



2011 Summer Reading for Rising 9th Graders

9th English 1

Title	Author	Required reading
Mississippi Trial, 1955	Chris Crowe	All 9 th

9th English 1 Honors

Title	Author	Required reading
The Alchemist	Paulo Coelho	9 th Honors
The Glory Field	Walter Dean Myers	9 th Honors

Welcome to James S. Rickards High School, Home of the Raiders! We hope you are looking forward to an exciting and successful freshman year.

The tables above indicate the novel(s) you are to read according to your 9th grade English course level. Even if you are scheduled for English I General, it is highly encouraged that you read both novels for additional challenge.

We strongly recommend that you purchase these books (new or used). Owning the books gives you the freedom to mark important passages for discussion later, and the books will be available if you need to use them in other classes. The book list has been given to the major local bookstore chains of Barnes & Noble, Borders, and Books-A-Million. Take this letter with you for reference or assistance from a sales associate. Also, copies of the books are available at the Leon County Public Library and may be reserved in your name on-line with your library card.

Summer Reading Journal

Your assignment for the reading is to keep a journal for each book, which should include the following information:

- ✓ A list of the **three most important characters** in the book. Describe the personality of each character and give a physical description if the author includes one. Include quotations with page numbers to support your statements. Explain why these three characters are the most important.
- ✓ A paraphrase of the **most important scene** in the book (may or may not be the climax). Include a detailed explanation of why it is the most important scene.
- ✓ A description of the **two most important conflicts** in the book. Give a detailed explanation of why these are the most important conflicts.
- ✓ A list of **memorable, meaningful quotes** (with page numbers). Identify quotes within the novel that you feel have importance to the development/plot of the story.

- ✓ Your **personal response** to the book. How would you explain your reading experience?
- ✓ Your journals may be **typed or neatly handwritten**. If handwritten, use blue or black ink.

Completion of the reading journals is the first proof of meeting your summer reading requirement. In addition to your reading journal, you will be required to complete a creative interpretation of the novel(s) that will be assigned by your English teacher the first week of school. The final assessment for Summer Reading will be a graded assessment. Keeping a good and detailed journal will make the assessment easier for you.

Summer Reading Grading

Assignment	Category and Weight	Due Date
Reading Journal	Writing 25%	Friday, September 2
Creative Interpretation	Class work/Homework 35%	Determined by English Teacher
Reading Assessment	Assessment 40%	Friday, September 2

Summer reading is the first demonstration of your commitment to a successful academic career at Rickards. We are certain that you will find these books both interesting and entertaining. If you have any questions about the reading or the assignment, you may contact Mrs. Ivy Watkins, English Department Chair, until June 3. After June 3, contact Mr. Patrick Wright, Assistant Principal for Curriculum. Call 488-1783.

We look forward to seeing you in the fall.

“Expect Great Things from the Raiders.”