111 LA (11th grade Honors for students who took AP Language in 10th grade) American Literature 2020 Summer Reading

Texts and Assignments:

- Read and annotate *How to Read Literature Like a Professor* (Foster). You will be expected to synthesize Foster’s ideas and use them to analyze various literature throughout the semester. Students will be tested on Foster during the first week of the semester.

- Read and annotate *Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption* (Stevenson). You will complete an in-class writing assessment on this novel the first week of school. Look for claims made by Mr. Stevenson as you read (examples-prison system, mental illness, racial bias, death penalty, poverty, jailed juveniles, etc.) Choose one topic and, through your annotations either in your book or on a sheet of paper, identify 6-10 quotes from the book that support his claim.

- Write a personal narrative that based on the prompt below. It is due on the first day of school and will be scanned for plagiarism detection through Turn It In.

Personal Narrative Assignment – choose one:

**Option 1**

In a presentation to students at Penn State Abington, Bryan Stevenson remarked, “Hope is your superpower. Don’t let anybody or anything make you hopeless. Hope is the enemy of injustice…. Hope is what will get you to stand up when people tell you to sit down.”

In a well-developed narrative, discuss a time when hope worked as a superpower in your life. Explore the extent to which your hopefulness impacted the outcome of your situation, whether it was positive or negative. You should focus on the event; do not retell your life story.

**Option 2**

At the beginning of his review of *Just Mercy*, Professor of Law William W. Berry III provides the following quote from Harper Lee’s novel *To Kill a Mockingbird*: “I wanted you to see what real courage is, instead of getting the idea that courage is a man with a gun in his hand. It’s when you know you’re licked before you begin but you begin anyway and you see it through no matter what. You rarely win, but sometimes you do.” Throughout *Just Mercy*, Bryan Stevenson epitomizes courage as he faces his fears, overcomes obstacles, and continues to fight for prison reform.

In a well-developed narrative, discuss a time when you were courageous and explain how your courage impacted the outcome of your situation, whether it was positive or negative. You should focus on the event; do not retell your life story.

Your typed narrative will be graded using the rubric on the next page. Content of the narrative must be school appropriate.
We will continue to discuss these books throughout the first few weeks, focusing on selected passages and literary elements as we establish expectations for analytical writing and classroom discussion. **You are expected to bring the two annotated texts and the typed narrative assignment to class on the first day of school.**

111 LA Name Narrative Rubric

Name: ____________________________________________

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<th>Essay (100 points)</th>
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| **Content** (60 points) | -Details, clues, and evidence come together to develop a clear impression of the significance of the event  
-Evidence of reflection and investigation into the incident/event |
| **Clarity/Conventions/Format** (30 points) | -Essay is clearly written with few minor mistakes that do not interfere with reader’s understanding.  
-Essay is in 12-point Times New Roman font, double-spaced, MLA formatted (heading, header, etc.). |
| **Organization** (10 points) | -A narrative thread unites the various pieces of evidence.  
-Essay begins with a something to peak the reader’s interest (NOT a “Since the beginning of time” statement)  
-Essay ends in a conclusion that completes the portrait of the subject and explains why the event is important to you or how you have been affected/influenced by the event/topic you chose. |

Total: _________/100 points

Summer reading assignments must be completed individually and without the use of online sources or study aides. Students who commit an infraction of the Honor Code will receive a grade of zero on the assignment, an N in conduct for this semester in 111 LA American Literature, and an administrative referral.