

May 1, 2018

Dear Freshman English Student,

As your eighth grade year is quickly coming to a close I wanted to introduce myself and welcome you to high school. Also, in accordance with the high school curriculum I must assign summer reading. **No grumbling!** There is extra credit too!

As someone who **truly** loves to read I want to make this as enjoyable as possible and not cumbersome. My goal as a teacher is to help all students enjoy reading in some way, shape, or form and to get my honors kids already moving with ninth grade texts....so let's get reading!

If you have any intentions of potentially taking honors you MUST complete the assigned summer reading. Students that do not complete the requirements will not be admitted into Honors English 9.

*All potential honors candidates must join the Summer Reading Google Classroom. The code is: **4q99kz***

To **ALL** incoming freshmen (College and Honors) please note there is an extra credit option available, in order to help you start the year off on the right foot!

Extra Credit: (Everyone) **DUE: Wednesday September 5, 2018**

This is an option available for **any and all** of my students next year. Honors students you are welcome to count your assigned reading for this too! The Mahoning County Library has a phenomenal summer reading program!

<https://www.libraryvisit.org/our-happenings/summer-discovery/>

Here you can sign up and actually get started (now)! Their program runs from May 1st-July 31st. **What you need to do is create a login, log books, AND write reviews. At least a two sentences for each.** PS graphic novels and audiobooks do count! Don't let anyone tell you otherwise.

* I believe you have other great community options, but I'm only looking for books. Upon registering with the library you get their goodie program:

At registration – get a Chick-fil-A coupon and a Mahoning Valley Scrappers game voucher.

Read 5 books – earn a 5 in 1 USB charger cable

Read 10 books – get your choice of a FREE book.

Read 15 books – get your name entered into a prize drawing for a \$25 Amazon gift certificate.

As for my class, **you get one extra credit point for every book you read and review, up to ten books (so up to ten points)**. So not only do you get a free book from the library, you get ten bonus points from me! **Be sure you print your reading history by July 31st.** I'm unsure if the program locks out once the Summer Reading Challenge is complete, so don't wait until the school year to print this! If you don't have the documentation, you will not receive any points.

Honors: This is required!

If you have any anticipation of taking Honors English you MUST complete this option. Be forewarned, I hold my students in Honors to high standards. This isn't meant to scare you, but please understand that you will be

required to do additional reading, writing, discussions, etc. With taking Honors your goals should be to be valedictorian or to graduate with honors, to be on the path to take the Advanced Placement (AP) test in order to acquire college credit during your senior year, and/or you may be looking for an additional academic push because you enjoy reading and writing. **Please remember you are making this choice to take this advanced course and will be held accountable.**

Please read: *House on Mango Street* by Sandra Cisneros

This is a text commonly seen on the AP exam and it is present in our textbook. You can also read the text here:

<https://nnulitapp.wikispaces.com/file/view/The+House+on+Mango+Street+-+Sandra+Cisneros.pdf>

Before Reading:

1. Complete the online journal response in Google Classroom by **Friday August 3, 2018 at 11:59 pm**

After Reading:

1. Focusing specifically on “My Name” and create a mind map that focuses on your name. It should be colorful and organized. It should be at least on at least an 8x11 piece of computer paper. It should look at first, middle, and last name. It can also look at nicknames and what your name makes you think of. Look at “My Name” and analyze what Esperanza thinks of her name. Use similar attributes in your mind map. Please see rubric for additional requirements. You can also look at my mind map available in Google Classroom. **Due: Wednesday September 5, 2018**
2. Using your mind create a vignette similar to Esperanza about your name. The directions and the rubric are attached. My vignette is in Google Classroom, feel free to check it out. Please turn in to Google Classroom by **Due: Monday September 3, 2018 by 11:59 pm**
If you would like me to look at it prior to submission for a grade please turn it in by Monday August 20, 2018.
3. Quiz on *House on Mango Street* **Friday September 7, 2018.** We will discuss this the first few days of school!

If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact me via email throughout the summer. I am looking forward to meeting you and working with you in the fall.

Enjoy sleeping in, sunshine, extensive video game action...and of course reading!

Mrs. Kelly Johnston
Honors and College English 9
kjohnston@springfieldlocal.us

Items Needed for 9th Grade English:

- One (1) 2 inch binder w/ clear cover (preferably)
- Three (3) highlighters (different colors)
- Eight (8) dividers (may make out of construction papers)
- Pens/pencils
- Loose leaf paper

Directions for Name Analysis Vignette

Using Sandra Cisneros's "My Name" from *House on Mango Street*, mimic her style to create your own vignette regarding your name. Paragraphs do not need to be long BUT they should be full of interesting wording and details. Vignettes tend to be vague leaving a lot to the reader's imagination; however, they still must paint images with poetic wording.

Paragraph #1: Consider your name in language, emotions, numbers, colors, and sound. There is no right or wrong way to do this. This is the feeling it creates for you. You may want to research your name's etymology to help with the language section.

Paragraph #2-#4: Tell a story regarding your name. Look at how Cisneros sets up this passage to name a mini story that reflects herself. I should see a reflection of you in this piece.

Paragraph #5: How do you think others feel about your name? Do you have any nicknames? Do they connect to your name?

Paragraph #6: Changing your name and why? If you could pick any variation of your name what would it be? Why did you pick this? How does this develop you as a "character" or a person?

Additional Help:

Explicit: What is right there in the text. No need to read any further into what it already says.

Inferential: What is discovered through evidence and reasoning. This will help further develop your readers interpretation.

*Command of Narrative Storyline...*what makes a good story?

-Setting?

-Images?

-Characters that are relatable?

*Character Development..*how does the character change or grow?

-Round: A lot is known

-Flat: Little is known but they still have a purpose

-Static: They undergo no change

-Dynamic: They undergo a major change

Mechanics:

No SLANG

I is capitalized

Using full sentences and correct capitalization and punctuation

Header is set up correctly

Mind Map and Vignette Rubric

Mind Map for Name Rubric

	5	4	3	2	1	0
Content of Mind Map	Contains at least 10 branches from centralized middle name point OR from another branch. Each idea shows critical thinking and development.	Contains at least 8 branches from centralized middle name point OR from another branch. Each idea shows critical thinking and development.	Contains at least 7 branches from centralized middle name point OR from another branch. Each idea shows critical thinking and development.	Contains at least 6 branches from centralized middle name point OR from another branch. Each idea shows critical thinking and development. OR Critical thinking is weak	Contains at least 5 branches from centralized middle name point OR from another branch. Each idea shows critical thinking and development. OR Critical thinking is weak	Contains less than 4 branches from either centralized middle name point OR from another branch. Each idea is weak and shows little effort.
Neatness	Shows impeccable neatness through legibility, design and color.	Shows impressive neatness through legibility, design, and color	Shows average neatness but still contains legibility, design, and color.	Shows average neatness but lacks legibility, design, or color.	Shows some neatness but lacks both legibility and color.	No Effort Shown.

“My Name” Vignette Rubric

	5	4	3	2	1	0
Explicit Details Found in Vignette	Contains standout and applicable details that embody the name and show it through sight or tangible words.	Contains interesting and applicable details that embody the name and show it through sight or tangible words.	Contains average and applicable details that explain the name and show it through sight or tangible words but doesn't give the reader a full understanding.	Contains minimal applicable details that explain the name and show it through sight or tangible words but doesn't give the reader a full understanding.	Contains few if any applicable details that explain the name and show it through sight or tangible words but doesn't give the reader a full understanding.	No Effort Shown.
Inferential Details Found in Vignette	Contains standout and applicable details that embody the name and show it through emotions, ideas, or creative application that makes the reader critically think and apply their life.	Contains interesting and applicable details that embody the name and show it through emotions, ideas, or creative application that makes the reader critically think and apply their life.	Contains average and applicable details that embody the name and show it through emotions, ideas, or creative application but does not make the reader fully critically think and apply their life.	Contains minimal applicable details that embody the name and show it through emotions, ideas, or creative application but does not make the reader fully critically think and apply their life.	Contains few if any details that embody the name and show it through emotions, ideas, or creative application and does not make the reader fully critically think and apply their life.	No Effort Shown.
Command of Narrative Storyline Style	Contains a well-developed understanding of narrative style writing.	Contains a good understanding of narrative style writing.	Contains an understanding of narrative style writing.	Contains a basic understanding of narrative style writing.	Contains minimal understanding of narrative style writing.	No Effort Shown.
Character Development	Creates a solid characterization of self that uses stylistic elements from <i>House on Mango Street</i> but is also clearly unique and dynamic.	Creates a characterization of self that uses stylistic elements from <i>House on Mango Street</i> but is also clearly unique and dynamic.	Creates a characterization of self that uses stylistic elements from <i>House on Mango Street</i> but is also clearly unique but appears more static.	Creates a characterization of self that uses stylistic elements from <i>House on Mango Street</i> but appears more static.	Creates a characterization of self but does not mimic ideas found in <i>House on Mango Street</i> and is not truly dynamic.	No Effort Shown.
Mechanics and Style	Few, if any spelling errors. Sentences are complex, and have a sense of creativity and unique word choices to impact the reader.	Some spelling errors. Sentences are complex, and have a sense of creativity and unique word choices to impact the reader.	Some spelling errors. Sentences are complex, and have a sense of creativity but weak unique word choices to impact the reader.	Some spelling errors. Sentences are complex, and have a weak sense of creativity and unique word choices to impact the reader.	Many spelling errors that affect the readability. There is no sense of creativity or unique word choices to impact the reader.	No Effort is Shown.

Mind Map _____/10
 Vignette _____/25