel more at home with those conversations. If it's been a while, why not watch some of them again? (There's no written assignment for this part. ☺)

As for other reading over the summer, read what you want! Discover some new writers or different kinds of books. Watch movies and see some plays if possible. Discover some on-line news sources. Experience the literary, film, and dramatic world around you. We will use all these experiences next year, so get out there and do something! Above all, have fun, **and don't forget to read!**

**See you before we know it! -Mrs. Zeigler and Mrs. Bossenbroek**

**P.S. Send me an email over the summer if you have any questions, ideas, or you just want to say hello! [szeigler@dentonisd.org](mailto:szeigler@dentonisd.org) [kbossenbroek@dentonisd.org](mailto:kbossenbroek@dentonisd.org)**