



**BRIGHTER HORIZONS ACADEMY**  
**COLLEGE PREPARATORY**

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*"Where Knowledge, Faith, Academics and Character Meet."*



Dear Prospective 12<sup>th</sup> grade Families,

Assalamulaikum parents!

Summer is a time of rest and relaxation, but if used wisely, it can also be a time when your child is able to jump ahead with their skills and increase their reading levels. If your minds are not kept active, summer regression of skills may occur. To help maintain your reading level and develop a life-long love of reading, we encourage you to read as many self-selected books as you can over the summer!

To keep your skills sharp, we are recommending that you read the following books to help you prepare for the content and course requirements for the upcoming school year. There is one required summer reading and assignment for BOTH the 12<sup>th</sup> grade AP/On Track students.

Being well-read is one of the major keys to success on the AP exam, your on-track course, and in life. The books chosen for your summer reading will help broaden your scope of the world, will expose you to the inner workings and perspectives on our country, and challenge you to look beyond what you may take for granted on a daily basis living a blessed life in America.

Due Date for Reading the Novel and Journal Assignment:

**For the summer assignment, you will read the following books:**

*Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone* by JK Rowling  
*How to Read Literature Like a Professor*, by Thomas C. Foster

In addition to reading the books, you will keep and complete a dialectical journal assignment for the book. Being well-read and intelligent is not just about reading many books, but about being able to articulate what you THOUGHT about the content. By keeping a dialectical journal, you will learn how to process the information presented and thoughtfully reflect on the ideas. The novel should be at least half-read by the first day of school . The complete Dialectical Journal and novel is due on \_\_\_\_\_

**For the dialectical journal assignment:**

-identify a passage that illustrates a theme in the book. What is the author's message about humanity or the characters or the nature of life in this book and especially in this passage?

For your journal, you will select **six quotations/passages to respond to**. Respond to the quotations, focusing on the ways in which the author uses language to create an effect and develop their theme. What is it about the language that stands out and makes the passage distinctive? How does the passage reflect



<p>“Mostly out of laziness, I decide to start my low-wage life in the town nearest to where I actually live, Key West, Florida, which with a population of about 25,000 is elbowing its way up to the status of a genuine city,” (Ehrenreich 13).</p>	<p>Example Response:          In the beginning of the book, Ehrenreich explains that she began her journey in her very own hometown. She starts the chapter by casually stating that this was done “mostly out of laziness”, which already establishes how even she did not take this journey as seriously as she could have. This also helps us realize how every day and commonplace the life of a low-wage worker is—they can be found through “laziness” and in our very own, typical, American neighborhoods—in fact, we don’t have to look far to find evidence of this injustice or way of life. This helps establish her main argument of how rampant and commonplace the life of a low-wage worker is and how easily we overlook them.</p>
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The dialectical journal should be typed, neatly, on a Word Document, printed out, and included in the folder at the beginning of your spiral notebook. Do not, under any circumstance, share your journals or chosen quotes with anyone else. Having the same exact quotes as another person may result in a 0 on the assignment and/or a plagiarism count.

Label the notebook on the front cover with your name. Begin the first page with the full proper MLA heading:

First and Last Name  
 Ms. Almasri/AP Literature  
 Grade  
 Date

These journals will consist of quotations to which you respond critically for each work. Please label and date journals appropriately. You may have different dates/headings for each quote response.

<u>You will be graded on:</u>	
-Main argument/idea articulated.....	(10 points)
-Six quotes/passages to support the main argument.....	(30 points total—5 points each)
-Full, original, thoughtful, response per quote (one paragraph, about 6-8 sentences, per quote)...	(50 points total--- approx. 8 points each)
-Correct format and MLA Citation	(10 points)

**ORIGINAL WORK ONLY!** It is important that you complete the responses completely in your own writing, reflecting your own individual thoughts. No outside help, research, sources, or work is required or allowed. You may not share quotes, use identical quotes as another student, or share your responses with anyone else. The entire journal must be your own original work. Sharing your responses or having

identical work as another student will result in a failing grade on the assignment, which will be very tough to recover from as the first grade for the school year.

- ✓ 12<sup>th</sup> graders are expected to annotate the book as they read; however, annotations will not be checked. Annotations include highlighting significant quotes/passages, identifying and defining unknown vocabulary, writing questions, thoughts, and personal connections in the margin, and summarizing chapters. By this level, you are expected to annotate to aid your own understanding—it is not something that the teacher will check.

Enjoy your summer reading, insha Allah!

Jazakum Allahu Khairun,

BHA English Department

## Plagiarism Contract

Plagiarism is submitting another person's ideas, words, or images or data without giving that person credit or proper acknowledgement. Plagiarism, a form of academic dishonesty, is tantamount to stealing and will not be tolerated. In order to classify what constitutes plagiarism, you should be aware that you have committed plagiarism when you:

- Use phrases, quotes, or ideas not your own
- Paraphrase the work of another even though you may have changed the wording or syntax
- Use facts or data not considered common knowledge
- Submit a paper written for another class (academic dishonesty)
- Submit a paper or an essay or agency even though you may have paid for it (these papers are usually of low quality)
- Submit a paper by another person even though he or she may have given you permission to use it

Note: Plagiarism not only encompasses written work, but also computer data and research.

Allah loves those who are honest and have good character. Plagiarism is sinful since it is considered stealing and is not a quality of a believer. Furthermore, a person who participates or assists in cheating or plagiarism is also guilty and will be penalized. Teachers must be able to rely on the integrity of a student's work in order to maintain a climate for successful learning. When you are unsure that acknowledgement is needed, ask your teacher. The penalties for plagiarism include the following

- 0% credit for the assignment or test with no opportunity to make up or redo
- Conference with the teacher
- Joint parent/teacher/student conference 10 Demerit Points Infraction on Sycamore
- Automatic Exemption from the Incentive Program
- Referral to the Guidance Counselor for counseling
- Referral to the Dean of Student Affairs and/or Principal

### Academic Honesty

1. I will do my own work. I will not copy another person's work, in whole or part, and turn it in as my own. I will not receive unfair assistance from another student, parent, the internet, or any other unauthorized source on an assignment that was meant to be completed on my own.

2. During tests I will not talk to other students, look at anyone else's paper, or allow anyone to see my paper. I will not use another student's answers and submit them as my own. I will not arrange to have access to information.

3. I will not consult other unauthorized material or information during tests unless my teacher gives me permission (notes, calculator, etc)
4. I will not plagiarize. I understand that plagiarism is using the words or ideas of other authors in my papers without giving those authors credit. I will not take material from the internet or another person and use it as my own. I will not copy without proper citation.
5. I will follow the direction of my teacher regarding whether it is acceptable to give, receive or ask for help on homework.
6. I will not turn in an original paper or assignment more than once for different classes.
7. I will not plagiarize or cheat, or participate in plagiarism or cheating by sharing my work or providing unwarranted access to materials or information so credit may be wrongly claimed by others.
8. I will do my own homework and submit original work unless otherwise instructed by my teacher.
9. I will not assist others in plagiarizing or cheating.
10. I understand that plagiarism is considered stealing and is a sinful act. I will not displease Allah by participating in academic dishonesty.

Please sign below and return to your English teacher

Student:

I, \_\_\_\_\_, am aware of the serious nature and consequences of plagiarism and will not intentionally use or submit someone else's work without MLA citation. Furthermore, I will not misrepresent someone else's work as my own.

Student: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ Section: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent:

I have read this contract and have discussed it with my son/daughter. I understand the consequences of plagiarism and agree to encourage compliance with the rules stated above.

Parent/Guardian name: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_