

English 12 Honors

Summer Reading Assignments

No sources, other than the sources listed on this assignment handout, may be consulted for this assignment.

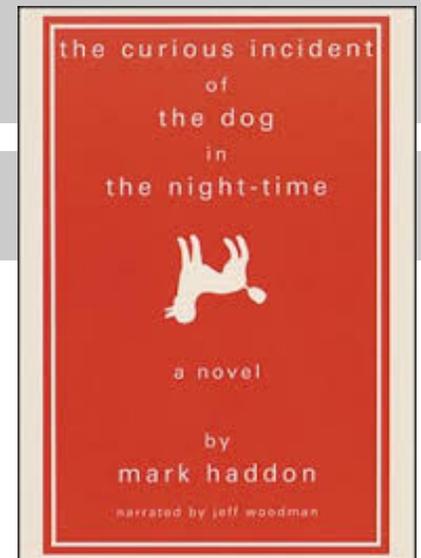
1. **Read** *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* by **Mark Haddon**. Complete the reading assignment on this page.
2. **Choose another book from the assignment on the next page.** As you read, complete the reading assignment above the choices.
3. **Be prepared** to participate in discussions and to write an in-class essay on the summer reading during the first week of school.
4. **Write your college essay.** See the instructions on the attached sheet.

Questions?

ADV English 12 Summer Reading Contact:
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Assignment for *Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*

Read the novel, and annotate the text for the topics below. Purchase a new copy of the book; previously annotated texts are not allowed. The suggestion here is to use this assignment as your bookmark for handy reference to the theme topics.



The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time by Mark Haddon

Christopher John Francis Boone knows all the countries of the world and their capitals and every prime number up to 7,057. He relates well to animals but has no understanding of human emotions. He cannot stand to be touched. And he detests the color yellow. This improbable story of Christopher's quest to investigate the suspicious death of a neighborhood dog makes for one of the most captivating, unusual, and widely heralded novels in recent years. (from *Amazon*)

Theme Topics and Reading Assignment

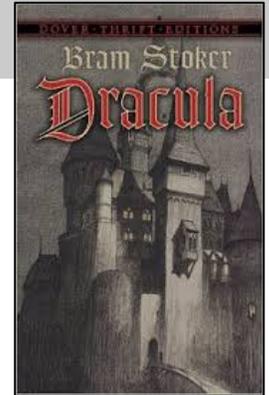
Having finished your reading and annotations, you must bring your copy of *Curious Incident* to class the first day. There will be an annotation grade and a content reading quiz followed by discussions and a written theme response.

Theme topics include the following and should help guide your annotations:

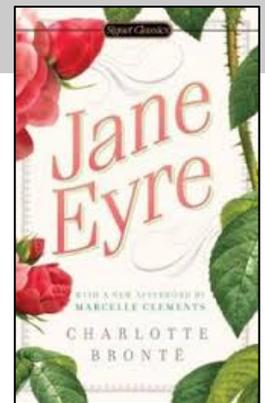
1. Challenges that Christopher faces
2. Things that upset him
3. Things that he doesn't understand
4. Things that you admire about him
5. Small town issues
6. Cultural differences

READING ASSIGNMENT #2:

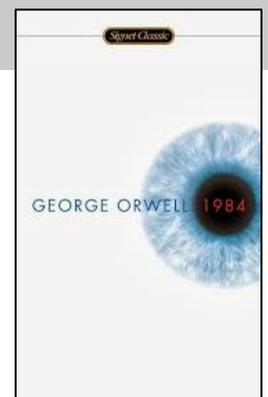
Choose one of the following novels below. Annotate the novel for the universal literary themes: man vs. man; man vs. nature; man vs. society; man vs. technology; man vs. self.

Dracula by Bram Stoker

During a business visit to Count Dracula's castle in Transylvania, a young English solicitor finds himself at the center of a series of horrifying incidents. Jonathan Harker is attacked by three phantom women, observes the Count's transformation from human to bat form, and discovers puncture wounds on his own neck that seem to have been made by teeth. Harker returns home upon his escape from Dracula's grim fortress, but a friend's strange malady — involving sleepwalking, inexplicable blood loss, and mysterious throat wounds — initiates a frantic vampire hunt. The popularity of Bram Stoker's 1897 horror romance is as deathless as any vampire. Its supernatural appeal has spawned a host of film and stage adaptations, and more than a century after its initial publication, it continues to hold readers spellbound.

Jane Eyre by Charlotte Brontë

Jane Eyre is the story of a small, plain-faced, intelligent, and passionate English orphan. Jane is abused by her aunt and cousin and then attends a harsh charity school. Through it all she remains strong and determinedly refuses to allow a cruel world to crush her independence or her strength of will. A masterful story of a woman's quest for freedom and love, *Jane Eyre* is partly autobiographical, and Charlotte Brontë filled it with social criticism and sinister Gothic elements. A must read for anyone wishing to celebrate the indomitable strength of will.

1984 by George Orwell

The year is 1984; the scene is London, largest population center of Airstrip One. In a grim city and a terrifying country, where Big Brother is always Watching and the Thought Police can practically read your mind, Winston is a man in grave danger for the simple reason that his memory still functions. He knows the Party's official image of the world is a fluid fiction. He knows the Party controls the people by feeding them lies and narrowing their imaginations through a process of bewilderment and brutalization that alienates each individual from his fellows and deprives him of every liberating human pursuit from reasoned inquiry to sexual passion. Drawn into a forbidden love affair, Winston finds the courage to join a secret revolutionary organization called The Brotherhood, dedicated to the destruction of the Party. Together with his beloved Julia, he hazards his life in a deadly match against the powers that be.

Rising Senior Summer Assignment – College Essay

Senior teachers and college counselors would like to help you get started on your college essay, which can be a very time consuming project during your senior year. This part of the summer assignment requires the following for a completion grade:

- Pick one prompt below on which to write your essay.
- Type what you consider to be a final draft of a college essay.
 - Type the prompt at the top of the page.
 - Type in 12-point font, double-spaced.
 - Include a **Word Count** at the bottom of the page. (Highlight only the essay portion to get an accurate word count. The limit is 500 words.)
- Bring the essay to class on the first day of school.

You will receive a completion grade for meeting those criteria. Both your English teacher and your college counselor will help you revise the essay so that it introduces you to college admissions teams in the most effective way.

from the Common Application

Common Application Essay Prompts

1. Some students have a background, identity, interest, or talent that is so meaningful they believe their application would be incomplete without it. If this sounds like you, then please share your story.
2. The lessons we take from obstacles we encounter can be fundamental to later success. Recount a time when you faced a challenge, setback, or failure. How did it affect you, and what did you learn from the experience?
3. Reflect on a time when you questioned or challenged a belief or idea. What prompted your thinking? What was the outcome?
4. Describe a problem you've solved or a problem you'd like to solve. It can be an intellectual challenge, a research query, an ethical dilemma - anything that is of personal importance, no matter the scale. Explain its significance to you and what steps you took or could be taken to identify a solution.
5. Discuss an accomplishment, event, or realization that sparked a period of personal growth and a new understanding of yourself or others.
6. Describe a topic, idea, or concept you find so engaging that it makes you lose all track of time. Why does it captivate you? What or who do you turn to when you want to learn more?
7. Share an essay on any topic of your choice. It can be one you've already written, one that responds to a different prompt, or one of your own design.