

Mr. Collins
Junior Honors
Summer Reading 2009

Welcome to English III Honors. I look forward to a working with you to create a great class together.

This summer, please read the following novels:

In Cold Blood by Truman Capote
The Blacker the Berry by Wallace Thurman

Additionally, in September we will be working on a project for the novel Balzac and the Little Chinese Seamstress by Dai Sijie. Many of you probably read this during the 2008-2009 school year. If you have not read this novel, please add it to your summer reading list. If you read it during sophomore English, please use the summer to familiarize yourself with the novel again.

For this class you will need to begin a literary journal in which you keep notes on everything you read. Please complete the literary journals for In Cold Blood and The Blacker the Berry only.

In your journals, please avoid lengthy discussions of plot. Instead, concentrate on the analysis of situations and characters. Please use significant quotes from the books to support your opinions. Finally, include in your journal any and all personal reactions you have to the stories. Please consider writing about one handwritten page per ten pages read. Of course, at times you may need to write more, and sometimes slightly less. However, please be relatively faithful to the suggestion above.

Please keep in mind that I will be looking for your opinion. If your instinct is to use Cliffnotes or Sparknotes, then you should not take this class.

Do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions. I can be reached at kcollins@medway.k12.ma.us. Also, please email me as soon as you read this sheet so that I can contact you in case I have any updates, ideas, or questions to send your way.

I am looking forward to having you in my class.

Thanks.

Mr. Collins