

FRESHMEN SUMMER READING ASSIGNMENT: ALL LEVELS
Young Adult Novel Analysis



This year as part of your freshmen summer reading, you will explore who you are as a reader. You may choose to read any book that follows the guidelines listed below.

Your book is acceptable if you can check off all of the boxes!!

- Fiction
- Main character is in 8th grade or older
- At least 125 pages
- Not read in any of the middle school classes (even if you were not in the class that read it)

Assignment

After you read your book, please complete the following activities. All information should be typed, double spaced and ready to be handed in on the first day of classes.

- I. Title
Author
Number of Pages
- II. Create a character list including detailed descriptions of three main characters
- III. Summary of major events. This should be at least two paragraphs
- IV. Review of the book. These paragraphs should include your overall opinion of the book, favorite parts, and what type of reader might like this book.
- V. Reflection on who you think you are as a reader. Why did you choose this book? What types of books do you usually choose to read? Do you have trouble finding a book? Do you consider yourself a reader?

Attention Honors and Advanced Students!
Please be sure to complete PART 2
on Edgar Allen Poe's life and short stories.

PART 2 SUMMER READING - Advanced English I/ Honors English I Poe Syllabus

Clearview Regional High School District develops its curriculum in order to best serve the district's mission and meet the subject-area benchmarks established by NCLB and other local, state and national criteria for curriculum development. We recognize that adolescence through young-adulthood is a time when students of the same age are at different maturity levels, so the selection of materials is undertaken with care and deliberation. The English Department selects literary texts that reflect a diversity of perspectives, are age-appropriate, are high quality literature and are useful to fulfill the district's mission and the course's benchmarks. Parents are encouraged to investigate the texts explored by their children; we urge parents to take an active role in helping our students to develop admiration for the elegance and richness of human expression.

Recognizing that not all works are appropriate for all students, texts identified with an (*) may contain mature or sensitive language or issues; parents or guardians may wish to preview texts prior to student participation.

Assignment Part 1 – Biography – to be completed by Advanced and Honors

Read the biographical information about Edgar Allen Poe found on: poestories.com. You will use the information in order to complete Parts 2 and 3.

Assignment Part 2 – Advanced MUST read “The Black Cat”

Honors MUST read “The Black Cat” AND “The Tell-Tale Heart”

Good comprehension requires the reader to be active. To enhance your understanding of the influence of Poe's life on his writing, text mark your stories using the following guidelines.

1. Ask questions (about how this relates back to his life)
2. Give opinions or make comments
3. Make a connection (to Poe's life, your life, another story, etc)
4. Notice an important line or thought-provoking statement
5. Draw a conclusion

Assignment Part 3

Given the focus of your reading, use your text marking as a guide for planning and writing a response to the following:

In a minimum of a one paragraph response (at least five sentences) for each story, explain the ways in which the events of Poe's life have influenced his writing. Use specific examples from each story to support your answer. **Advanced will write about “The Black Cat” only and Honors will write about BOTH stories.**

All responses should be typed in 12pt. Times New Roman Double Spaced

Texts:

All Edgar Allen Poe stories and biographical information found on poestories.com

- **Black Cat* (<http://poestories.com/read/blackcat>)
- **Tell-Tale Heart* (<http://poestories.com/read/telltaleheart>)
- Biography of Edgar Allen Poe (<http://poestories.com/biography.php>)