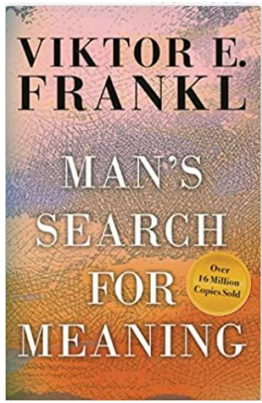


English IV IB Language & Literature: Summer Reading Assignment

The following is your summer reading assignment for English IV next year with me, Mr. Ruedi. Please feel free to contact me this summer if you have any questions or concerns. I can be reached by e-mail at hruedi@uplifteducation.org.

1. Read the following **Anchor Text** before school next year:

	<p>This seminal book, which has been called “one of the outstanding contributions to psychological thought” by Carl Rogers and “one of the great books of our time” by Harold Kushner, has been translated into more than fifty languages and sold over sixteen million copies. “An enduring work of survival literature,” according to the <i>New York Times</i>, Viktor Frankl’s riveting account of his time in the Nazi concentration camps, and his insightful exploration of the human will to find meaning in spite of the worst adversity, has offered solace and guidance to generations of readers since it was first published in 1946. At the heart of Frankl’s memoir is his theory of logotherapy (derived from the Greek word for “meaning”) is a conviction that the primary human drive is not pleasure, as Freud maintained, but rather the discovery and pursuit of what the individual finds meaningful. Today, as new generations face new challenges and an ever more complex and uncertain world, Frankl’s classic work continues to inspire us all to find significance in the very act of living, despite all obstacles.</p>
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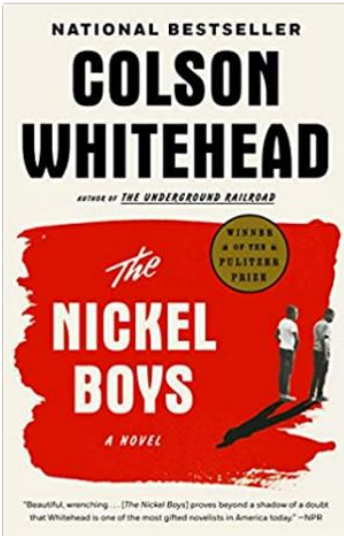
- **Reading Annotations:**

- Read and annotate, because we will be discussing the text all of semester 1. **You will be able to use your annotated texts for a graded discussion and writing assignment in the first quarter.**
- Marking and annotating a text is like having a conversation with a book—it allows the reader to ask questions, comment on meaning, and mark passages to revisit.
 - How to Annotate:
 - Make brief notes on the page or on a sticky note marking important plot events, narrative shifts, or themes, images, and details that form a pattern throughout the text (motif).
 - Circle words that are unfamiliar or unusual—try to figure out the word’s meaning through contextual clues and supplement with a dictionary.

2. **Secondary Text:** choose **ONE** of the following texts to read over Summer Break.

***You may read AS MANY as you would like to! Challenge yourselves! Be brave!**

	<p>A searing, post-apocalyptic novel about a father and son's fight to survive. It's gripping, frightening and, ultimately, beautiful" (<i>San Francisco Chronicle</i>).</p> <p>A father and his son walk alone through burned America. Nothing moves in the ravaged landscape save the ash on the wind. It is cold enough to crack stones, and when the snow falls it is gray. The sky is dark. Their destination is the coast, although they don't know what, if anything, awaits them there. They have nothing; just a pistol to defend themselves against the lawless cannibals that stalk the road, the clothes they are wearing, a cart of scavenged food—and each other.</p> <p><i>The Road</i> is the profoundly moving story of a journey. It boldly imagines a future in which no hope remains, but in which the father and his son, "each the other's world entire," are sustained by love. Awesome in the totality of its vision, it is an unflinching meditation on the worst and the best that we are capable of: ultimate destructiveness, desperate tenacity, and the tenderness that keeps two people alive in the face of total devastation.</p>
	<p>From the Booker Prize-winning author of <i>The Remains of the Day</i> and <i>When We Were Orphans</i>, comes an unforgettable edge-of-your-seat mystery that is at once heartbreakingly tender and morally courageous about what it means to be human.</p> <p>Hailsham <i>seems</i> like a pleasant English boarding school, far from the influences of the city. Its students are well tended and supported, trained in art and literature, and become just the sort of people the world wants them to be. But, curiously, they are taught nothing of the outside world and are allowed little contact with it.</p> <p>Within the grounds of Hailsham, Kathy grows from schoolgirl to young woman, but it's only when she and her friends Ruth and Tommy leave the safe grounds of the school (as they always knew they would) that they realize the <i>disturbing</i> truth of what Hailsham is.</p> <p><i>Never Let Me Go</i> breaks through the boundaries of the literary novel. It is a gripping mystery, a beautiful love story, and also a scathing critique of human arrogance and a moral examination of how we treat the vulnerable and different in our society.</p>

	<p>“Its relevance lashes you across the face.” —Stephen Metcalf, <i>The Los Angeles Times</i></p> <p>“A redemptive book, one that wills the reader to believe, even in a time of despair.” —Roger Lowenstein, <i>The Washington Post</i></p> <p>A haunting tale of human resilience and hope in the face of unrelieved horror, Albert Camus' iconic and philosophical novel about a pandemic ravaging the people of a North African coastal town is a classic of twentieth-century literature.</p> <p>The townspeople of Oran are in the grip of a deadly plague created by deadly rats, which condemns its victims to a swift and horrifying death.</p> <p>Fear, isolation and claustrophobia follow as they are forced into quarantine. Each person responds in their own way to the lethal disease: some resign themselves to fate, some seek blame, and a few, like Dr. Rieux, resist the terror.</p> <p>An immediate triumph when it was published in 1947, <i>The Plague</i> is in part an allegory of France's suffering under the Nazi occupation, and a timeless story of bravery and determination against the precariousness of human existence. It has been recently reread for wisdom in our current landscape so affected by the recent pandemic.</p>
	<p>Whitehead's follow-up to <i>The Underground Railroad</i> brilliantly dramatizes another strand of American history through the story of two boys unjustly sentenced to a hellish reform school in Jim Crow-era Florida.</p> <p>When Elwood Curtis, a black boy growing up in 1960s Tallahassee, is unfairly sentenced to a juvenile reformatory called the Nickel Academy, he finds himself trapped in a grotesque chamber of horrors.</p> <p>Elwood's only salvation is his friendship with fellow “delinquent” Turner, which deepens despite Turner's conviction that Elwood is hopelessly naive, that the world is crooked, and that the only way to survive is to scheme and avoid trouble. As life at the Academy becomes ever more perilous, the tension between Elwood's ideals and Turner's skepticism leads to a decision whose repercussions will echo down the decades.</p> <p>Based on the real story of a reform school that operated for 111 years and warped the lives of thousands of children, <i>The Nickel Boys</i> is a devastating, driven narrative that showcases a great American novelist writing at the height of his powers and “should further cement Whitehead as one of his generation's best” (EW).</p>

Novel Selection Guide 😊

IF you liked the HBO miniseries OR video game *The Last of Us*, the films *World War Z*, *Children of Men*, *The Day after Tomorrow*, *I Am Legend*, *The Walking Dead*, or any sort of media related to survival against all odds, a Zombie apocalypse, the END OF THE WORLD, or if you want to read about a beautiful father and son relationship, or if you like terrifying, horror films that present images of mankind at its most depraved – choose *The Road*.

IF you like dystopian fiction about teenagers with strange origins, rom-coms or teen dramas, Jane Austen romance and wit, Gothic romances like *Wuthering Heights*, novels written in conversational prose, films or mass media about cloning, genetic experimentation, biomedical ethics, progress made in scientific research, developmental psychology, the debate between nature vs nurture, philosophical musings about the human soul, the Pixar movies *Soul* OR *Inside Out*, sci-fi films such as *Gattaca*, *Ex Machina*, or *Blade Runner*, the mysteriousness of memory, or the kind of story that will make you tear up but also believe in LOVE – choose *Never Let Me Go*.

IF you are passionate about social justice issues related to race and American culture, or you are fascinated by the tension between idealism and pragmatism when debating issues related to race and American culture, OR if you like Jordan Peele films that explore themes related to race, *Shawshank Redemption*, *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass*, the music of Kendrick Lamar, considering the dynamics of male friendship, historical fiction related to atrocities that are rarely taught in your history classes – choose *The Nickel Boys*.

IF you are still quite angered about any social or spiritual reaction to the recent global pandemic, as well as the fallout from the pandemic, or you are interested in the politics behind any social responses to such an atrocity, or you are interested in the idea of what would happen if a pandemic as sizeable and destructive as The Black Plague returned to the world, or you liked the movies *Contagion*, *Birdbox*, *28 Days Later*, or any dystopia film, tv show, or miniseries that explores huge ethical issues facing communities in a state of panic and pandemonium – choose *The Plague*.

Just come chat with me if you need any further information!

3. College Application Essay WRITING ASSIGNMENT:

Write a college application essay based of the ‘common application’ essay prompts.

- The word limit for the essay is 650 words (so be concise, yet eloquent!).
- Choose ONE of the following ‘common application’ essay prompts to write about:

Supplementary support materials such as advice on how to write a college essay as well as exemplar essays will be available on our Schoology page under ‘Summer Reading’.

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. Reflect on something that someone has done for you that has made you happy or thankful in a surprising way. How has this gratitude affected or motivated you?
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.

Ruedi

Name: _____

Personal Statement Evaluation

Rubric

Criterion	Poor 1	Below Average 2	Average 3	Above Average 4	Exceptional 5
Writing Structure					
1. The essay is grammatically accurate.					
2. The sentence structure is varied.					
3. Syntax is neither too wordy nor too concise.					
4. The essay demonstrates clear paragraphs.					
5. The essay shows distinct style and voice.					
Content Structure					
6. Addresses the prompt question clearly.					
7. Creative and original topic choice.					
8. A clear flow of ideas from beginning to end.					
9. Focuses on a clear central theme throughout.					
10. Captures the reader's attention from the start.					
11. Get in and out of the essay with finesse.					
12. Provides detail, anecdotes, and imagery.					
13. Stays within the word count limit (650 words).					
Personal Characteristics					
14. Shows what you bring to the community.					
15. Demonstrates positivity toward the future.					
16. Shows what sets you apart from others.					
17. Conveys that you are humble.					
18. Conveys that you are mature.					
19. Conveys that you are compassionate.					
20. Avoids repeating information.					

Total Points: _____ / 100

Ruedi/Trebert