



**FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL
"FLORIDA HIGH"**

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3000 School House Road, Tallahassee, FL 32311

**10th Grade Summer Reading
Instructions for 2009**

Dear Prospective Student,

Before the first day of school all sophomores are to read **one book** from the **list provided (regardless of whether you will be in general, honors, or Pre-AP)** and complete the questions below. It is not necessary that you purchase books because most can be found at your local library. If you have already read some of these selections, that is to your advantage and you are encouraged to read other books on the list to expand your repertoire. **The assignment is due (printed out) the first day you return to school in the fall.** Late work will not be accepted. Happy reading!

Assignment:

Each book needs to have the proper bibliographical information—title, author, publisher, place of publication, and date of publication (MLA style).

Example: Myers, Walter Dean. Fallen Angels. New York: Scholastic Inc, 1988.

- For each book write a **book critique** using **all** of the following questions provided.
1. Who was your favorite character in this book? Explain your choice with specific detail.
 2. Do you like the ending of the book? Why or why not? Explain with specific detail.
 3. Take two critical quotes from the book- one from the first half, and one from the second half. Write them out and explain in detail how or why they are critical to the book as a whole.
 4. Do you think the title fits the book? Why or why not? Explain in specific detail.
 5. Which character has the most power in this book? Why? Explain in specific detail.
 6. Which character has the least power in this book? Why? Explain in specific detail.
 7. How could the above character gain power in the book? Explain in specific detail.
 8. Who else should read this book or shouldn't? Why? Explain in detail.

*Please type your responses to the above questions using Times New Roman, 12 point font, double spaced, with regular margins (**do not use notecards**). Be specific in your responses to show you have read, be detailed to get the highest points possible. Please use correct grammar, punctuation, and write in complete sentences. This work is your first impression to your teacher as to what kind of a student you are. Make it a good impression!*

****Please be aware that your work can be scanned or checked using the turnitin.com system and that use of any outside tools, websites, books, or other friend's work to create your answers to the above questions is not allowed. Use your own brain only. Work that is turned in that has issues with plagiarism can result in a zero.**

Book Choices:

Brian's Song by William Blinn

-Synopsis: A true story of courage and brotherhood both on and off the football field. Gale Sayers and Brian Piccolo- from two different parts of the country, and from different races, but both competing for the same job on the field. This is the true story of how they came to know each other, fight each other, and help each other.

Catalyst by Laurie Halse Anderson

-Synopsis: From the acclaimed author of the young adult novel *Speak*. Meet Kate Malone, a senior, straight-A science and math student, awaiting news from the only college she applied to. She is a long distance runner and her father is a preacher. Her organized life is invaded as her neighbor's house burns down and she must share her room and her life with her arch enemy. Things begin to spiral out of control in a chain reaction of unexpected events...

The Hiding Place by Corrie Ten Boom

-Synopsis: *The Hiding Place* is a powerful true story account written by Corrie Ten Boom as she and her family, who are of the Christian faith, struggle to secretly protect and hide Jewish neighbors and community members as Hitler and the Nazi party come to power in WWII. If you enjoyed *The Diary of Anne Frank*, this is a book that will move you and inspire you. We will be studying about the Holocaust this year, and this is a great book to have as part of your background knowledge.

Fahrenheit 451 by Ray Bradbury

-Synopsis: From acclaimed science fiction author Ray Bradbury. The main character is Guy Montag who is a fireman living in the future. But in this future, books are illegal and firemen no longer put out fires, they burn books due to laws set by a government intent on censorship. Meanwhile, his wife is addicted to huge television screens in their home that fill the walls of their living room. The images on the screen have become her "family" and her "reality." The future is not pretty as Bradbury portrays it, but there is hope in the reluctant hero of Guy Montag...

A Time to Kill by John Grisham

-Synopsis: A ten-year old girl is horribly and unjustly attacked by two men in Clanton, Mississippi. The town is shocked and outraged at this event. But, the girl's father decides to take justice into his own hands. Jake Brigance, a Clanton attorney, must now struggle to save his client's life, the daughter of the attacked girl, while at the same time, trying to save his own. **Parent permission needed due to mature content.**

Fences by August Wilson

Synopsis: In this **play**, the protagonist Troy Maxson, a strong, proud, black man has faced pressure throughout his life that could crush the strongest of spirits and yet has overcome. But now the world is dramatically changing as the 1960's approaches. Through these changes in America Troy becomes angry, afraid, and a stranger to his wife and son as he understands them less and less... Winner of the 1987 Pulitzer Prize for drama. **Parent permission due to mature content.**

The Notebook by Nicholas Sparks

Synopsis: Protagonist Noah returns home from serving in WWII haunted by memories of a girl he loved and the unforgettable summer they once had together. Struggling to live with just the memories; he assumes he will never see her again... until she unexpectedly walks back into his life... two weeks before she is to be married. If you enjoy love stories, this is a powerful, unforgettable story that will pull you into every page.

The Terminal Man by Michael Crichton

-Synopsis: Ever since Harry got into a car accident, he's suffered from violent fits in which he attacks other people. But through technology and implanting electrodes onto his brain; there is hope for him to become normal again. But there would be no story without a conflict, so when the surgery on his brain is finished things begin to go awry... let the murderous rampages begin... Action packed and science fiction based.

Sophomore Summer Reading Rubric 2009

Scale for each question/response (10 points max possible for each question):

10 pts: Outstanding at meeting the requirements: well-above average quality, excellent use of specific detail, critical thinking, and a thoughtful response

8 pts: Good job at meeting the requirements given: you have shown a careful reading of the novel here, with a start at key specific details and a thoughtful response

6 pts: Some effort placed: a minimum understanding of the text is shown here, the basics are covered but more effort needed- either through a more thoughtful response, use of more text specifics, higher critical thinking, or stronger details in general to support your opinion

4 pts: Requirements not met or a poor job done; much more effort needed: hardly any text support to enhance your opinion, no effort at a thoughtful response, or what you listed is inaccurate to the text

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The above rubric points become null and void if there are plagiarism issues in the assignment that you turn in. If there are plagiarism issues anywhere in the overall assignment; you risk taking a zero on the *entire* assignment. Do your own work, use your own brain.