

Choose your adventure!

1. Select a book from the YABA nominee list.
2. Enjoy your book!
3. Select one of these assignments to complete for your honors English class!



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Assignment Choices:

1. Book, Head, Heart
Reflecting
2. Real-World Theme Connection
Connecting
3. Book Cover/Movie Poster
Creating
4. Newspaper Story
Writing
5. Vlog Post and Review
Expressing

Descriptions of these choices can be found within this document!

Books can be dangerous. The best ones should be labeled, "This could change your life."

-Helen Exley

What are the Benefits of Independent Reading?

The Writing Cooperative website provides many benefits for reading. Some of these include...

- Reading prevents memory loss
- Reading prevents depression
- Reading relaxes you
- Reading builds a critical mind
- Reading is a literal workout for your brain

Jakub Ferencik, the author of the article, "The Benefits of Reading Everyday—Why I'm Reading 100 Books This Year," says that people who read "are intriguing, educated, skeptical, and focused. When they talk, people quiet down, because they know that someone who has taken the time to practice the skill of knowledge will be better at expressing the truth." Isn't that the goal of education anyway?

Book, Head, Heart

For this assignment, you are to personally reflect on your summer reading and how it impacted/affected you. This assignment focuses mostly on your personal reaction to the novel, so there is no one right answer.

Be specific and detailed in each section. This means that 1-2 sentence responses will not suffice. For this assignment, you are to complete the entire BHH Framework (complete all three sections by answering all of the questions):

- In the Book:
 - What is the book about (you do not have to summarize the entire book)? [try to write 4-6 sentences]
 - Who is telling the story? Describe the main character(s).
 - What does the author want you to know? In other words, what is a theme of the chapter/book, and what is the author trying to tell you about life? [Hint: think about the conflict the main character is dealing with and how s/he is dealing with it; this tends to get you the theme]

- In your Head:
 - What surprised you while reading this book (can be a specific action or event OR your reaction to the reading)? Why?
 - What did you notice while reading the book/chapter (what was something that stood out to you while you were reading the book?)? Explain.
 - What changed, challenged, or confirmed your thinking while reading this book/chapter? [this can relate to the book, your views on life or anything else the book made you think of]

- In your Heart:
 - What did you learn about yourself from reading this book/chapter? [everything we read affects us in some way; what did you learn about yourself by reading this book?] Explain.
 - How will reading this book/chapter help you to be a better person? [what is a lesson/moral you can take away from this book?] Explain.

Real-World Theme Connection

For this assignment, start by choosing one theme that is explored throughout the book. Remember—a theme is the underlying meaning of a literary work or the message that the author is trying to communicate to the reader.

- a. Describe the theme and explain why you think that is the theme. Use evidence from the text.
- b. Find a current event in the world to connect this to the theme. Describe how this theme also connects to this current event.

For example, if you read *The Hunger Games*, a theme may be that... It is necessary to make sacrifices for the things and people that you love. A current event that you could connect this to is.... In May of 2018, a man scaled a burning building in France to save a child who was dangling off of the side of the building.

In the end, you should turn in a total of three paragraphs—one that states and explains the chosen theme of the book, one that summarizes your current event, and one that connects the theme from the novel to the current event.

Book Cover/Movie Poster

For this assignment, you will need to create an original artwork that will serve as either

- a new book cover for the novel you read
OR
- a movie poster that would be attention-grabbing if this novel were turned into a movie.

Your original artwork must be colorful, intentional, and descriptive without spoiling the story. Keep in mind the audience this novel attracts and design your work with them in mind. You will also want to ensure that the mood of the novel is represented in your artwork.

You must include the following:

- Clear Title and Author's name (for a movie poster it should say "Based on the novel ___ by ___")
- Original artwork that reflects the theme(s) of the book and the mood
- Details without giving spoilers (setting, characters, conflict, etc)
- On a separate sheet, an artist's statement that expresses the why behind your design. Why did you choose particular colors, placement, characters, words, etc?

Newspaper Story

For this assignment, you will write a front-page news story that covers an important event from your book. Remember that front-page stories are very newsworthy and attention grabbing! You will need to write it as a journalist would (style, voice, and format). You can include brief interviews/quotes from characters. You must include an original photograph and a caption that matches your story. Make sure to address why the event/situation matters to the larger community (i.e.: why do they need to know about this).

You must include:

- A headline
- A byline for the article
- A photograph with caption
- Correct formatting, style, and voice of a front-page article
- Appropriate details/descriptions of the event

Vlog Post and Review

For this assignment, you will need to create a vlog (video blog) about your book. Your audience is people who are interested in learning more about this book in order to decide if they wish to read it. You should:

- discuss the book without giving spoilers.
- discuss what type of reader would be most interested in this book and why
- include a rating system that you have created, a rating for the book based on that system, and an explanation for why you gave it that rating.
- Include a clear intro and ending to your vlog (speaking to your audience/followers)